

Participants: PRV: Johan Winther, Head Patent Information
Göran Toll, Controller
Leif Stolt, Process Manager

PatCom: Willem-Geert Lagemaat, President of Patcom
Robert Willows, Patcom Technical Working Group
Georg Schultheiss, Patcom Secretary

1. Introduction and Agenda

Johan Winther welcomes the PatCom delegation and introduced the PRV representatives which gave a short personal introduction. The agenda is agreed.

Willem Lagemaat thanked for the possibility of the meeting and introduced the PatCom representatives.

2. Patcom Activities

Willem Lagemaat gave a historical overlook and a summary of targets of the Patcom activities. Patcom cooperates with similar institutions in the US and Japan as well as with the PDG. He explained the background for the meetings with national and international offices. Patcom meets with EPO twice a year, with the national offices and WIPO normally once per year.

3. PRV Information Policy

4. PRV Services

The two agenda points have been combined within a presentation given by Göran Toll. The ppt-presentation will be added within the Patcom web site "for members only".

The new information policy of PRV has been decided mid of October 2008. For services PRV makes pricing offers and delivers only after acceptance by the client. The Patcom experience that SMEs generally are difficult to reach was confirmed by Göran Toll and Johan Winther.

At the end of the presentation a short discussion about effects of the global economic situation started. Johan Winther explained that the national applications show a drop between 10% and 15% but in PCT there is a big drop of about 35%. The industry reorganizes portfolios. Companies are going out of Sweden; some are filing directly at EPO. The Chinese situation is different because of the national economic policy.

PRV tries to cut costs but naturally wants to keep quality high.

5. Handling of "SPAM-Patents" at PRV

Willem Lagemaat explained the situation with PCT filings. PRV will have a look at it and will support special coding. Also the PDG should make a proposal in WIPO's SCIT meeting.

6. Electronic Publication

Leif Stolt announced that end of June PRV will be working with a new electronic gazette. A database launch for bibliographic data is planned in several steps for 2010. It will include fee info and elapsing, renewing, etc. for patents.

Next development will be on full text search in English and Swedish for 2011. Multilingual parallel search results will be merged. The back file will be limited to a couple of years. Respective OCR-ing is under way but depends on capacity. Target is to have all in electronic format by the end.

The system will be completed by time and necessity in an add-on way.

7. Licensing of PRV Material

The availability is not the problem, only pricing will have to be negotiated. PRV is working on machine translation. The respective dictionary Swedish-English will be available internally soon in a first version. A large bulk of translations will be made to check and to improve the quality. For public availability the conditions may be given next year, too.

8. AOB

The participants agreed that the meeting was very helpful and that next steps shall be discussed at Biarritz between Johan Winther and Willem Lagemaat.

Georg F. Schultheiss
Secretary of PatCom

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