## USER MANUAL REVISION SHEET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2017/12</td>
<td>- Document revised and updated e.g. screen-shots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Product free of charge as of 2018/01 (all users automatically logged in as “guest”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Persistence of downloads and statistics limited to UI session duration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Names of search criteria, result list columns and document fields are improved (search criteria codes are not modified)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>2016/12</td>
<td>Change of product name and other minor changes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2016/05</td>
<td>Document revised and updated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>2012/12</td>
<td>Document revised and updated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>2011/09</td>
<td>Document creation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1. INTRODUCTION

EP Bulletin search (referred to as “Bulletin” in this document) is one of the products (databases) available via the Patent information services for experts user interface, accessible at this link.

Bulletin is a cumulative database updated every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET and it includes EPO Bibliographic Data (EBD), which is extracted every week from the EPO's administrative EPASYS database. In a given week it includes all the new European patent publications of that week, as well as previously published European patent applications or granted European patents where a number of procedural events have occurred in that week. For example, intention to grant, refusal, withdrawal and revocation are procedural events that are searchable in Bulletin.


Note: You are reminded of your acceptance of the terms and conditions at this link. It is essential that you read these terms and conditions in order to use Bulletin correctly.

1.2. SECURITY

The use of HTTPS, combining the regular HTTP protocol with the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol, means that all communications between your computer and Bulletin are encrypted in both directions.

1.3. CONTACT POINT

For assistance on all matters relating to Bulletin (e.g. database content, UI features, anomaly reports) please contact our support team at support@epo.org.

1.4. PREREQUISITES

Before starting to use Bulletin, you will need:

- basic skills in Boolean language (see Query syntax)
- an HTML5-compatible internet browser
- a recommended minimum screen resolution of 1366 x 768
2. RUN YOUR FIRST SEARCH

This section briefly describes the steps from the launch of "Patent information services for experts" to the display of Bulletin documents matching your first search.

1. Launch "Patent information services for experts" available at this link.

2. Select "EP Bulletin search" from the list of databases in the welcome window.

3. The search window is now displayed. In the query box enter a short Boolean query manually or copy and paste the following one:

   \[
   \text{PSAN} = 2017^* \text{ AND APNM} = \text{Bosch}
   \]

   to retrieve all documents where a communication of intention was issued in 2017 (criterion PSAN) and where the applicant is "Bosch" (criterion APNM). Click the Search button to run your first query:

   ![Query Result]

4. Once the result is displayed, clicking the Result button will take you to the result window:

   ![Result Window]

5. The result list and documents are now displayed and ready for browsing, running statistics and downloading in multiple formats.

   Note: You can customise the result list and document contents.
3. WELCOME WINDOW

When you use Bulletin for the first time or if the application has been updated (e.g. new search criteria or UI feature added or bug fixed), the following message appears:

![Application loading. Please wait...](image)

Once the application has finished loading, the welcome window appears and enables you to:

- select the UI language in the top right-hand corner:

  ![Language selection](image)

- select “EP Bulletin search”:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Database name</th>
<th>Database edition</th>
<th>Database edition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EP full-text search</td>
<td>EFAB 2017/42</td>
<td>info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EP Bulletin search</td>
<td>BULL 2017/42</td>
<td>info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Patent index</td>
<td>GPI 2017/42</td>
<td>info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATSTAT Online</td>
<td>PATSTAT 2017</td>
<td>info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATSTAT Online</td>
<td>PATSTAT 2016</td>
<td>info</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the **Database edition** column, the latest available edition is displayed numerically in YYYY/WW form, signifying the year (four digits) and Bulletin update week (two digits), e.g. 2017/42.

**Note:** The database is updated every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET, which means that in Bulletin the week starts on Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET.

When you click on the Bulletin database, the search window appears.
4. SEARCH WINDOW

Once you have selected the Bulletin database in the welcome window, the search window is displayed. It has four boxes with the following functions:

- **Criteria** box: Navigate the list of search criteria to identify and select the criteria you need for your searches.

- **Index** box: Browse the contents of the database for a search criterion selected in the Criteria box, e.g. for identifying possible variations of an applicant's or proprietor's name.

- **Query** box: Create queries, run searches, save/load queries.

- **History** box: Browse your search history and re-use history entries in your queries. The history content is also used for saving queries.

You can adjust the proportions of the boxes by dragging the horizontal and vertical dividers (dividers are the dark lines between the boxes - e.g. there is a vertical divider between the Query and History boxes which can be dragged up and down to resize them).

Boxes can also be minimised and maximised by clicking the minimise/maximise button (located in the top right-hand corner of each box) or by double-clicking the box top toolbar.
4.1. CRITERIA BOX

The Bulletin criteria are described in detail in Annex 1.

Each criterion has a code and a name. For example, the code **PSAN** stands for **Communication of intention to grant**.

1. Use buttons to display the criteria list in alphabetical order or by pre-defined categories, e.g. **Examination**.

2. Open/close a category by clicking the arrow or double-clicking the category name.

3. Select (one click) a criterion to see the content of its corresponding index, or move the selected search field to the Query box by dragging & dropping or double-clicking. You can also enter criteria manually in the Query box.

You can mix criteria from the Bibliographic data, Examination, Opposition and Other categories in your query. Example: PSAN = 2017* and APNM = Bosch
An index reflects the database content for the data corresponding to a search criterion. It does not reflect the database content limited to the current search. For example, the PA index contains all proprietor/applicant names stored in the Bulletin database.

1. The **Go to** box enables quick and easy index scrolling. The index content helps you to check the availability, spellings and formats of the data you want to search for, e.g.:

   - to identify possible variations of an applicant name or title keyword.
   - to check the indexing format of classification symbols and dates.

2. You can move selected index terms to the [Query box](#) by:

   - dragging and dropping one or more selected terms.
   - double-clicking them.
4.3. QUERY BOX

The Query box enables you to create queries, run searches and save/load queries. See the query syntax and search features sections, which contain multiple sample queries.

1 Query edit zone. The text of a query can be:
   • entered manually.
   • dragged from the list of search criteria and dropped.
   • dragged from an index and dropped.
   • dragged from the search history and dropped.
   • loaded from a user query file.
   • pasted from an external application.

2 Search button: Equivalent to pressing Enter on your keyboard.

3 Search results. Shows the number of Bulletin documents matching your search.

4 Go to result list button: Opens the result window.

5 Delete current query button.

6 Save/load queries button: Queries listed in the History box can be saved locally (with or without comments) for future use.

7 Operator toolbar: Arithmetic and Boolean operators (AND, OR, ANDNOT) and wildcards that you need for your queries are displayed in this bar.

8 Proximity search button. Searches for titles and inventor/applicant/proprietor names are possible with proximity operators with the following logic: Search word1 up to a maximum of x word(s) apart from word2 in that order or whatever the order.

Proximity operators can also be entered manually between two words:
   TTLE = laser +1w beam*

See also Query syntax.
4.4. HISTORY BOX

A query is added to the history box only if the associated search is successful, i.e. if there is no syntax error in the query.

