

PCT CH.I Stage

		SIPO	EPO	JPO	USPTO	KIPO
EXAMPLE 1	The application comprises two independent claims Independent claim 1: A Multi-function Pocket Knife (A) with a USB memory stick (B), whereby B solves the problem (X) of how to provide a multi-function pocket knife which can carry data electronically. Independent claim 2: A Multi-function Pocket Knife (A) with a laser pointer (C), whereby C solves the problem (Y) of how to provide a multi-function pocket knife which can point at a distance.					
Scenario 1A	A is novel and inventive (the multi-function pocket knife is novel and inventive) B is novel. B and C are different. Problems X and Y are different.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	U	U	U	U	U
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	N	N	N	N	N
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	N	N	N	N	N
Scenario 1B	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives, so A is known. B is novel. B and C are different. Problems X and Y are different.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	R	R	R	R	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Scenario 1C	D1 discloses a knife with a fold away blade. D2 teaches how to incorporate multiple tools on a pocket sized device. It would be obvious in view of D1 and D2 to include a fold away knife on the pocket sized device, which would lead to a multi-purpose pocket knife. A is not inventive. B is novel. B and C are different. Problems X and Y are different					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	R	R	R	R	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Scenario 1D	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives with USB memory sticks, so A+B is known. B and C are different. B and C solve different problems.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	R	R	R	R	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Scenario 1E	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives, so A is known. D1 also discloses multi-function pocket knives with a USB stick and a laser pointer. The embodiments in the description of the application lead to the conclusion that additional aspects of the USB stick (B') and the laser pointer (C') which make B and C novel and inventive over D1 are missing from the independent claims. B and C are different. The problems X and Y are different. B and C are also known from D1. Fallback positions from the description concerning the first (A+B') and second (A+C') inventions are potentially novel and inventive.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	N	R	R	N	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	N	Y	N	N	N

EXAMPLE 2	The application comprises two independent claims: Independent claim 1: A Multi-function Pocket Knife (A) with a fountain pen (B), whereby B solves the problem (X) of how to provide a multi-function pocket knife with means to write. Independent claim 2: A Multi-function Pocket Knife (A) with a pencil (C), whereby C solves the problem (Y) of how to provide a multi-function pocket knife with means to write.					
Scenario 2A	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives, so A is known. B is novel. B and C are different. However, B and C solve the same problem, i.e. X = Y. Modifying a multi-function pocket knife in order to write is not known.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	U	U	U	U	U
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	N	N	N	N	N
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	N	N	N	N	N
Scenario 2B	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives, so A is known. D1 also discloses that the multi-function pocket knife includes a ballpoint pen to write. B is novel. B and C are different. B and C solve the same problem, i.e. X = Y. The problem solved (how to modify the multi-function pocket knife to write) is known from D1.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	R	R	R	R	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Scenario 2C	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives, so A is known. D2 teaches how to incorporate fountain pens into pocket sized portable devices (B). The teaching of D2 makes the combination of A+B obvious. A+B is not inventive. B and C are different. B and C solve the same problem. The problem solved (how to modify the multi-function pocket knife to write) is obvious over a combination of D1 and D2.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	R	R	R	R	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
EXAMPLE 3	Independent claim 1: A multi-function pocket knife (A) Dependent claim 2 The multi-function pocket knife of claim 1 with a USB memory stick (B), whereby B solves the problem (X) of how to provide a multi-function pocket knife which can carry data electronically. Dependent claim 3 The multi-function pocket knife of claim 1 with a laser pointer (C), whereby C solves the problem (Y) of how to provide a multi-function pocket knife which can point at a distance.					
Scenario 3A	A is novel and inventive (the multi-function pocket knife is novel and inventive) B is novel. B and C are different. Problems X and Y are different.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	U	U	U	U	U
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	N	N	N	N	N
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	N	N	N	N	N
Scenario 3B	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives, so A is known. B is novel. B and C are different. Problems X and Y are different.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU

QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	R	R	R	R	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Scenario 3C	D1 discloses a knife with a fold away blade. D2 teaches how to incorporate multiple tools on a pocket sized device. It would be obvious in view of D1 and D2 to include a fold away knife on the pocket sized device, which would lead to a multi-purpose pocket knife. A is not inventive. B is novel. B and C are different. Problems X and Y are different.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	R	R	R	R	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Scenario 3D	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives with USB memory sticks, so A+B is known. B and C are different. B and C solve different problems.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	R	R	R	R	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Scenario 3E	D1 discloses multi-function pocket knives, so A is known. D1 also discloses multi-function pocket knives with a USB stick and a laser pointer. The embodiments in the description of the application lead to the conclusion that additional aspects of the USB stick (B') and the laser pointer (C') which make B and C novel and inventive over D1 are missing from the independent claims B and C are different. The problems X and Y are different. B and C are also known from D1. Fallback positions from the description concerning the first (A+B') and second (A+C') inventions are potentially novel and inventive.					
QUESTION 1	Would your office consider these claims to be Unitary (U) or Non-Unitary (NU)?	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU
QUESTION 2	Would your office raise an objection of non-unity at this stage (R=raise / N= not raise)	N	R	R	N	R
QUESTION 3	Would your office request additional fees (Y/N)	N	Y	N	N	N