



## **DPMA 12th 2016 meeting minutes**

*(Meeting held 16th February 2016) at DPMA HQ Munich, Germany*

### 1) Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves; Mrs Christine Moosbauer is the new Head of Information department, she has been with DPMA since 1992, she has been responsible for the introduction of the new electronic filing system, and understands the need to consolidate IT related tasks. This will be a focus over the coming months in Department 2. Mrs Annelie Herz was also promoted internally and she is now Head of Division 2.2.

### 2) Approval of Minutes of 10. Meeting.

Minutes were approved.

### 3) Update on DPMA patent information initiatives

HR presented statistics from 2015 and explained that the budget is agreed at Federal level, the number of employees at DPMA is stable, at around 2,500 - this is somewhat higher than other offices, and staffing is slightly increasing to deal with the back log. If an application is pending before both DPMA and EPO, e.g. because a PCT application enters in both the national DE and the regional EP phases, DPMA do not wait for EPO to examine applications, DPMA make their own decision. Trademark applications are up since 2012, and Design registrations are down, Utility models are also gradually declining. Statistical data is published each year in March and is made available on the DPMA website. (See 20160216\_Ps\_PatCom\_Statistik\_Rothe.pdf, see also <https://presse.dpma.de/preseservice/englisch/patentemarkenundco/datenzahlenfakten/statistiken/patente/index.html>)

### 4) Developments in DPMA services:

#### a. Depatis / DEPATISnet

The primary role of Depatis is to support internal state of the art searching for examiners. Recent improvements to DEPATISnet include download option on the result list level for PDFs and csv file, search queries are now part of the downloaded file, this was implemented in response to customer feedback, family members can be removed, documents can be viewed using any page, e.g. drawings, configuration of hit-list, additional classification fields (secondary and reclassified). Citing documents feature is new (sourced from DOCDB and created on the fly). A new proximity operator has been implemented (D). (The search terms linked with this operator may consist of one word or of two consecutive words; this can be performed in one search query. E.g. Multi(D)Media. (See 20160216\_Ps\_PatCom\_Rothe.pdf)

The older DE data previously discussed is being scanned now from the Gazettes, (Slide 13) and will be OCR'ed to get Bibliographic data, as follows 1877-1894 and 1950-1985 – all fields; 1895 – 1944 some gaps, this data will be

commissioned in 2 year sections. New OCR software is needed. FIAT data is not started yet. DPMA will be looking at options to offer this 'new' 'old' data to PatCom members.

#### DPMA Register (slide 14)

Legal status and file histories are available for download, can obtain as weekly feed, and search query is now part of download here too. DPMA currently has no plans to add additional features for DPMA Register. The policy remains to keep the public informed as to the state of the File.

#### b. Federated Register and DPMA.

A tender will be issued in due course (technical component is ready, the legal aspects are under review) in order for DPMA to prepare an interface for Federated Register, also for Design View in OHIM. It will take approx. 6 months to reach a decision on the tender, and implementation should begin later in 2016 with the aim to finish in 2017. The EPO are waiting for DE data. In the future programming services for specific application programs will no longer be directly subject to tender. Rather DPMA will call for tender programming services of specific skills of a defined volume (person days) within the duration of the contract. DPMA prefer to keep in house where possible.

#### c. Patent, trademark, design examination

Patent procedures - in terms of volume online filings are increasing. Patent case files have been managed fully in electronic form since 2011, with > 200,000 electronics only case files. Trademark electronic only case files launched in March 2015. Trade Mark Online file inspection will be available soon. The designs electronic only system is under development.

### 5) Updates on the Unitary patent and Unitary Patent Court.

Ratification draft (Act) is with the German Ministry, the aim is to enact in 2016, and start in 2017. The IT is ready for implementation at DPMA. Unitary Patent (UP) discussions are ongoing with the EPO. CASE management will need review, an analysis was carried out in Q3 2015, and DPMA is awaiting response.

Unitary Patent court (UPC) The alpha release of UPC case management system has been released in December 2015. Standards are not yet ready, an IT system is ready, but there are problems, e.g. currently basic patent information is difficult to obtain, such as Unitary / EP and changes within each process. And document size is problematic. DPMA are pressing for improvements on these matters in order to keep DPMA users up to date. At the moment two offices are communicating with the EPO court. One would be preferable. Next meeting is in May. DPMA are requesting Daily updates of EP / UP legal status changes; including opt-out information.

### 6) Classification matters

CPC – The DPMA are observing, and have no plans to implement CPC. DPMA have 800 examiners, and workflow is based around IPC, and DEKLA offers search efficiency. There is no demand from applicants to move to CPC.

### 7) Machine Translation progress

CLIR methodology is used for search and MT is carried out on retrieved documents if needed. A tender is in pipeline for JP MT document provision for DPMA internal. After JP, KR and CN may be considered. MT would be into English.

8) DPMA and German user groups / services for small businesses.

ARPAD not yet reorganised. DPMA is awaiting reply from Ministry. DPMA also participate in the IMPACT meetings.

DPMA cooperate with DE Patent Information Centres., the roles vary according to German regions, but DPMA harmonises services where possible to ensure a minimum standard in services for IP across the whole of Germany.

9) AOB (Any other Business)

The issue of personal data in public information was discussed in relation to users outside of Europe.

#### **Attendees- PatCom**

Jochen Lennhof (Minesoft).  
Armin Foerderer, (Treasurer) (FIZ Karlsruhe)  
Arne Krueger, (Moving targets)  
Sascha Herschenberg, (InfoChem)  
Jane List, (Secretary) (Extract Information)  
Jurjen Dijkstra, (LexisNexis Univentio)

#### **Attendees – DPMA**

Mrs Christine Moosbauer (CH), Head of Department 2 Information;  
Dr. Hubert Rothe, Head of Department 2.1  
Mrs Annelie Herz (Head, Division 2.2. Internal information service)  
Mr Rudolf Hüsing (Head, Division 2.3. IT Planning and Development)

#### **Apologies**

Paul Peters, (CAS)  
Martine Massiera, (Questel)  
Robert Fokkema, (Lighthouse IP Group)

Jane List, PatCom Secretary, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017