The 100 most recent queries are stored locally in the search history. Stored queries are usually used for:

- combining queries in the query edit zone, e.g.:
  
  \[ \text{IPC} = \text{A61K and } \$10 \times 3 \text{ andnot } \$2 \]

- saving queries. History queries can be saved for future use (see Save/load queries).

If your search returns zero documents, or an unexpectedly high number of documents, then the parsed query (i.e. the user query transformed into a query that is used by the search engine - see item 5 below) may help you understand if there is an error in the logic of the query.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>Database</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Query</th>
<th>Parsed query</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>BULL 20/42</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>PSAN = 2017* AND APNM = Bosch</td>
<td>(PSAN = 2017*) AND (APNM_\text{WORD} = bo...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>BULL 20/42</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>PSFC=20170922</td>
<td>PSFC = 20170922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>S20</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>PSFC=201709</td>
<td>PSFC = 201709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>S19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>PSFC=201710</td>
<td>PSFC = 201710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>S18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>PSFC=201710* andnot pldt=20170108</td>
<td>(PSFC = 201710*) AND NOT (PLDT = 20...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>S17</td>
<td>1564526</td>
<td>PSFC=1* andnot pldt=20171018</td>
<td>(presenceField = PSFC) AND NOT (PLDT = 20...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>S16</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>PSFC=201709* andnot pldt=20171018</td>
<td>(PSFC = 201709*) AND NOT (PLDT = 20...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>S15</td>
<td>4693</td>
<td>PSFC=201709</td>
<td>PSFC = 201709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>S14</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>PSFC=201709</td>
<td>PSFC = 201709</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 ID column. This is the history query number. As 100 of the most recent queries are stored, if the History box already contains 100 queries, the next new query stored is given the ID number $1$ and the previous query number $1$ is deleted.

2 Database column. Database identifier (current year and week number - the Bulletin week starts with the day/hour of the database update, i.e. Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET).

3 Result column. The number of Bulletin documents matching the search.

4 Query column. The query as you built it in the query edit zone.

5 Parsed query column. Your query as transformed by the parser for the search engine.
5. RESULT WINDOW

Once you have run a search successfully in the search window, you can access the result window. It has three boxes with the following functions:

- **Query box**: Refine your search without going back to the search window.

- **Result list box**: Browse and download the result list matching your search. The result list content can be customised to focus on relevant data. Statistics can be run on the result set.

- **Document box**: Browse and download Bulletin documents. The document data fields can be customised and re-ordered to focus on relevant data.

You can adjust the proportions of the boxes by dragging the horizontal and vertical dividers (dividers are the dark lines between boxes - e.g. there is a horizontal divider between the document box and the query/result list boxes which can be dragged left and right to resize them).

Boxes can also be minimised and maximised by clicking the minimise/maximise button (located in the top right-hand corner of each box) or by double-clicking the box top toolbar.
5.1. QUERY BOX

The features are identical to those of the query box in the search window. They allow you to refine your current search without going back to the search window.

```
PSAN = 2017* AND APNM = Bosch
```
5.2. RESULT LIST BOX

By default the result list includes one column only (Publication column).

New columns can be added using the Preferences / Result list content menu.

1 Navigation buttons. If your search returns more than 10 000 documents, only the first 10 000 will be included in the scrollable part of the result list.

2 Column headers. Click the arrow located to the right of a column header to trigger the sort feature (ascending, descending or no sort).

The sort feature is not available for all columns.

Bulletin documents can be selected in the result list and displayed in the Document box:
- with the navigation buttons.
- with a simple mouse-click in the list.
- by drag and drop. Documents displayed in the document box are tiled.
5.3. DOCUMENT BOX

A Bulletin document displayed in the UI is a set of bibliographic data and procedural events linked to the proceedings of a European patent application or granted patent. It includes:

- searchable data:
  - Bibliographic data, e.g. applicants, proprietors, inventors (one exception: citations are not searchable).
  - Procedural events, e.g. intention to grant, withdrawal, revocation.

- data fetched on the fly (EPO web service OPS) and not searchable per se:
  - "INPADOC legal status" field.

There is one Bulletin document per European patent application.

Procedural events used in Bulletin may happen during proceedings from filing of a European patent application to the grant of a European patent, sometimes also including post-grant events such as opposition and limitation events.

The INPADOC legal status displayed in a Bulletin document usually reflects procedural events managed by the EPO, but it also often includes national events triggered by patent authorities of EPO member states where a granted European patent has entered the national phase.

For example, renewal fee payments and lapses are common events sent to the EPO by patent authorities and collected in INPADOC.

See Annex 2 for a detailed description of the fields displayed in a Bulletin document, the content of which can be customised by removing unnecessary fields and re-ordering relevant fields.
Result list navigation buttons. If your search returns more than 10 000 documents, only the first 10 000 will be included in the scrollable part of the result list.

Translation button: activates the title translation feature.

Find feature: enter a term to be looked for in the currently displayed document.

Arrange window buttons (tile, cascade, minimise/maximise). A maximum of four windows (e.g. four sections of the same document) can be opened simultaneously.

As far as the legal status of a European granted patent in EPO member states is concerned, for legal certainty we recommend checking the legal status at source, using for example the European Patent Register, which provides direct access to EPO member states’ data (links to national registers and the Federated Register).
6. STATISTICS WINDOW

The statistics window appears when you click Statistics on the UI top toolbar. It has two boxes with the following functions:

- **My statistics box**: Navigate the list of searches and associated statistics that you have created.

- **Configure/view statistics box**: Create and visualise statistics for the search selected in the My statistics box. The cross-reference you can create is a bubble chart for your selected parameters for the X and Y axis, e.g. IPC and Applicant.
6.1. MY STATISTICS BOX

This box contains a list which may include the following items:

- Searches with result sets which have been or will be used to create and visualise statistics (most recent search at the top).

- For a given search, a list of cross-references that you have created (most recent statistics at the top).

- Loaded files (statistics can be manually saved locally and loaded), which always appear at the bottom of the list as shown below:

```
My statistics

Expand icon
Search 2 - 7 663 results
  Expand icon
  Cross-reference #2
  Cross-reference #1

Expand icon
Search 1 - 6 775 results
  Expand icon
  Cross-reference #2
  Cross-reference #1

Loaded file #1 - Cross-reference
```

Searches, statistics and loaded files can be deleted from the list by clicking the Delete icon.

Statistics are automatically saved server-side and are therefore accessible from different computers.

Statistics are kept server-side for 72 hours before being automatically deleted.
6.2. CONFIGURE/VIEW STATISTICS BOX

This box enables you to create, visualise and save/load cross-reference charts.

You can create a cross-reference chart for the following purposes:

- to visualise technology trends over a number of years for the IPC top 20
- to visualise the activity of the top 20 applicants or proprietors over a number of years or in the IPC top 20

1. **Query area:** Shows the query and search result used to compute the statistics.

2. **Statistics button:** Click the button to run the selected statistics (the parameter used for the previous statistics calculation will then be re-used).
Parameters button. Once clicked, the following parameters are shown:

Parameter 1 (X axis) and Parameter 2 (Y axis) can be one of the following items:

- Date of filing
- Date of publication
- IPC (subclass level)
- Inventor
- Applicant
- Proprietor

Select Parameters 1 and 2 (Date of filing and Applicant in this example) and click the Calculate button to run your cross-reference.

