

Patent Data Day 2019

INPADOC legal event data: Coverage information



Outline

- Distinguishing legal event data and legal status data
- The EPO's worldwide legal status database (INPADOC):
 - -coverage
 - -recent improvements
 - planned improvements

The INPADOC database



- Covers today data on about 50 million applications from more than
 50 patent authorities worldwide
- More than 265 million records
- Annual growth of about 10 per cent
- Only centralised source of comprehensive data on procedural steps during application and granting procedures worldwide and on the post-grant phase

Distinguishing legal event data from legal status data



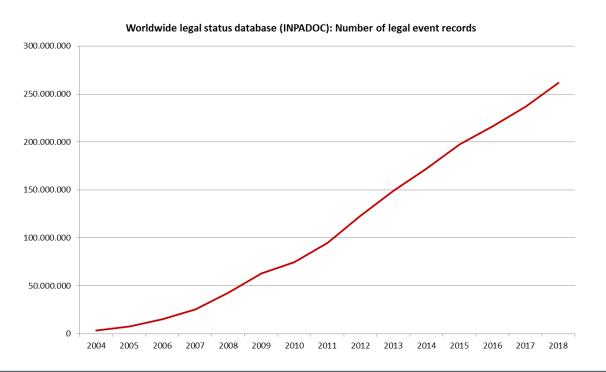
	Description	Data examples	Examples for EPO services and products providing data
Legal event data	Data on any procedural step during the grant procedure and in the post-grant stage	"application filed", "office action sent", "maintenance fee paid"	European Patent Register, INPADOC database, Open Patent Services
Legal status data	Data that includes a statement on the status, or state, of an application or IP right	"application is active", "patent is terminated"	European Patent Register, Federated Patent Register, Open Patent Services

The INPADOC database

- Contains legal event data from the patent gazettes and registers of various patent authorities, including the EPO and more than 50 other patent authorities
- Backbone for many patent information products and services of the EPO and commercial service providers

INPADOC database

More than 265 million legal event records (March 2019)



INPADOC database: Examples for new and amended data

Patent authority	Description
BE	Delivery of legal event data resumed
LU	Delivery of legal event data resumed
KR	More data available for new post-grant opposition system
WO	Entry of PCT applications into the national phase: Data available for more countries; missing countries added: AZ, CO, CR, CU, DK, ID, IN, KG, KZ, MA, NI, PE, RS, SG, TR, VN, YU.
	In addition, the EPO improved the coverage for countries for which entry data has generally been available in the INPADOC database. This improvement affects numerous patent authorities, including CN, KR, MX and US.

INPADOC database: Examples for current activities and plans

Patent authority	Description
EP	Complete revision of workflow; revised workflow will be implemented in tranches, presumably starting in Q2 2019
ES	SPC data: the EPO expects to receive SPC back-file data to fill gaps
FR	Complete revision of workflow
HR	Preparing to process HR legal event data
IL	Complete revision of workflow
IT	SPC data: the EPO analyses test data and prepares a workflow to process IT SPC data
JP	Complete revision of workflow in view of the transition to a new data format announced by the JP office for Q2 2019. The new data format will enable the EPO to make JP legal event data available earlier in the INPADOC database.
TW	Test data for TW pre-grant legal events received and analysed. The EPO is working on a workflow to make TW pre-grant data available in the INPADOC database
US	With a new data channel at the USPTO, the EPO was able to resume its plans to make data on the status of US patent applications and US patents available. The EPO is also analysing whether the same channel may be used to make PAIR data available in the INPADOC database
WO	Data on the entry of PCT applications into the national phase: In addition to the steps already taken, the EPO is working on resolving cases of doubt and increasing the coverage and coherence of the data in the INPADOC database further

INPADOC database: Information on the status of US applications and granted patents



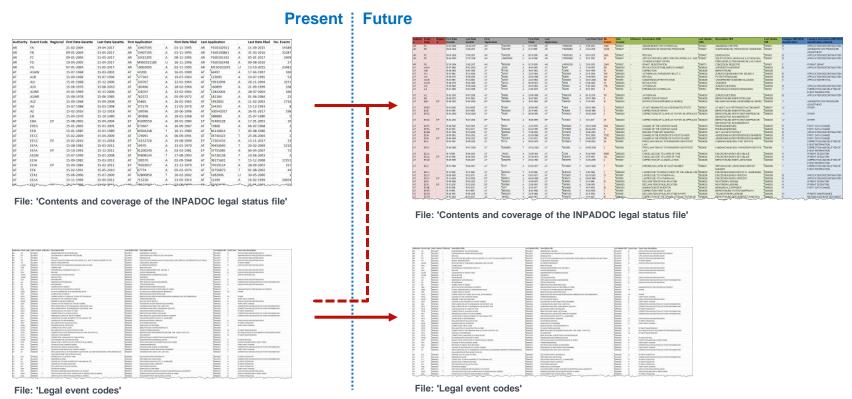


INPADOC event code	Description EN
STCA	INFORMATION ON STATUS: APPLICATION FILING
STCB	INFORMATION ON STATUS: APPLICATION DISCONTINUATION
STCC	INFORMATION ON STATUS: APPLICATION REVIVAL
STCE	INFORMATION ON STATUS: PRE-GRANT REVIEW
STCF	INFORMATION ON STATUS: PATENT GRANT
STCH	INFORMATION ON STATUS: PATENT DISCONTINUATION
STCK	INFORMATION ON STATUS: PATENT REVIVAL
STCT	INFORMATION ON STATUS: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ADJUSTMENT
STCV	INFORMATION ON STATUS: APPEAL PROCEDURE
STPP	INFORMATION ON STATUS: PATENT APPLICATION AND GRANTING PROCEDURE IN GENERAL

INPADOC database: Weekly statistics (now)

- At present 2 files:
 - 'Contents and coverage of the INPADOC legal status file': statistics on the number of events and general information on date ranges covered
 - Legal event codes': description of and category information on INPADOC legal event codes

INPADOC database: Weekly statistics (present and future)



Thank you for your attention!

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