

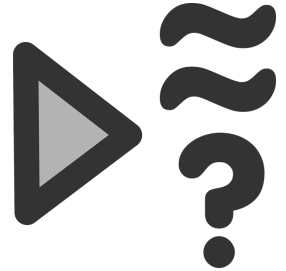
Foreign Patent Prosecution Practices

Welcome to the Foreign Patent Prosecution Practices Results. This report reflects a diverse group of twenty-two patent-driven global companies.

Foreign patent applications may be filed in a variety of ways including national patent applications filed in each country, a regional European patent application covering certain designated European countries, filing under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) or European Patent Office (EPO), and various combinations thereof.

In addition to identifying advantageous jurisdictions to protect your inventions, there are a myriad of options to foreign filing. IP leaders must take several factors into account when deciding their approach to handling their foreign prosecution. This survey was designed to explore the key considerations and identify the prevailing and best practices.

The results of this foreign patent prosecution practices survey indicate that the majority of seek protection in numerous jurisdictions. PCT and EPO filing options are increasingly being used.



Report Outline

Introduction and Key Findings

Participant Company Profiles

In which of the following industry categories does your company have a significant line of business?

How many original priority patent applications are filed annually?

On average, in addition to your company's priority or original patent filings, for how many countries per patent case do you seek protection?

Accelerated Examinations

What percentage of cases did you request/take to accelerated examination?

Which of the following accelerated examination programs do you use?

What are the common reasons you request an accelerated examination?

How often do you have your US or domestic law firm provide instructions to foreign counsel for responding to a foreign office action?

Does your company review instructions developed by domestic outside counsel or provide instructions to foreign counsel to respond to an office action in a foreign country?

How often do you abandon (not respond to office action) a patent application during foreign prosecution?

How often do you use a third party to file your foreign applications where the third party is different from the foreign counsel prosecuting the foreign application?

Does your company's local/domestic IP law firm provide foreign prosecution oversight?

PCT and EP Filing Strategy

Do you file PCT or EP applications?

What are your primary reasons for filing PCT/EP applications?

What percentage of your company's PCT cases entered the national phase?

What search authority do you use for your PCT applications?

What examination authority do you use for your PCT applications?

What is the primary reason for selecting a search/examining authority?

What are the greatest challenges you have faced in your foreign patent prosecution practices?

Related Best Practices Studies and Materials

- Patent Operations
- Outside Counsel Costs, Cycle-Time And Quality Management
- Intellectual Property Operations Performance Metrics
- Inventor Rewards And Recognition Programs
- Intellectual Property Training Programs
- Inventor Rewards And Recognition Program Planning Guide
- Developing Intellectual Properties And Performance Metrics
- Patent Intelligence Practices
- Patent Preparation and Prosecution Quality Preparation
- Invention Harvesting, Selection, And IP Protection Practices
- Intellectual Property Strategy Development And Planning Guide
- Structuring An Effective Inventor Incentive Program
- International Inventor Rewards and Remunerations Program

About ipPerformance Group

ipPerformance Group, Inc. (www.ipperform.com) is the leading intellectual property advisory and benchmarking firm. Drawing on the knowledge of over 550 intellectual property management benchmarks of Global 2000 companies, we help our corporate clients solve common and complex intellectual property business problems and measurably enhance their ability to build value, manage risk, and improve performance in an intellectual property-driven world.

Our **technology solutions services** help clients improve their productivity and decision making with management and analysis software. Our **strategy services** help clients assess their intellectual property management process, performance metrics, and staffing (roles and responsibilities) against peers and best practices to effect strategically business-aligned programs. Our **research services** conduct extensive benchmarks focused on intellectual property operations best practices. This research has enabled corporate leaders throughout the world to measure performance and identify improvement opportunities.

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