Note that Parameters 1 (X axis) and 2 (Y axis) can be identical, e.g. IPC and IPC to spot associations of technical fields, or Applicant and Applicant to spot collaborations.

Cross-reference outcome visualisation. This is a bubble chart showing the top 20 items corresponding to the parameters you have selected for the X and Y axes. You can modify the style of your chart using the display options located on the right-hand side of your screen.
Save button list. The following formats are available:

- JSON: JSON is a format frequently used in and between HTML applications. You can use this format e.g. for archiving statistics output which can be loaded and visualised later.
- PDF
- CSV

Load button. Load statistics previously saved in JSON format.

Note that statistics are kept server-side for 72 hours. Should you want to keep statistics for more than 72 hours, you can save them in one of the proposed formats, e.g. JSON for visualising your statistics in the UI.

Print button.

Maximise/minimise button. Click this button to maximise or minimise your Configure/view statistics box. You can also maximise or minimise the box by double-clicking its toolbar.
7. UI TOP TOOLBAR

The top toolbar is visible in the search, result and statistics windows. It provides access to the download, print and user preference functionalities, as well as navigation between the welcome, search, result and statistics windows:

1. Go to the welcome window.

2. Menu:
   - Preferences: Set your user preferences, e.g. for customising the result list content and document content.
   - Download: Download e.g. your current result list or Bulletin documents.
   - Print: Print e.g. your current result list.
   - Help:
     - Database help: Access the Bulletin factsheet to download this user manual.
     - Discussion forum: Access the forum to discuss the latest topics.
     - About: See the current version of Patent information services for experts.

3. Navigate between the search, result and statistics windows.

4. Username (all users are automatically logged in as “guest”) and Bulletin database edition number.
8. QUERY SYNTAX

Bulletin queries are usually a combination of the following:

- **Search criteria codes**, e.g. PA for proprietor/applicant names.

- **Terms to be searched for**, e.g. title keywords, IPC symbols, applicant/proprietor/inventor names, dates of procedural events, etc.

- **Boolean operators** to connect criteria and terms for a given criterion:
  - **AND**
    Documents where the proprietors/applicants are Bosch and Samsung:
    \[ PA = \text{Bosch and Samsung} \]
  - **OR**
    Documents where the proprietors/applicants are Bosch or Samsung:
    \[ PA = \text{Bosch or Samsung} \]
  - **NOT, ANDNOT**
    Documents where the proprietor/applicant is Bosch and not Samsung:
    \[ PA = \text{Bosch andnot Samsung} \]

The Boolean operators are available in three languages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>AND</th>
<th>andnot</th>
<th>or</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French</td>
<td>et</td>
<td>etsauf</td>
<td>ou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German</td>
<td>und</td>
<td>undnicht</td>
<td>oder</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Arithmetic operators

  - = equal to
    Documents for applications filed in 2010:
    \[ \text{APDT} = 2010^* \]

  - > greater than, >= greater than or equal to
    Documents for applications filed as of 2010/01/01:
    \[ \text{APDT} \geq 2010^* \]

  - < less than, <= less than or equal to
    Documents for applications filed before 2010:
    \[ \text{APDT} < 2010^* \]

  - [] date range
    Documents for applications filed in the first half of 2010:
    \[ \text{APDT} [2010/01/01, 2010/06/30] \]

  - () brackets to force the order of operations
    Documents about the "purification" ("Reinigung" in German) of "argon" according to their English titles:
    \[ \text{TTLE} = \text{argon and (purification or reinigung)} \]

• Proximity operators

  Documents where "nano" is one word apart from "particle" or "particles", in the same order ("+" means in the same order) in their English titles:
  \[ \text{TTLE} = \text{nano +1w particle?} \]

• Wildcards

  - * (asterisk) stands for zero or more characters
    Documents containing "particle", "particles" in their English titles:
    \[ \text{TTLE} = \text{particle*} \]

  - # (hash) stands for one character
    Documents containing "paralyse", "paralyze" in their English titles:
    \[ \text{TTLE} = \text{paraly#e} \]

  - ? (question mark) stands for zero or one character
    Documents containing "particle", "particles" in their English titles:
    \[ \text{TTLE} = \text{particle?} \]

  The number of wildcards is limited to five per term.
• **String delimiters " " (double quotes)**

\[ \text{GTNM} = \text{Hoffmann La Roche} \]

will be interpreted as

\[ \text{GTNM} = \text{Hoffmann OR La OR Roche} \]

The above query will not return the expected result. This is due to

- the presence of white space between the words, and
- the use of the default operator OR between terms - see the [User preferences / General](#) menu on setting the value of default operators.

The correct syntax should be

\[ \text{GTNM} = \text{“Hoffmann La Roche”} \]

In other words, use **string delimiters to search for expressions**.

**Notes** - Hints for query syntax in Bulletin:

- Criteria, search terms and Boolean operators can be entered in upper or lower case.

- **Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters.**

- Bulletin queries are evaluated from left to right, and brackets must sometimes be used to force the order of operations.
9. SEARCH FEATURES

9.1. SEARCH WITH NUMBERS

If you identify any criteria relevant to your searches that are not described in this section, see the list of search criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practice and more search examples.

Note: The queries shown in this document (criteria, operators and values) are sample queries only.

Common search criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUNR</td>
<td>EP publication number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PINR</td>
<td>International publication number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APNR</td>
<td>EP application number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AINR</td>
<td>International application number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRNR</td>
<td>Priority number</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data indexing rules

EP publication and application numbers do not have the leading “EP” prefix.

Priority numbers are usually composed of the following:
- country code
- number
- kind code (e.g. “U” in the case of utility model application)

International publication numbers always have the leading “WO” prefix.

International application numbers always have a leading country code prefix.

Query examples

Returns no documents due to the leading “EP” in the publication numbers. The correct query which returns three Bulletin documents is:

PUNR = 1000000 2000000 3000000

PINR = 2017116218 2017076373 2017131243
Returns no documents because the leading “WO” is missing in the international publication numbers. The correct query which returns three Bulletin documents is:

PINR = WO2017116218 WO2017076373 WO2017131243

PRNR = AT*
Retrieves Bulletin documents where there is at least one Austrian (AT) priority.
9.2. SEARCH WITH DATES

If you identify any criteria relevant to your searches that are not described in this section, see the list of search criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practice and more search examples.

Note: The queries shown in this document (criteria, operators and values) are sample queries only.

Common search criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APDT:</td>
<td>Application filing date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSAN:</td>
<td>Communication of intention to grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUB1:</td>
<td>Publication of granted patent (B1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSFC:</td>
<td>Despatch of first examination report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCRV:</td>
<td>Revocation of the patent</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data indexing rules

Dates are usually formatted as follows: YYYYMMDD (Y=year M=month D=day).

