

EPO survey results on “Alerting” from PDG European Industry Members

**Monika Hanelt PDG - Patent Documentation Group
for BUSINESSEUROPE**

EPO survey results 012016
from
PDG European Industry members

“Alerting” – Definition and use case

***Provide timely updates to users
on status of file wrapper changes
to all IP5 family members of an application being watched***

The user (applicant or 3rd party) would like to track the progress of a family of applications in an efficient manner. Whenever an event occurs at an IP5 office or WIPO the user would like to be informed of this in order to be able to respond.

Monitoring own & 3rd party IP rights

- Own IP rights mostly monitored via in-house systems
- 3rd party IP rights monitored via external available offers e.g.
 - EPO-Register
 - US-PAIR
 - DepatisNet
 - INPADOC via STN
 - INPI-PUSH alerting system run by the Brazil patent office

Notification mostly via email - less used are RSS – feed or internet

Events of interest for own and 3rd party IP rights

	Own IP-rights	3 rd party IP rights
Pre-Grant:		
Search Reports (e.g. including search strategies)		x
Written opinions, examination reports		x
Re-examinations		x
Communications between applicant and examiner		x
Third party observations	x	x
Entering in national phase	x	x
Final Results:		
Grant/Rejection	x	x
Withdrawals following substantive reports	x	x
Granted claims		x
National validation	x	x
Post-Grant:		
Additional prior art from opposition/re-examination		x
Amended claims		x
Communications between involved parties		x
Patent Term Extensions		x
Lapse due to non-payment of fees		x
Expiry		x
Terminal disclaimers (US)		x
Reassignments		x
Reinstatements		x
Opposition (EP, JP, KR)	x	x
Licenses		x
Rejection		x
Revocation		x
Withdrawal	x	x

Assets of “Alerting “systems for European industry

- ✓ Up-to-date being informed automatically - no time-consuming manual action needed
- ✓ Filtering options for receiving tailored alerts, e.g. receiving only information about grant and opposition.
- ✓ Creation of "Alerting portfolios" which can be transferred easily to a different recipient as a whole.
- ✓ E-mail notification & links from e-mail alert notifications to original documents.
- ✓ A syntax checker to ensure that publication and application numbers are correct



**Reasons for and why
an aggregated alerting service as proposed under the global *dossier*
significantly assists industry business processes**

- ***Rapid response to (changes in) competitive environment***
- Facilitate monitoring of US and Asian applications
- Monitoring family publications from 5 issuing authorities via a single system
- No need to "harvest" data from several sources
- Increase of efficiency via a coordinated single approach through GD
- Comprehensive and up-to-date information



Recommendations of PDG/European business

- ▶ **INPADOC as primary source for 3rd party alerting - a further improvement of INPADOC data would even have a greater impact on our monitoring activities**
- ▶ **An interface to Patent Management Systems (e.g. OPS) would be highly appreciated**
- ▶ **Implementation of one single standardised interface – not Individual interfaces for each patent offices**
- ▶ **Possibility to have alerting service as an integral part of internal IP management systems**

