Welcome to the new Espacenet

What is our vision?

We have worked hard over the last two years to create our vision of the future of public patent search. We have laid the foundations of a patent search experience that is intuitive, extensible, dynamic, portable and accessible.

Intuitive – we believe Espacenet should be easy to use whether you are a member of the general public, or a non-specialist user of patent information or an experienced one
Extensible – we have redesigned Espacenet in such a way that future enhancements are easy to incorporate
Dynamic – we strive to make user interactions smooth and responsive
Portable – our vision is to have a single search solution for all platforms – desktop, laptop, tablet and mobile devices
Accessible – we strive to comply with W3C standards.

What does beta mean? Why has new Espacenet been released as a beta version?

Beta is a term used in software development to refer to incomplete software or software possibly still containing a number of known or unknown bugs. The good news is that new Espacenet offers you comparable – if not better – functionality than old Espacenet, even if you achieve some outcomes in a different way (e.g. via the filter function instead of a parameter entered in the initial search). Where the beta version differs from the future full release is that it may not yet offer full functionality or data coverage, or might not yet be entirely stable, responsive or bug-free.
But while you are exploring the beta version of new Espacenet and giving us your feedback or reporting errors, we will be busy behind the scenes ironing out any remaining reported issues to present you with a full release providing the new Espacenet search experience.

How can you help the EPO iron out any bugs and problems with the application?

Tell us!

We have devised a special feedback form that will help you to report any issues. Please tell us about any kind of problem you encounter. This could be a

Data error – you find a clear discrepancy in the data of the publication you are looking at
Search recall error – you can’t find publications you are looking for despite using valid search terms
Search precision error – you can’t see the wood for the trees, there’s too much noise. Try to refine your search terms because the results should be valid. If you really feel your search should return a different result, let us know.
Remember, new Espacenet now uses the EPO search ranking algorithm. This means you cannot be sure your preferred publication should be at the top of your results for a given search expression.

Navigation difficulty – you can't find what you are looking for? At the beginning, known functions and content might not be where they used to be. Don’t worry. Everything has its place.

**Known issues**

- When you leave a result list by opening My patents, Help or Classification search, you may find yourself back at the top of the list when you return to it, i.e. you are no longer at your former position in the list. To get around this problem, we recommend that you open these elements in a new tab, e.g. by clicking the right mouse key.
- You have problems displaying the interface or interacting with it. In this case, we recommend that you
  1. go to the next result and then return to the current result
  2. change the zoom level in the browser settings
  3. reload the page, e.g. by pressing the shift key + F5
  4. restart the application by clicking the EPO logo.

If Espacenet is not working well for you, please consider opening it in a different browser to the one you are using.

We apologise if this does not help.

**Disclaimer**

Please note that this is a beta version of the new Espacenet and it is still being tested. It is provided "as is" for the purpose of testing and obtaining feedback. It is provided without any express or implied warranty, especially with regard to suitability or usability. In particular, there could be deficiencies in the functionality, data handling or coverage of the beta version of Espacenet, or bugs, errors or other problems that could cause data loss and other failures such as interruptions to the service and system crashes. You should not take any business-critical decisions based on searches conducted with it. The EPO will not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by any party as a result of their use of the beta version of new Espacenet or any of its content.