Search filter

Dates can be entered in multiple formats:
- YYYYMMDD or DDMMYYYY
- YYYY/MM/DD or DD/MM/YYYY
- YYYY-MM-DD or DD-MM-YYYY
- YYYY.MM.DD or DD.MM.YYYY

Query examples

The following queries are equivalent:

PSAN = 2016*
PSAN >= 2016/01/01 and PSAN <= 2016/12/31
PSAN [2016-01-01, 2016-12-31]

They retrieve Bulletin documents where the event “intention to grant” was communicated in 2016 (date of legal effect).

PSAN = 2016
Returns zero documents due to the missing wildcard “*” at the end of “2016”.

REVD or PCRV = 2016*
Retrieves Bulletin documents where a “Revocation of patent” event (by the proprietor – criterion REVD, or during opposition proceedings – criterion PCRV) occurred in 2016 (date of legal effect).
9.3. SEARCH WITH CLASSIFICATIONS

If you identify any criteria relevant to your searches that are not described in this section, see the list of search criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practice and more search examples.

**Note:** The queries shown in this document (criteria, operators and values) are sample queries only.

### Common search criteria

**IPC:** Cumulates all IPC editions/versions (invention and additional information)

### Data indexing rules

For IPC B66D 5/14, the following terms appear in the IPC index:
- B66 (sections are not indexed individually)
- B66D
- B66D0005 (group of 4 digits)
- B66D000514

Each individual term can be used in a query without right-truncation.

### Search filter

A filter enables you to enter classification symbols in multiple formats. For example, the following queries are equivalent:

- **IPC = A01B1/10**
- **IPC = "A01B 1/10"**
- **IPC = A01B000110**

### Query examples

**IPC = A**
Retrieves all Bulletin documents under IPC section A.

**IPC = B66D**
Retrieves all Bulletin documents under IPC subclass B66D.

**IPC = B01D 46/24**
Does not retrieve the expected result due to the presence of white space between class and group, which is interpreted as a logical "or", assuming that the default operator between terms is set to "or" in your User preferences / General.
The correct query is

**IPC = "B01D 46/24"** – also correct: **IPC = B01D46/24, IPC = B01D004624**
9.4. SEARCH WITH TITLES

If you identify any criteria relevant to your searches that are not described in this section, see the list of search criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practice and more search examples.

Nota: The queries shown in this document (criteria, operators and values) are sample queries only.

Common search criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TTLE</td>
<td>Titles in English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTLG</td>
<td>Titles in German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTLR</td>
<td>Titles in French</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data indexing rules

All words of all titles in English, German and French languages are indexed.

A list of stop words is used at indexing time, e.g. frequently used words such as “for”, “has” and “example” are not indexed and are therefore not searchable.

Word delimiters such as dot or hyphen are removed or replaced by empty spaces at indexing time (see the query examples on the next page).
Query examples

**TTLE** = argon and (reinigung or purification)
Retrieves Bulletin documents related to the purification (or "Reinigung" in German) of argon, where these words are included in their titles in English.

**TTLE** = "nano particles"
Retrieves Bulletin documents containing this expression in their titles in English. Note that the search for an expression is transformed into a proximity search with the following operator: **TTLE** = nano +1w particles - meaning "nano" up to a maximum of one word apart from "particles", in the same order. **TTLE** = nano +1w particle? would be more appropriate to retrieve the words "particle" and "particles".

**TTLE** = x-rays
does not retrieve the expected result because the hyphen is a word delimiter which is automatically replaced by an empty space. The corresponding parsed query would be: **TTLE** = x or rays
A correct query would be:
**TTLE** = “x-rays”

**TTLE** = A.D.N
Retrieves Bulletin documents containing ADN in their titles in English (the dot is a word delimiter which is automatically removed).

[p] Notes:

- Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters (quotes). For example: **TTLE** = "laser beam?"
does not return the expected result (documents containing "laser beam" or "laser beams"). The correct query would be:
**TTLE** = laser +1w beam?

- For searching the text of titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims we recommend using "EP full-text search", which is one of the products available in the UI.
9.5. SEARCH WITH NAMES

If you identify any criteria relevant to your searches that are not described in this section, see the list of search criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practice and more search examples.

Note: The queries shown in this document (criteria, operators and values) are sample queries only.

Common search criteria

INNM: Inventor
PA: Proprietor/applicant
APNM: Applicant
GTNM: Proprietor
RENM: Representative
OPNM: Opponent
OANM: Opponent’s representative

Data indexing rules

Names are indexed by words and expressions.

For example, the inventor "Fromont Gaëlle" appears in the INNM index as follows:

fromont
fromont gaelle
gaelle

Word delimiters such as dot or hyphen are removed or replaced by empty spaces at indexing time (see the query examples on the next page).
Query examples

**INNM = jacques and michel**
Retrieves, for example, a Bulletin document where the inventors are "Lenfant Jacques " and “Leroy Jean-Michel”, and a different document where the inventor is "Bernard Jean-Jacques Michel".

**PA = "general electric"**
Retrieves Bulletin documents where the proprietor or applicant is General Electric. Note that the search for an expression is transformed into a proximity search with the following operator: PA = general +1w electric meaning "general" one word apart from "electric", in that order.

**INNM = KOSCO-VILBOIS**
Does not retrieve the expected result, because the hyphen is a word delimiter which is replaced by an empty space. The corresponding parsed query would be:

**INNM = KOSCO or VILBOIS**
A correct query would be:

**INNM = “KOSCO-VILBOIS”**
Which is equivalent to:

**INNM = “KOSCO VILBOIS”**

**Notes:**

- A single word does not need delimiters (double quotes), whereas an expression, i.e. a name containing at least two words, does always need to be delimited with double quotes.

- Wildcards cannot be placed between quotes.

- **PA = "dupont pierre"** does not retrieve “pierre dupont”. One correct query would be: PA = "dupont pierre" or “pierre dupont”. Another correct query would be: PA = dupont /1w pierre
9.6. SEARCH WITH PROCEDURAL EVENTS

Procedural events available in Bulletin can be searched using their dates, and the recommendations outlined in Search with dates apply.

The date of an event is usually its date of legal effect and not the date of publication of the European Patent Bulletin that includes that event for a particular patent application or granted patent.

For example, you can search European patent applications for which the applicant filed requests for examination in a given quarter as follows:

\[ \text{PSEX} \{210707^*, 201709^*\} \]

This retrieves Bulletin documents with examination requests filed between July and September 2017.

Example of EP1369984 (application 03076721): the examination request was filed on 28.08.2017 (legal effect) and published in the European Patent Bulletin on 04.10.2017.

**Notes:**

Some procedural events that are searchable in Bulletin are not published in the European Patent Bulletin. For example:

- **Despatch of first examination report** (criterion PSFC). Example:
  \[ \text{PSFC} = 210707^* \]
  Retrieves Bulletin documents for which a first examination report was despatched in July 2017 (date of legal effect).

- **Communication of intention to grant** (criterion PSAN). Example:
  \[ \text{PSAN} = 210707^* \]
  Retrieves Bulletin documents for which a communication of intention to grant was despatched in July 2017 (date of legal effect).
9.7. WEEKLY MONITORING

Every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET the EPO publishes new patent applications and granted patents. These publications and their full documents are available, for example, on the European Publication Server which is the legally authoritative source of patent applications and patent specifications published by the EPO.

