

**UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



# Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

## **The Benefits of Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) to Stakeholders**

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# Objectives

Background

*Why Classification*



Benefits of CPC to External Stakeholders

# Why classification

## Protecting intellectual property

Whether you are a multinational business or an individual ...


*you need to protect your intellectual property* (inventions, trademarks or designs)  
*across borders.*

*... faster, cheaper and more efficiently*



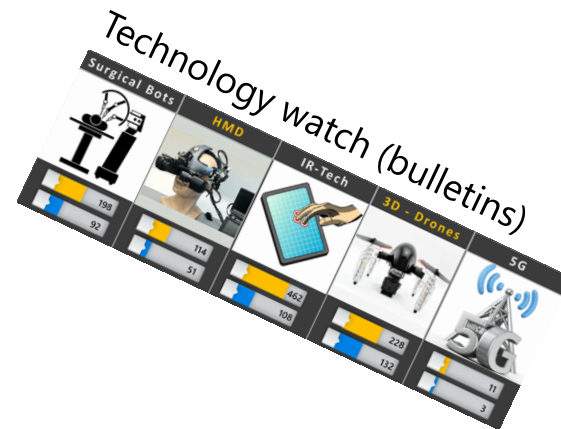
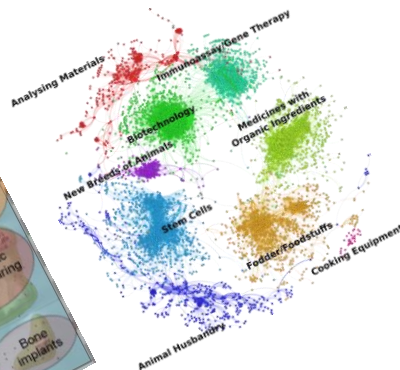
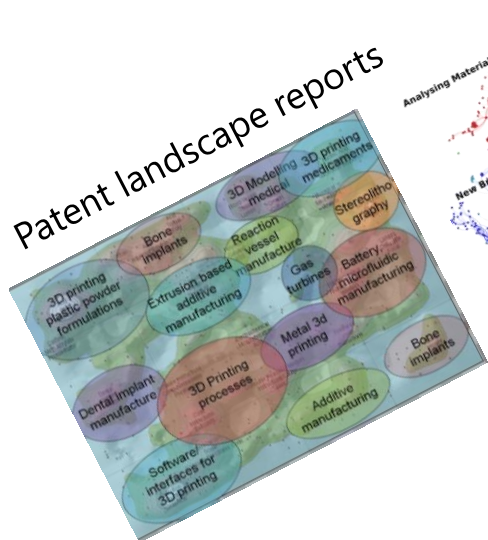
# Why classification

## Classification

- Organization of knowledge by subject matter
- Language neutral/independent
- Uses of classification
  - Patent Offices
  -  Industry Stakeholders

# Why classification

Prepare and prosecute patent applications – direct to certain fields



State of the art, infringement, patentability, novelty, validity reports

Annual statistical reports

Freedom-to-operate, clearance reports

Product to patent maps

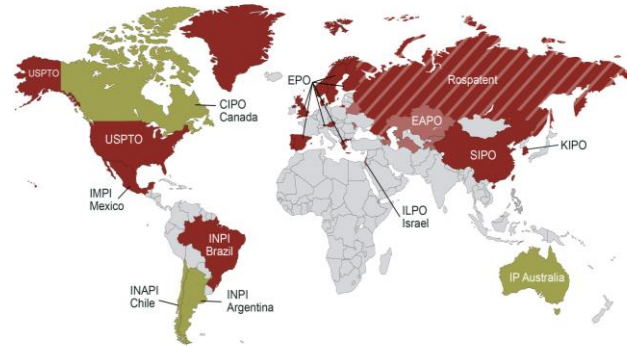


# Why classification

- Patent analytics is big business
- Commercial IP information providers offer patent analytics/landscaping services since there is a wide range of business use of patent information
- Many companies exploit patent information and utilize patent analytics

# Benefits of CPC

Quantity (Coverage)



Quality (Harmonization)





# Benefits of CPC - *coverage*

Before CPC



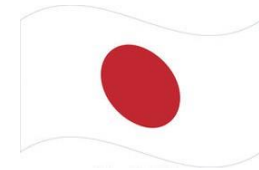
Internationally collection  
International variance in quality  
Granularity



