

From:**Sent:** Friday, June 04, 2010 10:45 AM**To:** Clarke, Robert (OPLA)**Subject:** RE: USPTO Proposes to Establish Three Patent Processing Tracks - see http://www.uspto.gov/news/pr/2010/10_24.jsp

Hi Rob:

Thanks for briefly discussing potential application of the tracks to design patents. Some design applicants may like Track III, i.e., the ability to delay publications. As you may know, design applications issue relatively quickly now. Some applicants may want to delay issuance (and therefore publication) for business purposes at least until the applicant can enter the market.

Thanks, Will

*William J. Simmons, Ph.D.*Sughrue Mion, PLLC | 2100 Pennsylvania Ave., N. W. | Washington, DC 20037 | Office: 202-663-7950 | Fax : 202-293-7860
wsimmons@sughrue.com - www.sughrue.com

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-----Original Message-----

From: Simmons, William J.**Sent:** Friday, June 04, 2010 9:54 AM**To:** Gruskin, Steven M.**Subject:** RE: USPTO Proposes to Establish Three Patent Processing Tracks - see http://www.uspto.gov/news/pr/2010/10_24.jsp

Hi Steve,

The proposed tracks scheme doesn't appear to fit design applications but according to Rob at the Office, the USPTO would like comments on whether or not this should be applied to design applications as well.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gruskin, Steven M.**Sent:** Friday, June 04, 2010 9:36 AM**To:** Simmons, William J.**Subject:** RE: USPTO Proposes to Establish Three Patent Processing Tracks - see http://www.uspto.gov/news/pr/2010/10_24.jsp

Will - does it apply to design patent applications, if you know?

-----Original Message-----

From: Simmons, William J.

Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 9:23 AM

To: _ATTORNEYS

Subject: USPTO Proposes to Establish Three Patent Processing Tracks - see
<http://www.uspto.gov/news/pr/2010/10_24.jsp>

Under the proposed “Three-Track” initiative, for applications filed first in the United States, an applicant may request:

Track I: prioritized examination

Track II: traditional examination under the current procedures

Track III: for non-continuing applications first filed in the USPTO, an applicant-controlled delay for up to 30 months prior to docketing for examination.