Every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET and in addition to the publication events triggered for the new publications, Bulletin includes new procedural events triggered for patent applications or granted patents published in previous weeks.

The following queries do not include dates, i.e. they could be reused every Wednesday just after 14.00 hrs CET without need for modification before running a search.

Criterion CWE – Current week:
CWE = YES: limits the search scope to the documents of the current week.

Criterion STAT – Status of a Bulletin document:
STAT = N: limits the search scope to documents that are new publications. Other possible values for STAT are R (standing for Replacement, i.e. a document is replaced by a new one due to a change in its content) and C (standing for Corrections – used for newly published A8, A9, B8 and B9 documents).

CWE = YES and STAT = (N or C) and PA = list of proprietors/applicants
Retrieves Bulletin documents which are new publications (e.g. A1, B1, A8, etc.) of the current week for the listed proprietors and applicants.

CWE = YES and STAT = R and PA = list of proprietors/applicants
Retrieves Bulletin documents for applications where a new procedural event is available in the current week for the listed proprietors and applicants.

CWE = YES and PA = list of proprietors/applicants
Retrieves all Bulletin documents of the current week (whatever their status) for the listed proprietors and applicants.
10. SAVE/LOAD QUERIES

If you have complex queries that you may want to re-use frequently, we recommend saving them locally and loading them as required.

Queries can be saved/loaded using the **Save/load queries** button in the **Query box** of the **search window** and the **result window**:

![Save/load queries button](image)
10.1. SAVE QUERIES

1. The **Save query** tab lets you save history queries in a local file with the default name query.QRY.

2. Search history (same content as the **History box** in the search window).

3. Content of your query file showing queries that have been dragged and dropped from the search history.Saved queries may contain comments (see the context menu displayed when you right-click a query).
10.2. LOAD QUERIES

The **Load query** tab lets you open your query file and select the query to be loaded. When you click the **Load query** button, you can choose whether the selected query should overwrite the current one or whether it should be appended to the query in the **Query box**.

If it is appended, the default Boolean operator used for this function is the one selected in your **User preferences/general**.
11. USER PREFERENCES

The user preferences feature allows for several different kinds of settings that will be stored locally for your convenience:

- Layout of the user interface, e.g. width/height of the Criteria, Index, Query, History, Result list and Document boxes in the search and result windows.

- Options selected when a function is executed, e.g. selected format for downloads, query filename used when saving/loading queries.

- Settings defined in the user preferences available in the Preferences menu.

This section covers the features available in the Preferences menu on the UI top toolbar.
11.1. GENERAL PREFERENCES

Located on the UI top toolbar, on the Preferences menu under General:

Auto-complete: As you gradually enter characters in the Query box, the UI displays a list of suggested terms for the search criterion you have entered. This list is built from the index content of the search criterion entered in your query.

A default operator between terms (set to "OR" by default) is used when terms of a query are separated by white space. If the query you enter in the Query box is for example:

\[ \text{GTNM} = \text{Hoffmann La Roche} \]

this will automatically be parsed by default at search time as

\[ \text{GTNM} = \text{Hoffmann or La or Roche} \]

Assuming that you have changed the default value "OR" to "AND", the first query above will automatically be parsed at search time as:

\[ \text{GTNM} = \text{Hoffmann and La and Roche} \]
11.2. RESULT LIST CONTENT CUSTOMISATION

Located on the UI top toolbar, on the Preferences menu under Result list content:

By default the result list contains a single Publication column, and you may decide to add and re-order additional relevant columns.

⚠️ Note: You can define one customised layout for displaying the result list and a different one for downloads (see above, Content for display and Content for download/print tabs).
11.3. DOCUMENT CONTENT CUSTOMISATION

“Document” in this context means a Bulletin document, i.e. the set of bibliographic and procedural data fields of a European patent application or granted European patent.

Located on the UI top toolbar, on the Preferences menu under Document content:

By default, all fields are selected, but you can remove non-relevant items and re-arrange the relevant ones.

Note: You can define one customised layout for document display and a different one for downloads (see above, Content for display and Content for download/print tabs).
12. DOWNLOAD

12.1. OVERVIEW

The download feature is accessible on the UI top toolbar and the current download limit is set at 1 500 for documents and result list entries.

The download procedure starts with a data preparation process carried out on the server side. This process includes wrapping the data into a single zip file.

Once prepared, the data is available for a twenty-four hour download procedure.

The Download menu contains two options:

- **Prepare download**: Opens a pop-up window where you define the data, data format and data range used by the preparation process.

- **Download manager**: Opens a pop-up window which includes a list of prepared data ready for the download process, or of data being prepared.
12.2. PREPARATION PROCESS

1. Downloadable data:
   - Search history
   - Result list
   - Document
   - Chart

2. Download formats:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PDF</th>
<th>RTF</th>
<th>XML</th>
<th>CSV</th>
<th>XLS</th>
<th>HTML</th>
<th>JSON</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Search history</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Result list</td>
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<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chart</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Definition of download range. For example, select All to download all the entries on your current result list, or all their corresponding Bulletin documents. “Selection” means the currently selected and displayed document or the selected entries from the result list.
12.3. DOWNLOAD PROCESS

During the preparation process, the following window pops up in the bottom right-hand corner of the UI:

Once the preparation process terminates, the data is ready for download and the following window pops up (items in bold grey are links):

You can run multiple preparation processes first, and then download the corresponding files via the Download manager:

1. Click this icon to start the download process.
2. Click this icon to delete an item from the list.
3. Click this icon to stop the preparation process.

**Note**: The data of Bulletin documents downloaded in XML is not strictly identical to the XML of the EBD product, i.e. the XML downloaded from Bulletin may not be parsable with the EBD DTDs or schemas.
13. TRANSLATION

Titles of Bulletin documents can be translated using [patenttranslate]. Developed by the EPO in co-operation with Google, this service generates on-the-fly translations and is also used in Espacenet and the European Publication Server.

When you click the **Translation** button, the data is relayed to Patent Translate.
Before translation:

Select your target language from the list, and click the \text{\textregistered} patenttranslate button:

After translation:

Hover over the translated text to display the original text.
## 14. LIMITATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Query</th>
<th>Limit</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Boolean clauses</td>
<td>10 240</td>
<td>For example, PSAN=201710* is one Boolean clause.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The exact number of Boolean clauses is difficult to count because most</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>criteria are combinations of low-level criteria.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of characters</td>
<td>100 000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of wildcards per term</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Search                        |       |                                                                         |
| Search history                | 100   |                                                                         |

| Result list                   |       |                                                                         |
| Scrollable length             | 10 000|                                                                         |

| Download                      |       |                                                                         |
| Number of result list entries | 1 500 |                                                                         |
| and documents                 |       | Duration of the UI session.                                            |
| Persistence                   | -     | Duration of the UI session.                                            |

| Statistics                    |       |                                                                         |
| Persistence                   | -     | Duration of the UI session.                                            |
15. TROUBLESHOOTING

In some circumstances you may see error messages, e.g. when running searches or browsing your search results. This may be due, for example, to issues related to the Bulletin database or to low or no connectivity.