USPC  
US collection



ECLA  
European  
collection



FI/F-terms  
Japanese  
collection

*Each system had its own bias*

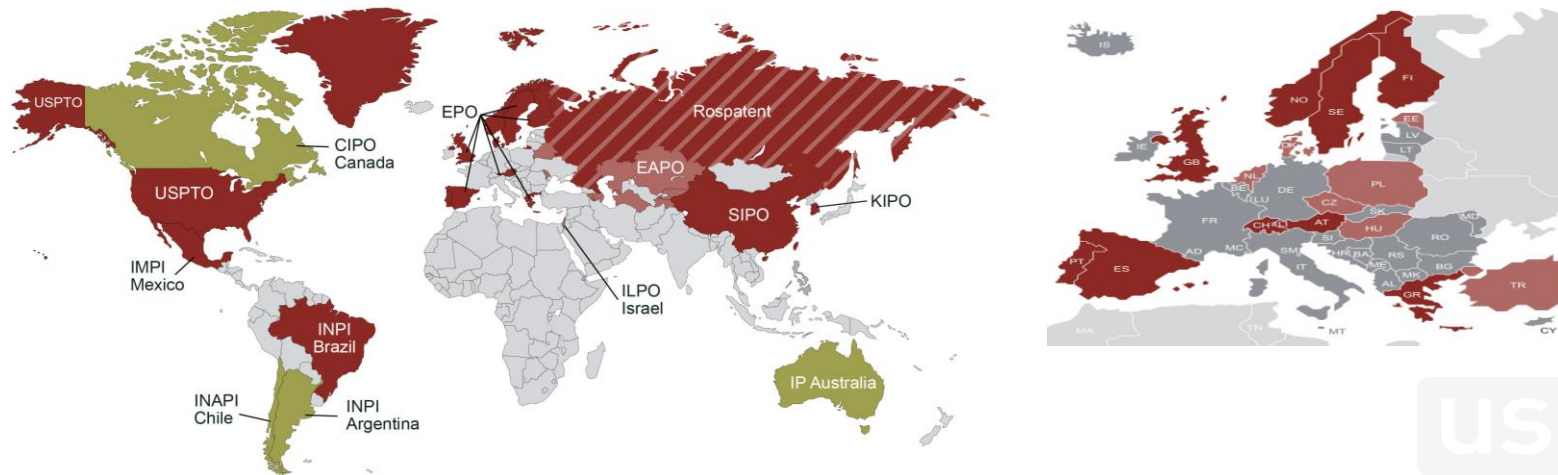


# Benefits of CPC - *coverage*

*CPC is international*

## Wide Coverage

- 4 of 5 major IP Offices classifying in CPC  
(USPTO engaging JPO on classification cooperation)
- Over 26 countries classifying in CPC



# Benefits of CPC - *coverage*

## *CPC is international*

- Over 50 million worldwide documents in CPC
- One stop shop for most of the world's documents  
(including some Japanese documents)

Country	Country Code	Number of publications classified in CPC (family or document level) as of February 2017	Number of publications classified in CPC (family or document level) as of January 2018	Growth % of Publications w/ CPC (family or document level) from February 2017 - January 2018
EPO	EP	3,113,030	3,252,119	4.5%
United States	US	11,650,065	12,019,335	3.2%
WIPO (PCT)	WO	2,998,490	3,191,752	6.4%
ARIPO	AP	3,718	9,042	143.2%
Austria	AT	649,104	651,706	0.4%
Australia	AU	1,360,654	1,608,650	18.2%
Belgium	BE	551,554	552,051	0.1%
Brazil	BR	380,715	396,665	4.2%
Canada	CA	1,269,831	1,303,570	2.7%
Chile	CL	11,344	12,975	14.4%
China	CN	2,406,586	3,913,343	62.6%
Czech Republic	CZ	42,734	43,127	0.9%
Estonia	EE	5,278	5,304	0.5%
France	FR	2,395,208	2,408,804	0.6%
Finland	FI	112,202	113,658	1.3%
Germany	DE	4,740,975	4,807,060	1.4%
Greece	GR	52,753	53,272	1.0%

Country	Country Code	Number of publications classified in CPC (family or document level) as of February 2017	Number of publications classified in CPC (family or document level) as of January 2018	Growth % of Publications w/ CPC (family or document level) from February 2017 - January 2018
Hungary	HU	73,100	80,213	9.7%
Israel	IL	84,600	85,052	0.5%
Korea	KR	1,420,956	2,004,580	41.1%
Luxembourg	LU	60,773	60,786	0.0%
Mexico	MX	239,169	258,684	8.2%
The Netherlands	NL	532,843	535,150	0.4%
Norway	NO	171,479	173,385	1.1%
OAPI	OA	13,191	13,192	0.0%
Poland	PL	86,310	97,602	13.1%
Portugal	PT	100,790	108,739	7.9%
Russian Fed.	RU	306,103	419,765	37.1%
Spain	ES	629,519	676,559	7.5%
Sweden	SE	330,853	332,310	0.4%
Switzerland	CH	576,238	577,499	0.2%
Turkey	TR	28,661	28,684	0.1%
United Kingdom	GB	2,118,079	2,129,113	0.5%

# Benefits of CPC – *Asian collection*

- CPC also has China and Korea prior art.

Classification systems divide the world's knowledge into categories.

USPC and ECLA based on western world view. This can create western bias leading to problems in the classification of knowledge from non-western cultures.

China and Korea provide Asian influence in CPC.

# Benefits of CPC - *quality*

CPC is jointly owned by USPTO and EPO  
Greater focus on classification  
harmonization among Offices



# Summary of USPTO efforts in CPC for external users



Working to improve CPC collections  
US collection contribution  
Engaging more countries in CPC  
Dynamic



Working to improve quality/harmonization among  
Offices



*Ensure confidence to users*



# Questions and Comments

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