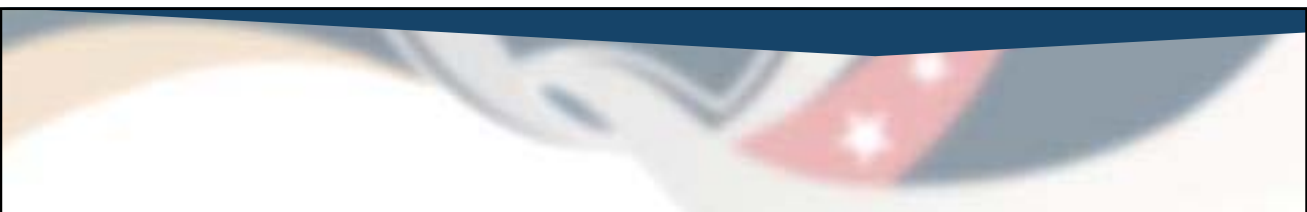


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A blurred background image showing a close-up of a person's face, focusing on the eyes and mouth area, with a red light reflecting off the eye.

Patent Quality Chat:
Face-to-Face Examiner Interviews
A Demonstration of USPTO Tools

Patent Quality Chat
Webinar Series 2015 (2 of 6)
July 14, 2015



To send in questions or comments during the webinar, please email:

PatentQualityEventParticipationBox@uspto.gov

A screenshot of the USPTO website homepage. The header includes the USPTO logo, navigation links for "About Us", "Careers", and "Contact Us", and a search bar. The main navigation menu has "Patents", "Trademarks", and "Learning and Resources" tabs, along with a "Quick Links" dropdown. The main content area features a blue banner with the text "First time here? Let us help you find your bearings." and a "Get Going" button. Below the banner, there are sections for "Learn About the Process" with links for "Patents" and "Trademarks", and a "Patents & Trademarks Initiatives" section. The "Enhanced Patent Quality Initiative" link in the latter section is circled in red. The USPTO logo is also present in the bottom right corner of the page.

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Patents Trademarks Learning and Resources Quick Links

First time here? Let us help you find your bearings.

Has your invention already been patented at the USPTO?

New to Trademarks?

Get Going

Learn About the Process

Patents **?** General Information Concerning Patents

Trademarks **TM** Trademark Basics

Patents & Trademarks Initiatives **Enhanced Patent Quality Initiative**

Learn about USPTO efforts to increase patent quality.

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Patent Quality Chat: Face-to-Face Examiner Interviews *A Demonstration of USPTO Tools*

Timothy Callahan
Director of Technology Center 2400

Patent Quality Chat
Webinar Series 2015 (2 of 6)
July 14, 2015



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Overview of Today's Webinar

- Interview Survey Results
- WebEx Interviews
- Authorization Policy
- Interview Resources
 - Interview Specialist
 - Public Interview Rooms
 - Website & Email box



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Interview Surveys



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Interview Surveys

- Surveys on interviews for both Examiners and Applicants were conducted in 2014
- Learn more about interview practice during prosecution
- Identify training opportunities

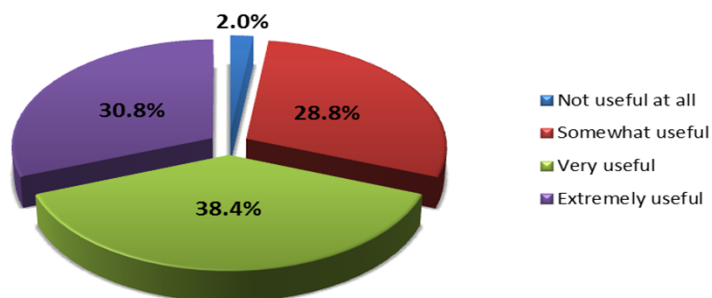


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Interview Survey Results

- For advancing prosecution, Applicants were very positive.