If you get an error message, or if the UI does not operate as expected, we recommend the following:

1. Run your search again. If Bulletin still does not operate properly, follow up with step 2.

2. Reload the UI by pressing Ctrl + F5 on your keyboard. If Bulletin still does not operate properly, contact our support team at support@epo.org. We recommend that you send us a screenshot to help us analyse the problem as quickly as possible.

Note: You may have to repeat the login procedure if you are using Bulletin:

- during the database update on Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET
- during the update of other databases available in the UI on Friday at 12.00 hrs CET

If you find data which is possibly incorrect or you experience unexpected UI performance, or if you wish to suggest any enhancements, please contact our support team at support@epo.org.
16. GLOSSARY


**EP full-text search**: product (database) available in the "Patent information services for experts" UI, offering a rich and comprehensive access to bibliographic data, descriptions, claims, drawings and search reports for all published European patent applications and granted patents.

**European Publication Server**: The legally authoritative source of European patent applications and European patent specifications published by the EPO and accessible at [https://data.epo.org/publication-server](https://data.epo.org/publication-server)


**European Patent Register**: The European Patent Register contains all the publicly available information on European patent applications from filing to grant, including data on oppositions, patent attorney/EPO correspondence and more. Accessible at [http://www.epo.org/searching-for-patents/legal/register](http://www.epo.org/searching-for-patents/legal/register)

**EBD**: EBD stands for EPO Bibliographic Data, which is one of the EPO raw data products. It is extracted every week from the EPO's administrative EPASYS database. The data gives details of all newly published applications and patents and recent changes in previously published applications and patents. EBD is the input data used by EP Bulletin search and the European Patent Bulletin. More information at [http://www.epo.org/searching-for-patents/legal/ebd](http://www.epo.org/searching-for-patents/legal/ebd)

**INPADOC**: The EPO's worldwide legal status data collection, containing the legal status data of patent documents supplied to the EPO by over 50 countries. Legal status relates to information on events during the lifetime of a patent. More information at [http://www.epo.org/searching-for-patents/legal/inpadoc](http://www.epo.org/searching-for-patents/legal/inpadoc)
"Patent information services for experts": Web application offering access to several products (databases) with search, download and visualisation functions via its UI accessible at https://data.epo.org/expert-services.

UI: User interface of "Patent information services for experts".

Search criterion, criterion (plural = criteria): Represents searchable data. A criterion is identified by a code used in a Boolean query and a name. For example TTLE stands for "Title in English".

Index: An index is the underlying data structure used during searches, i.e. there is one index per search criterion; index content can be displayed to check the availability, spelling and format of data.

Document: A Bulletin document displayed in the UI is a set of data linked to the proceedings of a European patent application. It includes:

- searchable data (taken from EBD):
  - Bibliographic data (one exception: citations are not searchable)
  - procedural data
- data fetched on the fly (EPO web service OPS) and not searchable per se:
  - "INPADOC legal status" field
ANNEX 1

BULLETIN SEARCH CRITERIA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion code</th>
<th>Criterion name</th>
<th>Query example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APNR</td>
<td>Application number</td>
<td>APNR = 03742510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APDT</td>
<td>Application filing date</td>
<td>APDT = 2017*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>APDT = 201708*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>APDT = 20170807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAPP</td>
<td>Previously filed application</td>
<td>EAPP = DE*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>EAPP = DE102007026887</td>
</tr>
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<td>PUNR</td>
<td>Publication number</td>
<td>PUNR = 2362720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUKD</td>
<td>Last publication kind</td>
<td>PUKD = B3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUA</td>
<td>Publication of patent application (A1, A2)</td>
<td>PUA = 201709*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DSRDT</td>
<td>Publication of search report (A3)</td>
<td>DSRDT = 201709*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUB1</td>
<td>Publication of granted patent (B1)</td>
<td>PUB1 = 201709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUB2</td>
<td>Publication of amended patent specification (B2)</td>
<td>PUB2 = 2017*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUB3</td>
<td>Publication of limited patent specification (B3)</td>
<td>PUB3 = 2017*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLNG</td>
<td>Procedure language</td>
<td>PLNG=FR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| AINR | International application number | AINR = AT*  
AINR = AT2010*  
AINR = AT2010000064 |
| AIDT | International application filing date | AIDT = 2017*  
AIDT = 201702*  
AIDT = 20170223 |
| PINR | International publication number | PINR = WO2017* |
| PIDT | International publication date | PIDT =2017* |
| PIGZ | Issue PCT Gazette | PIGZ = 201737 |
| PRNR | Priority number | PRNR = JP* |
| PRDT | Priority date | PRDT = 2010* |
| INNM | Inventor | INNM = "Hoffmann Ralf"  
INNM = Adam and Mark |
| INCY | Inventor (country) | INCY = DE |
| APNM | Applicant | APNM = Siemens  
APNM = "Marine Systems"  
APNM = Siemens andnot Bosch |
<p>| APCY | Applicant (country) | APCY = AT |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PA</th>
<th>Proprietor/applicant</th>
<th>See APNM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PACY</td>
<td>Proprietor/applicant (country)</td>
<td>PACY = AU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTNM</td>
<td>Proprietor</td>
<td>See APNM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTCY</td>
<td>Proprietor (country)</td>
<td>GTCY = CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RENM</td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>See APNM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RECY</td>
<td>Representative (country)</td>
<td>RECY = IE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTLE</td>
<td>Title (en)</td>
<td>TTLE = SYMBIOSIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTLF</td>
<td>Title (fr)</td>
<td>TTLF = MOTOCULTURE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTLG</td>
<td>Title (de)</td>
<td>TTLG = MELDUNGSVORRICHTUNG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| IPC  | IPC (all editions/versions) | IPC = A01B1/06  
|      |                     | IPC = “A01B 1/06”  
<p>|      |                     | IPC = A01B |
| ICF  | IPC full level | See IPC |
| ICFA | IPC full level (additional information) | See IPC |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ICFI</td>
<td>IPC full level (invention information)</td>
<td>See IPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCS</td>
<td>Designated contracting state</td>
<td>DCST = DE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DXS</td>
<td>Designated extension state</td>
<td>DXS = ME and BA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XDT</td>
<td>Extension date</td>
<td>XDT = 2017*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVS</td>
<td>Designated validation state</td>
<td>DVS = MA and MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VDT</td>
<td>Validation state</td>
<td>VDT = 201706*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CWE</td>
<td>Most recent week</td>
<td>CWE = YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUDT</td>
<td>Most recent event</td>
<td>PUDT = 201710*</td>
</tr>
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ANNEX 2

