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- Trade association of more than 200 Companies, 12,000+ individuals. Established in 1972.
- Represents interests of individual inventors, small and medium size enterprises, and multi-national corporations across diverse industries.
- Advocates for legislation and rules to provide greater legal certainty and more effective and affordable IP rights in the U.S. and abroad.

Who is IPO?

- IPO corporate members file a significant percentage of all patent applications worldwide.
- IPO's 50 member board of directors are some of the top PCT filers, EPO applicants, and EPO patentees.

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IPO Supports International Harmonization of Substantive Patent Law

IPO strongly supports efforts to harmonize substantive requirements of the world's patent laws in ways that will address the burden, expense, and uncertainty associated with complex and different rules for obtaining patent rights.

IPO Supports International Harmonization of Substantive Patent Law

IPO's ultimate goal is to obtain a system that provides uniform, objective, predictable, and cost effective acquisition and enforcement of patents globally. Recently, IPO's efforts have focused on harmonizing:

- ❖ *Grace period for filing patent applications*
- ❖ *18-month publication of applications*
- ❖ *Conflicting applications*
- ❖ *Prior user rights*

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