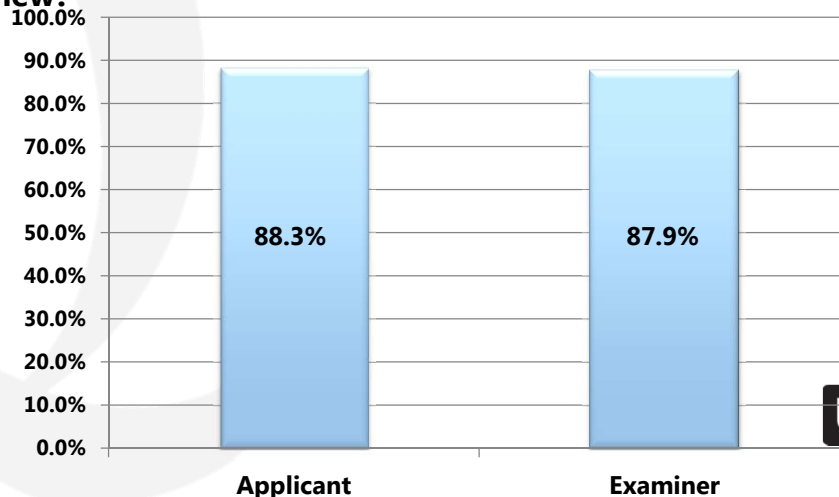
How effective do you feel an interview is in advancing prosecution?



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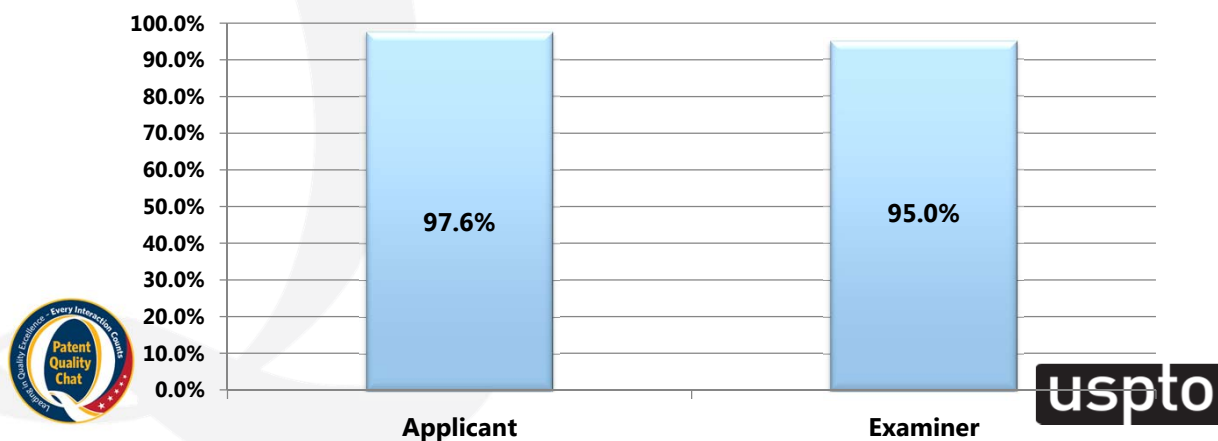
Interview Survey Results

How often do you get an explanation of the rejection during an interview?



Interview Survey Results

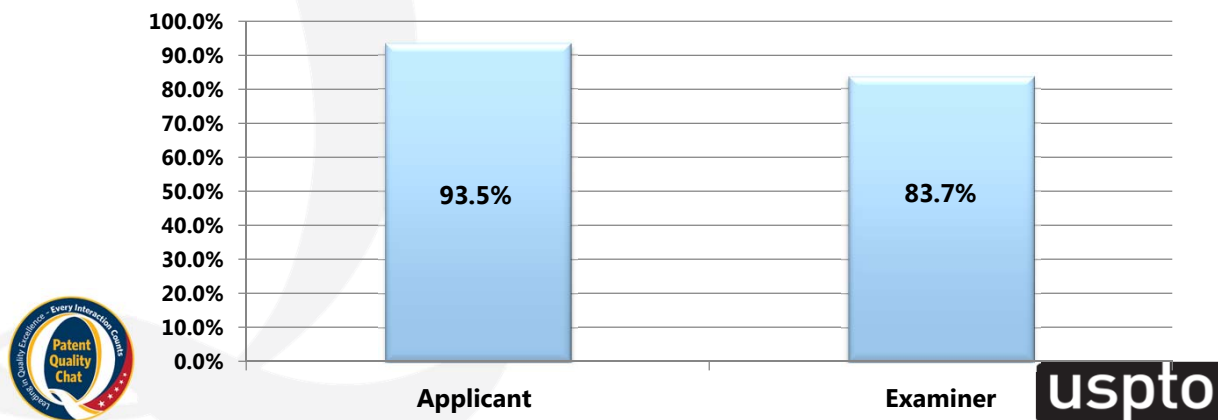
How often do clarification or better understanding of positions occur during an interview?



