

Summary of 4. INPI-PatCom Meeting at Paris on October 7, 2008

Draft 1.0

Participants: INPI: Marie-Louise Candelon
Catherine Pagis
Sabine Darrigade
Philippe Cadre (partly for:3. SPAM-Patents)

PatCom: Willem-Geert Lagemaat
Christa Deinum
Marylène Claudel
Armin Förderer
Georg Schultheiss

1. Introduction and Agenda

Mme. Candelon welcomes the PatCom delegation and apologizes that M. Hannart could not participate because of other INPI internal priorities.

2. New Developments and INPI Information Policy

Mme. Candelon explained that in INPI

- e-administration has been improved
- trademarks are on the INPI website inclusive complete filing since yesterday
- new search services are planned for operation in 1/2008 free of charge in esp@cenet-fr for French patent register, trademarks in France, French industrial design and French IP jurisprudence
- INPI will stop paper publishing if the legal backing is completed
- User interaction in INPI website will be improved.

M. Darrigade added, that

- French translations from EPO OPS service will be available from 2004 with first page drawings
- French material will be available from 1989
- information about the INPI fair use policy is in preparation and will be published before
- file inspection will be possible starting from 2001.

A more detailed discussion about XML issues, gateways and interactive work as well as on "Offices Policy Exchange" followed.

M. Lagemaat asked for the status of the machine translation project French-English and M. Darrigade explained that the project driven by France, Belgium, Switzerland and Monaco together with the EPO efforts just started. A technical dictionary is built and undergoes quality checks. It will be opened in November 2008 with monthly updating. Until mid of 2009 INPI hopes to have it completed and then plans yearly updates.

Mme. Pagis stated that the French government sees the value of IP data and the necessity of at least a minimum price. It wants French data availability **not only** through EPO. The DPMA-EPO cooperation has been shortly explained by M. Lagemaat.

3. Handling of “Spam-Patents” at INPI

M. Cadre explained that France has a different legal background compared to DPMA and EPO. It foresees immediate examination as a filter function against spam material. After a first internal check a second check may be made within an outsourcing contract including payment by EPO. So publishing can be avoided in case of rejection.

M. Cadre works in an INPI-team with 18 employees which operates about 220 000 PCT, 260 000 EPO and 20 000 French documents per year. The filter function mentioned above is only for French matter.

4. Electronic Publication

See 2.

5. Licensing of INPI Material, full text delivery via EPO

M. Pagis confirmed once more that the INPI-contract with Jouve will end by April 2009. In two weeks info will go out and a first set of documents in the new St.36 format will follow. First patents will be distributed; trademarks come later. A new license contract is in the INPI internal decision process. The pricing will be reduced to 50% or less. End of March 2009 everything has to be integrated including updates and the plan for all material.

The contract with EPO is only for full text of A-documents in pdf-format. INPI has also industrial design data inclusive drawings which are interesting to customers.

6. AOB

The meeting that started at 02:00 pm was closed at 03:45 pm and the next regular meeting was scheduled for June 26, 2009 on 02:00 pm at INPI.

Georg F. Schultheiss
Secretary of PatCom

12.10.2009