BULLETIN DOCUMENT FIELDS

The presence of fields in a Bulletin document is a user preference - see the Preferences / Document content menu to hide and re-arrange fields.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field name</th>
<th>Content / example</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Title (en) / Title (fr) / Title (de) | Title in English language (or in French or German language depending on the selected user interface language). Example:  
FARM MACHINE FOR DESTROYING PLANT COVER ON SOIL BY MECHANICAL REMOVAL  
Corresponding search criteria: TTLE “Title (en)”, TTLF “Title (fr)”, TTLG “Title (de)”.  
Corresponding result list columns: “Title (en)”, “Title (fr)”, “Title (de)”. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Publication country (EP), number, date, kind code and language under which the European Patent Bulletin mentions the publication.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>Publication kinds used for EP patent documents:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A1: European patent application published with European search report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A2: European patent application published without European search report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A3: Separate publication of the European search report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A8: Corrected title page of an A document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A9: Complete reprint of an A document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• B1: European patent specification (granted patent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• B2: New European patent specification (after opposition procedure)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>• B3: New European patent specification (after limitation procedure)</td>
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<td>• B8: Corrected title page of a B document</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• B9: Complete reprint of a B document</td>
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<tr>
<td>Example:</td>
<td><strong>EP0897826</strong> - 06.09.2017 - B1 - Patent specification (de)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corresponding search criteria:</td>
<td>PUNR “Publication number”, PUKD “Last publication kind”, PUA “Publication of patent application (A1, A2)”, PUB1 “Publication of granted patent (B1)”, PUB2 “Publication of amended patent specification (B2)”, PUB3 “Publication of limited patent specification (B3)”, DSRDT “Publication of search report (A3)”.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corresponding result list columns:</td>
<td>“Publication”, “Last publication kind”, “Publication of patent application (A1, A2)”, “Publication of granted patent (B1)”, “Publication of amended patent specification (B2)”, “Publication of limited patent specification (B3)”, “Publication of search report (A3)”.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Application | Number, filing date and language of the European patent application.  
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|  
The application number consists of nine digits. The first two digits indicate the year of filing. The last digit is a check digit. The six digits in between are used to number consecutively the applications in the order in which they are received.  
Example:  
- 16151027.6 - 13.01.2016 (de)  
Corresponding search criteria: APNR “Application number”, APDT “Application filing date”.  
Corresponding result list columns: “Application number”, “Application filing date”.  
| Previously filed application | Country, number and filing date of the previously filed application used by the applicant for filing by reference.  
Examples:  
- EP01102227 - 31.01.2001  
- WOPCT/US2010/020998 - 14.01.2010  
Corresponding search criterion: EAPP “Previously filed application”.  
Corresponding result list column: “Previously filed application”.  

| Request for conversion into national application | Date and country where a conversion of the European patent application into a national application is requested.  
Example:  
13.01.2015 – DE FR IT  
Corresponding search criteria: RCDT “Request for conversion into national application”, RCCY “Request for conversion into national application (country)”  
Corresponding result list columns: “Request for conversion into national application”, “Request for conversion into national application (country)” |
| Priority | Country, number and date of the priority application(s). An application kind code is sometimes available.  
Examples:  
ITRM20030394 - 12.08.2003  
US142947 P - 07.01.2009  
US652224 - 05.01.2010  
Corresponding search criteria: PRNR “Priority number”, PRDT “Priority date”.  
Corresponding result list columns: “Priority number”, “Priority date”. |
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<th><strong>Most recent event</strong></th>
<th>Most recent event or list of the most recent events available for an application. For example, application refusal, change in applicant/proprietor data, publication of a B1 document, patent revocation.</th>
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</table>
| **Field content:**   | - A prefix consisting of:  
  * The text “Change” in the case of a former data which is replaced by a newer data due to a change.  
  * Example a change of applicant/proprietor (name and/or address).  
  * The text “Deletion” in the case of a former data which is deleted. For example, the deletion of a publication, the deletion of designated contracting states.  
  * No text in the case of a new event. For example, the publication of an A1 document, the refusal of an application.  
  * The event per se. For example, “Rejection of opposition”, “Lapse of the patent in a contracting state”.  
  * The date of publication and year/week number of the European patent Bulletin which mentions the event (see notes below). |
| **Examples:**        | Change - Proprietor - Published on 25.10.2017 [2017-43]  
Communication of intention to grant - Published on 01.11.2017 [N/P] |
| **Corresponding search criteria:** | PUDT “Most recent event”, CWE “Most recent week”, BULLNR “Bulletin issue number”, BULLDT “Date of publication of Bulletin”, STAT “Document status”. |
| **Corresponding result list columns:** | “Most recent event”, “Document status”. |
| **Notes:**           | - A number of events present and searchable in Bulletin are not mentioned in the European Patent Bulletin. For example, “Despatch of first examination report” (criterion PSFC) and “Communication of intention to grant” (criterion PSAN). In this case the publication date is the publication date of Bulletin and the European Patent Bulletin year and week number are set to [N/P] (Not Published).  
- The field is not available in the case of events published before 2006. |
<table>
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<th>Proceeding status</th>
<th>Dates of legal effect and associated procedural events not included in other fields.</th>
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| Example:         | 07.09.2004 - Re-establishment of rights  
                  06.05.2004 - Request for re-establishment of rights  
                  25.10.2002 - Despatch of first examination report  
                  20.01.2000 - Despatch of supplementary search report  
                  10.04.1997 - Request for examination |


| International application | Country (receiving office), number, filing date and language of the international application.  
| Example: | FR2010050001 - 04.01.2010 (fr) |
| | Corresponding search criteria: IANR “International application number”, IADT “International application filing date”. |
| Corresponding result list columns: “International application number”, “International application filing date”. |

| International publication | WO number, date and PCT gazette number of the international publication.  
| Example: | WO2010076546 - 08.07.2010 [2010-27] |
| | Corresponding search criteria: PINR “International publication number”, IADT “International publication date”. |
| Corresponding result list columns: “International publication number”, “International publication date”, “Issue PCT Gazette”. |
| Applicant | Name of the applicant of the European patent application, address and country of residence.  
Example:  
- Samsung SDI Co., Ltd.  
  428-5, Gongse-dong, Giheung-gu, Yongin-si, Gyeonggi-do / KR  
- Robert Bosch GmbH  
  Postfach 30 02 20, 70442 Stuttgart / DE  
Corresponding search criteria: PA “Proprietor/applicant”, PACY “Proprietor/applicant (country)”, APNM “Applicant”, APCY “Applicant (country)”.  
Corresponding result list columns: “Applicant”, “Applicant (city)”, “Applicant (country)”. |
| --- | --- |
| Proprietor | Name of the proprietor of the European granted patent, address and country of residence.  
Example:  
- Crocus Technology S.A.  
  Place Robert Schuman 5, 38025 Grenoble Cedex / FR  
Corresponding search criteria: PA “Proprietor/applicant”, PACY “Proprietor/applicant (country)”, GTNM “Proprietor”, GTCY “Proprietor (country)”.  
Corresponding result list columns: “Proprietor”, “Proprietor (city)”, “Proprietor (country)” |
| **Inventor** | **Inventor name, address and country of residence.**

**Examples:**
- Burtin, Jean Pierre
  9, rue des Glaneuses, 38120 Saint-Egreve / FR
- Dobrowolski, Flavien
  Le Grand Pré, 38650 Sinard / FR

  The inventor has waived his right to be thus mentioned.