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Interview Survey Results

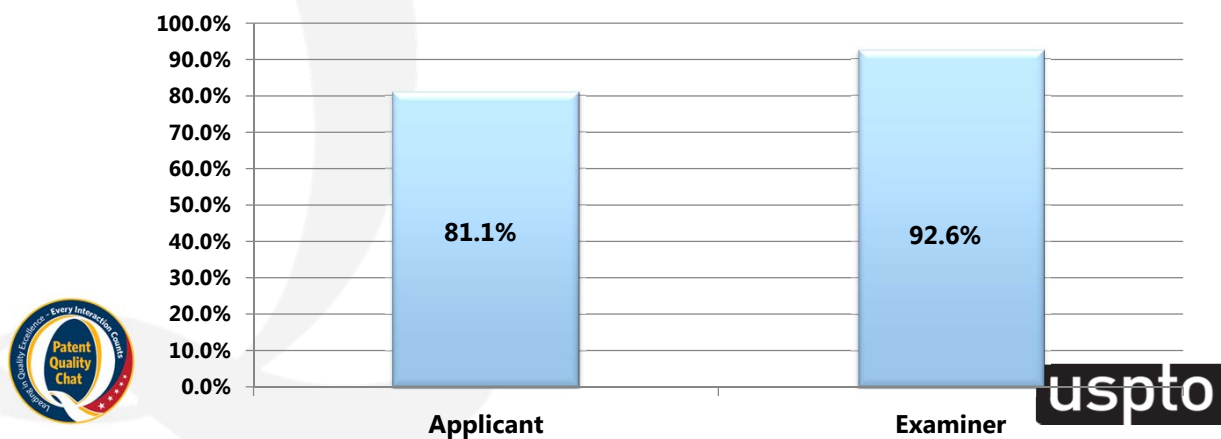
How often does a better understanding of the claimed invention occur during an interview?



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Interview Survey Results

How often reaching an agreement or advancing prosecution occur during an interview?



13

Interview Survey Summary

- Most interviews are initiated by Applicants according to both surveys
- 99% of Applicants indicated that request for interviews are usually granted.

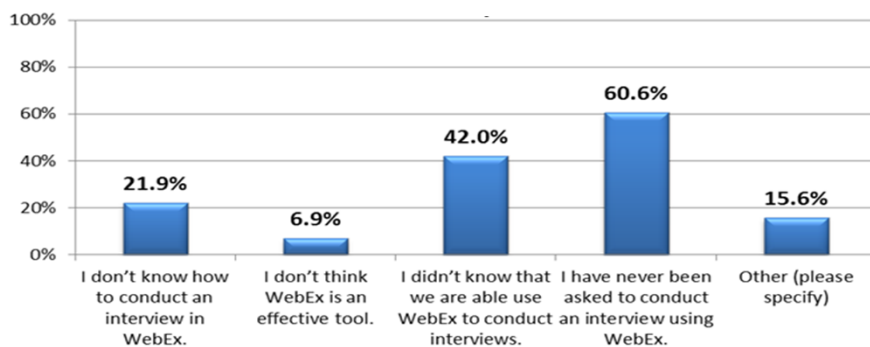


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Training Opportunities

If you have never held a WebEx interview what is the primary reason? Check all that apply.



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WebEx Demo

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WebEx Basics

- You need a computer and a high-speed Internet connection is recommended.
- WebEx is a web-based service, so you can use it from any computer (Windows, Mac, Linux, or Solaris).
- No software needs to be downloaded or purchased.
- A telephone will be used to join the audio component of the meeting while a video camera may be used as part of the visual component.



