Discussion round 8
Patent evaluation tools – an exchange of views

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Aim of discussion round

- Sharing of experiences
- Identification of barriers to use of patent evaluation tools
- How could the EPO support users?
- Future of PI based patent evaluation tools...
Topics discussed

- Tool/methodology categorisation
- Purpose of using evaluation tools
- Target beneficiaries and target users
- Transparency
- Complexity
- Software environment
Selected findings

- Range of available tools is broad
- Final end-user is management • person using the tool - need accuracy but low complexity
- Different value indicators/methods needed depending on purpose of evaluation and user

Transparency of methodology/data is important - trust issue

- User customisation of tools useful: but can cause complexity
- Web based evaluation tools accepted by community
What are the current barriers for using patent evaluation tools?

- „Too much effort to get a good evaluation“ (need for expert users?)
- Mixed views on the usefulness of monetary results
- Scores/ranking by itself not enough for management decision-making: context is often missing
- Difficult to convince management about tool results
- Evaluation of non-patented technologies or newly patented technologies
Where do we go from here?

- Raising awareness at the management level
- Training tool users – mainly for business aspects
- Mix “objective” PI value indicators with indicators related to the development and commercialisation environment of a patent
- Clear transparent evaluation tools and parameters
- Provide relative values, not absolute to compare companies’ portfolios
- Source high quality valid data
Thank you for your attention