## Chapter 900: Prior Art, Classification, and Search

901 Prior Art

- 901.01 Canceled Matter in U.S. Patent Files
- 901.02 Abandoned Applications
- 901.03 Pending Applications
- 901.04 U.S. Patents
- 901.04(a) Kind Codes
- 901.05 Foreign Patent Documents
  - I. PLACEMENT OF FOREIGN PATENT EQUIVALENTS IN THE SEARCH FILES
  - II. OVERVIEW OF FOREIGN PATENT LAWS
    - A. Applicant
    - B. Application
    - C. Publication of Contents of Pending Applications
    - D. Administrative Systems
    - E. Opposition
    - F. The Patent
    - G. Patents of Addition
  - III. CORRESPONDING SPECIFICATIONS IN A FAMILY OF PATENTS

IV. VALIDITY OF DATES DISPLAYED ON FACE OF FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

- V. NOTES ON INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES
- 901.05(a) Citation Data
  - I. ALPHABETICAL LIST OF SELECTED FOREIGN LANGUAGE NAMES OF MONTHS

II. LIST OF SELECTED FOREIGN LANGUAGE NAMES AND ABBREVIATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

901.05(b) Other Significant Data

I. NUMBERS FOR IDENTIFICATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA ON THE FIRST PAGE OF PATENT AND LIKE DOCUMENTS INCLUDING INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS (INID NUMBERS)

II. NUMBERS FOR IDENTIFICATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATA ON THE FIRST PAGE OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS (INID NUMBERS)

- 901.05(c) Obtaining Copies
- 901.05(d) Translation
- 901.06 Nonpatent Publications
- 901.06(a) Scientific and Technical Information Center (STIC)
  - I. STIC COLLECTIONS
    - A. Books
    - B. Periodicals
    - C. Foreign Patent Documents
    - D. Special Collections
  - II. HOW TO LOCATE MATERIALS IN STIC
  - III. LOAN POLICY
  - IV. STIC SERVICES
    - A. Reference Services
    - B. Online Searching
    - C. Foreign Patent Services
    - D. Translations
    - E. Interlibrary Loans
    - F. On-Site Photocopying
    - G. Obtaining Publication Dates
    - H. Tours
- 901.06(b) Borrowed Publications
- 901.06(c) Alien Property Custodian Publications

- 901.06(d) Abstracts, Abbreviatures, and Defensive Publications
- 901.07 Arrangement of Art in Technology Centers
- 901.08 Borrowing References
- 902 Search Tools and Classification Information
- 902.01 Manual of Classification
- 902.01(a) Index to the U.S. Patent Classification System
- 902.02 Class and Subclass Definitions
- 902.02(a) Definition Notes
- 902.03 Classification Information
- 902.03(a) Patent Classification Home Page on the Internet
- 902.03(b) Patent Classification Home Page on the USPTO Intranet
- 902.03(c) Classification Insight on USPTO Local Area Network (LAN)
- 902.03(d) Patent Information and Search Tools: the Cassis DVD-ROM Series
- 902.03(e) Automated Search Tools: EAST and WEST
- 902.04 Classification Orders
- 902.04(a) Reclassification Alert Report
- 903 Classification
- 903.01 Statutory Authority
- 903.02 Basis and Principles of Classification
- 903.02(a) New and Revised Classes
- 903.02(b) Scope of a Class
- 903.02(c) Establishing Subclasses and Cross-Reference Art Collections
- 903.03 Availability of Foreign Patents
- 903.04 Classifying Applications for Publication as a Patent Application Publication
- 903.05 Addition, Deletion, or Transfer of U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications
- 903.06 Harmonized Subclasses

903.07 Classifying and Cross-Referencing at Allowance

- 903.07(a) Cross-Referencing Keep Systematic Notes During Prosecution
- 903.07(b) Issuing in Another Technology Center Without Transfer
- 903.08 Applications: Assignment and Transfer
- 903.08(a) New Applications
- 903.08(b) Classification and Assignment to Examiner
- 903.08(c) Immediate Inspection of Amendments
- 903.08(d) Transfer Procedure
  - I. TRANSFER BETWEEN ART UNITS WITHIN THE SAME TECHNOLOGY CENTER
  - II. TRANSFERS BETWEEN DIFFERENT TECHNOLOGY CENTERS
  - **III. PROCESS FOR TRANSFER**

903.08(e) General Guidelines Governing the Assignment of Nonprovisional Applications for Examination

I. UNDOCKETED APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE OF INITIAL PATENT EXAMINATION (OIPE)

II. PALM EXPO

903.09 International Classification of Patents for Inventions

- I. INT. CI. LAYOUT
  - A. Section
  - B. Class
  - C. Subclass
  - D. Group
  - E. Complete Classification Symbol
- II. CLASSIFYING IN THE INT. CI. SYSTEM
  - A. Selecting Subclasses Corresponding to U.S. Classes
  - B. Selecting Main Groups Corresponding to U.S. Mainline Subclasses
  - C. Selecting Subgroups Corresponding to U.S. Indented Subclasses

## III. U.S. INT. CI. CONCORDANCE

- 903.09(a) Locarno Classification Designations
- 904 How to Search
- 904.01 Analysis of Claims
- 904.01(a) Variant Embodiments Within Scope of Claim
- 904.01(b) Equivalents
- 904.01(c) Analogous Arts
- 904.02 General Search Guidelines
- 904.02(a) Classified Search
- 904.02(b) Search Tool Selection
- 904.02(c) Internet Searching
- 904.03 Conducting the Search
- 905 Miscellaneous
- 905.03 Ordering of Patented and Abandoned Provisional and Nonprovisional Application Files
- 905.06 Patent Family Information
  - I. AVAILABLE DATABASES
  - II. ACCESS TO FOREIGN PATENT INFORMATION