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Click Link for Examiner

Open the email containing the WebEx online meeting invitation and click on the link to join the visual component of the online meeting.

To join the online meeting (Now from mobile devices!)

1. Click the following link: [Join the meeting](#)
2. If requested, enter your name and email address.
3. If a password is required, enter the meeting password:
4. Click "Join".



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Verbal Authorization for Video Conferencing Change to Internet Usage Policy to Permit Oral Authorization for Video Conferencing Tools

- Policy has been updated to make it easier for Applicants to authorize the use of video conferencing tools to conduct examiner interviews.
- MPEP § 502.03 now allows a verbal request to authorize a WebEx interview, instead of submitting a written request.
- The verbal authorization is limited to the video conference interview and does not extend to other communications regarding the application.

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Resources & Assistance

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Interview Specialist

- Subject matter expert on interview practice and policy in each Technology Center
- To assist Examiners and Applicants in facilitating effective interviews
- The list of TC Specialists can be found here:

<http://www.uspto.gov/patent/laws-and-regulations/interview-practice/interview-specialist>



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WebEx Training & Assistance

- Applicants who are interested in more detailed WebEx training may request a **one-on-one** WebEx training session with an interview specialist.
- Please email your request to ExaminerInterviewPractice@USPTO.gov
 - Include preferred dates and times
 - Please give at least one week notice



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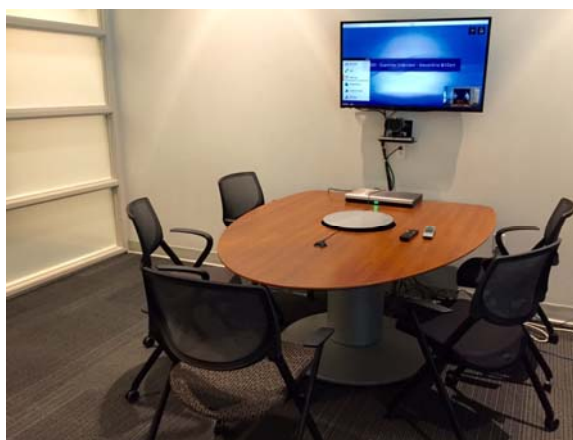
Public Interview Rooms

- A Public Interview Room is a video conference room on each USPTO campus designated for Applicants to use to connect and collaborate with examiners that are working remotely or at a different USPTO campus
- Currently in Alexandria, Detroit & Denver
- Coming soon to San Jose & Dallas



Public Interview Room

- Must be reserved by Examiner at least two business days prior to interview.
- Written or verbal authorization to communicate electronically is required prior to reserving a public interview room (see MPEP § § [502.03](#) and [713.01](#), and 80 Fed. Reg. 23787, April 2015).



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- USPTO.GOV
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 - FAQs
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- Comments & Questions

ExaminerInterviewPractice@USPTO.gov



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Interview Practice

INTERVIEWS FROM WHEREVER YOU CONNECT

Survey
We have created a brief survey to learn more about applicant experiences with interview practices during prosecution. Responses will help us identify the best practices and training needs for USPTO.
Take the survey!

Federal Register Notice
USPTO is updating its Internet usage policy by modifying the authorization requirements to now permit oral authorization for video conferencing tools, such as WebEx, to be provided by the patent applicant/ practitioner.

Let's Chat about... Face-to-Face Examiner Interviews

With Timothy Callahan
Director of Technology Center 2400

Patent Quality Chat
Webinar Series 2015 (2 of 6)
July 14, 2015

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Thank you for joining us today!

Patent Quality Chat
Webinar Series 2015 (2 of 6)
July 14, 2015



Next Patent Quality Chat: Measuring Patent Quality

Anthony Caputa
Director of the Office of Patent Quality Assurance
Patent Quality Chat
Webinar Series 2015 (3 of 6)
August 11, 2015



**To send in questions or comments related to the
USPTO's Enhanced Patent Quality Initiative,
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