New Espacenet is coming
Espacenet 1998 – 2017: A successful product (~1,000,000 users per month)

...but no change of principle
Why a new Espacenet?

- Everyone has (some) Internet searching experience
- Everyone has expectations, e.g. search in full text, no static entry masks

- Is legacy Espacenet still adequate?

High-level requirements for a new Espacenet:
- become more similar to popular search engines
- deliver best possible patent search also for less experienced users
- offer clear presentation of results
- do not necessarily aim for more “professional“ functionality
Benefits

For end-users
- Easier access
- Lower threshold
- User-friendly searching
- Easier navigation
- Mobile-enabled

For IP (member state) offices
- Showcase their patent data
- Enable service in their language
- Reach out to users
- Automatically profit from EPO developments
Espacenet new

Project split into two major phases:

Phase I
- Harmonising the national Interfaces into a centralised Espacenet
- Adding full-text collections

Phase II
- Improving Espacenet user experience (new features)
62 countries have an Espacenet national interface
Improving the Espacenet user experience

- Input from member state offices
- User consultations
- User surveys
User consultations

Participants

- IP offices (including examiners)
- Industry
- Patent searchers/information specialists
- Key stakeholder groups (SACEPO/PDI)
- Consultants
- Technology Transfer Officers
- Academia
- Patent attorneys
- Students

- From all-over Europe, USA, Canada, India
## User Survey

### New Espacenet online survey – March 2017

2 259 participated / 1 619 completed survey within one week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patent attorney/legal profession</td>
<td>41%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
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<td>Consultancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental institution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patent information vendor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic institution</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private person</td>
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<tr>
<td>PATLIB centre</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

n = 1 619; Q15: Which of the following categories best describes your field of work?
User Survey

Topics mentioned as potential improvements

Topics mentioned with high frequency
- Search options
- Translation
- Country coverage
- Security
- Make PDF's searchable
- Download / export
- Legal status information
- Data limit
- Colour

Topics mentioned with low frequency
- Filter
- App
- Link to NPO's
New Espacenet – Timeline

What to expect in 2018 / 2019

Development & testing

Demo

R1 first public release (beta)

R2 stable public release

Complete data public release

Switch off legacy Espacenet

New Espacenet

Current Espacenet

Today

November 2018

December 2018

February 2019

~August 2019 ?
Highlights of new Espacenet

Roland Feinäugle
Patent Information Promotion
13 November 2018
Searching patents has never been easier
Arriving at new Espacenet
Arriving at new Espacenet
Arriving at new Espacenet
What is new?

- Interface
- Navigation
- Search experience
- New functions

and also:
- Machinery behind the GUI (hardware, search engine etc.)
User experience

Comparing current and new Espacenet

- How many actions to refine a search and to see the oldest priority document?

- How many clicks to see the family members published before a certain date?

- Find out what is the most frequent applicant for a given search?
User experience
User experience
User experience

Welcome to Espacenet: free access to over 100 million patent documents
New features
New features
Multiple platforms (responsive design)
Why $\beta$?

- Unique opportunity for a last check of functionality and operational robustness
  - in a real production environment
  - with real users

- Last chance to spot errors, collect feedback, and iron out bugs before released into full production
Why $\beta$?

Please keep in mind that new Espacenet is still in $\beta$, thus

- there could be deficiencies in the functionality, data handling or coverage, or bugs, errors or other problems.

- You should not take any business-critical decisions based on searches conducted with it.
Arriving at new Espacenet
Explore new Espacenet - visit the discovery zone