  **Corresponding search criteria:** INNM “Inventor”, INCY “Inventor (country)”.

  **Corresponding result list columns:** “Inventor”, “Inventor (city)”, “Inventor (country)”. |
| **Representative** | **Name of the representative of the applicant/proprietor, address and country of residence.**

**Example:**

  Fénot, Dominique, et al
  Alcan France S.A.S. Propriété Industrielle 217, cours Lafayette, 69451 Lyon Cedex 06 / FR

  **Corresponding search criteria:** RENM “Representative”, RECY “Representative (country)”.

  **Corresponding result list columns:** “Representative”, “Representative (city)”, “Representative (country)” |
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<td>Symbols are links to the WIPO IPC (invention symbols in bold, additional symbols not in bold).</td>
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<td>Corresponding result list columns: “IPC full level (invention information)”, “IPC full level (additional information)”.</td>
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| Designated contracting state | List of designated contracting states.  
Example:  
  AT BE CH DE ES FR GB IT LI NL SE  
  Corresponding search criteria: DCS “Designated contracting state”  
  Corresponding result list column: “Designated contracting state”. |
| Designated extension state | List of designated extension states and dates of extension fee payment when available.  
Example:  
  AL BA HR LV MK YU  
  Corresponding search criteria: DXS “Designated extension state”, XDT “Extension date”.  
  Corresponding result list columns: “Designated extension state”, “Extension date”. |
| Designated validation state | List of designated validation states and dates of validation fee payment when available.  
Example:  
  MA MD  
  MA (10.03.2017) MD  
  Corresponding search criteria: DVS “Designated validation state”, VDT “Validation date”.  
  Corresponding result list columns: “Designated validation state”, “Validation date”. |
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<td>• Application deemed to be withdrawn</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Patent revoked</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examples:</td>
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<td>24.06.2017 - Application refused</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.09.2017 - Application withdrawn</td>
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<td>12.12.2011 - Application deemed to be withdrawn</td>
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<td>13.04.2017 - Revocation of patent</td>
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</table>

Corresponding search criteria: PCRF “Application refused”, PCDW “Application deemed to be withdrawn”, PCWD “Application withdrawn”, PCRV “Revocation of patent”.

Corresponding result list columns: “Application refused”, “Application deemed to be withdrawn”, “Application withdrawn”, “Revocation of patent”.

**Note:** Patent revocation by the proprietor (Art. 105(a) EPC) appears in the field “Revocation by proprietor”.
| Revocation by proprietor | Dates of receipt of request and decision (Art. 105(a) EPC).

The proprietor of a European granted patent may request the revocation of his patent, even after expiry of his patent. This procedure can be followed at any time post grant provided that there is no opposition proceeding pending. Only the patent proprietor is allowed to file a request for revocation.

Field content:
- Date of receipt of request for revocation by the proprietor.
- Date of revocation of the European granted patent.

Example:
- 16.02.2017 - Request for revocation of patent (Art. 105(a) EPC) - Admissible
- 03.05.2017 - Revocation of patent (Art. 105(a) EPC)

Corresponding search criteria: REVR “Request for revocation of patent (Art. 105(a) EPC)”, REVD “Revocation of patent (Art. 105(a) EPC)“.
Corresponding result list columns: “Request for revocation of patent (Art. 105(a) EPC)”, “Revocation of patent (Art. 105(a) EPC)”.

| Lapse | Dates of lapse legal effect and country codes of the contracting states where the patent lapsed, for example due the non-payment of renewal fees.

Example:
- 08.03.2017 - BG
- 08.03.2017 - GR
- 08.03.2017 - HR

Corresponding search criteria: LPCY “Lapse (country)”, LPDT “Lapse”.
Corresponding result list columns: “Lapse (country)”, “Lapse”.

**Note:** the lapse information available in Bulletin and more specifically the date is a “date of lapse of the European patent in a contracting state during the opposition period and, where appropriate, pending a final decision on opposition” (Rule 143(1)(p) EPC). Subsequent lapse information may be provided to the EPO by patent authorities and available in the field “INPADOC legal status”.

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<table>
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<th>All information related to oppositions, except the revocation information available in the field “Loss of rights”.</th>
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</table>
| Field content: | • Date of legal effect in the case of no opposition filed within the time limit.  
  • Date of publication in the case of a patent maintained in amended form (B2 document).  
  • Opposition date and status: filed, deemed not to have been filed, admissible, inadmissible or rejected.  
  • Opponent name, address and country of residence  
  • Opponent’s representative name, address and country of residence  
  • Date of termination or rejection of the opposition. |
| Example (EP0500119): | 01 - 05.03.1998 - Opposition admissible  
  Opponent: CERATIZIT Austria Gesellschaft m.b.H., A-6600 Reutte/Tirol / AT  
  Termination of opposition procedure: 06.08.2015 |
| Example (EP2964436): | 01 - 10.08.2017 - Opposition filed  
  Opponent: Koenig & Bauer AG / Friedrich-Koenig-Straße 4, 97080 Würzburg / DE |
| Example (EP0500119): | 01 - 06.03.2002 - Opposition admissible  
  Opponent: Evonik Degussa GmbH / Rellinghauser Strasse 1-11, 45128 Essen / DE  
  Opponent’s representative: Hartz, Nikolai / Wächtershäuser & Hartz Patentanwaltpartnerschaft mbB  
  Weinstrasse 8, 80333 München / DE  
  Opposition rejected: 15.05.2017 |
<p>| Example (EP3059608): | 31.08.2017 - No opposition filed within time limit |
| Corresponding search criteria: | PCNO “No opposition filed within time limit”, PUKD “Last publication kind” and most of the criteria available in the criteria category “Opposition”. |
| Corresponding result list columns: | all opposition-related columns. |</p>
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<tr>
<td>• Filing date of request for limitation filed by the proprietor (the request can be filed at any time after grant, after opposition proceedings or even after expiry of the patent) and status of the request: deemed not filed (opposition pending/filed), admissible, withdrawn.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Date of the communication informing the proprietor whether the request for limitation is allowed or rejected.</td>
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<td>Example (EP1355604):</td>
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<td>29.08.2017 - Limitation of patent allowed</td>
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<td>16.12.2015 - Request for limitation of patent - Withdrawn</td>
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<td>26.01.2017 - Request for limitation of patent - Deemed not filed (opposition pending/filed)</td>
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<td>Date of decision, decision and petition for review number.</td>
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<td>A party adversely affected by a decision of a Board of Appeal taken as from 13.12.2007 (entry into force of EPC 2000) may file a petition for review by the Enlarged Board of Appeal. A petition for review may only be based on the grounds defined in the EPC.</td>
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|                     | Example (EP0682869):  
|                     | 15.06.2012 - Granted - R0021/11 |
|                     | Example (EP2138625):  
<p>|                     | 04.03.2015 - Not granted - R0005/14 |
|                     | Corresponding search criteria: REVP “Petition for review”. |
|                     | Corresponding result list column: “Petition for review” (review number with decision date and decision code). |</p>
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