



Europäisches
Patentamt
European
Patent Office
Office européen
des brevets

EPO PPH status report



The PPH - basic concept

Scheme enabling an applicant whose claims have been determined to be **patentable/allowable** in the OEE*

- to have the **corresponding** application filed with a PPH partner office (OLE**) processed in an **accelerated manner**
 - simplification of entry requirements into the accelerated prosecution schemes
- while at the same time allowing the offices involved to **exploit** available work results
 - *acceleration of procedure through **utilisation** of work results*
 - **no** recognition of work

* Office of Earlier Examination

** Office of Later Examination

The EPO PPH pilot programmes

- **Comprehensive IP5 PPH**

- including PCT and
- national work products
- integration of pilot programmes with the JPO, USPTO and Trilateral PCT PPH

- **Launch: 6 January 2014**

- OJ EPO 2014, A8

- **New PPH partners**

- **CIPO** (Canada)
 - OJ EPO 2015, A5
- **ILPO** (Israel)
 - OJ EPO 2015, A6
- **IMPI** (Mexico)
 - OJ EPO 2015, A7
- **IPOS** (Singapore)
 - OJ EPO 2015, A8

- **Launch: 6 January 2015**

- **New EPO form 1009**

- Common PPH request form
- OJ EPO 2015, A4

Status of IP5 PPH pilot programme: 1 April 2015

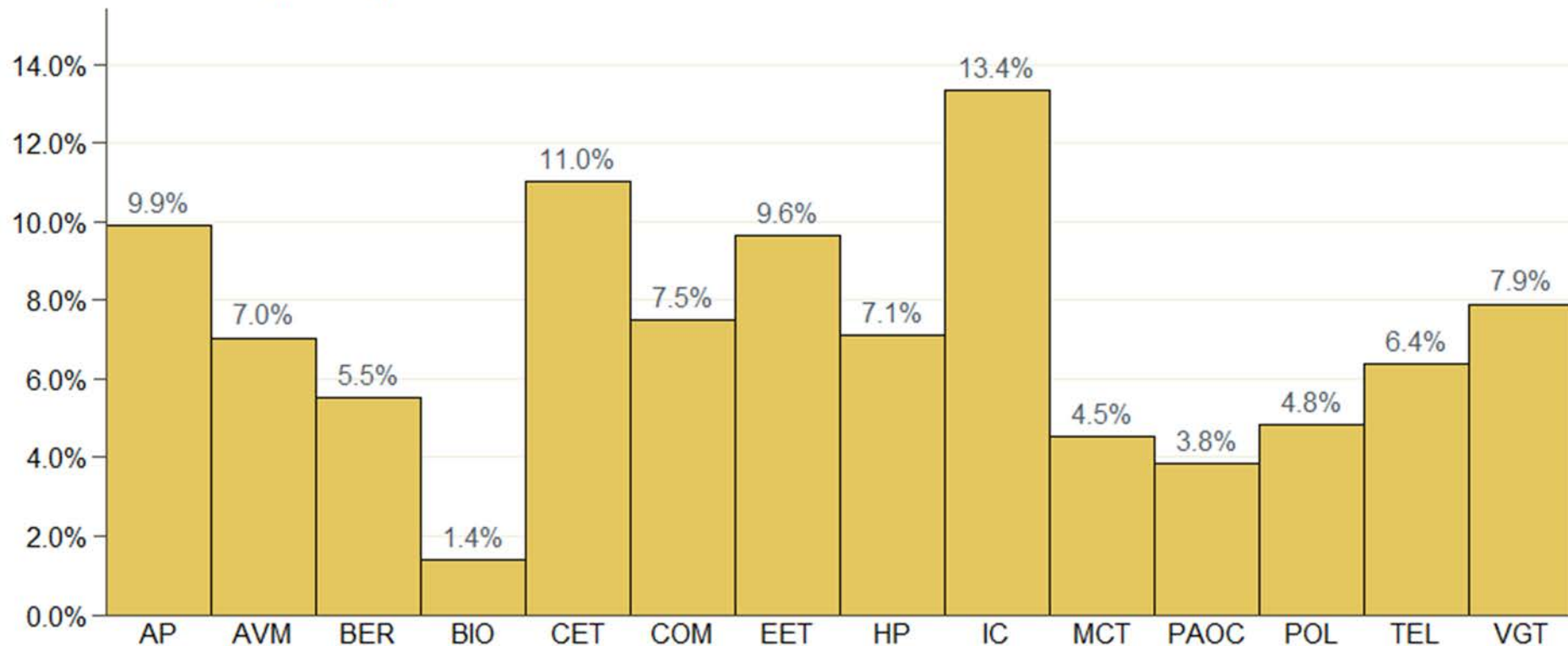
Patent Office	Work product	Launch date	Number of requests
JPO	PCT work products	29 January 2010	1019
	national work products		2235
KIPO	PCT work products	6 January 2014	35
	national work products		48
SIPO	PCT work products	6 January 2014	134
	national work products		53
USPTO	PCT work products	29 January 2010	195
	national work products	28 September 2008	1773
Total IP5 PPH			5492

Status of bilateral PPH pilot programmes: 1 April 2015

Patent Office	Work product	Launch date	Number of requests
CIPO (Canada)	PCT work products	6 January 2015	5
	national work products		3
ILPO (Israel)	PCT work products	6 January 2015	7
	national work products		0
IMPI (Mexico)	national work products	6 January 2015	0
IPOS (Singapore)	national work products	6 January 2015	0
Total (cumulative)			5507

Distribution of PPH requests by EPO joint cluster

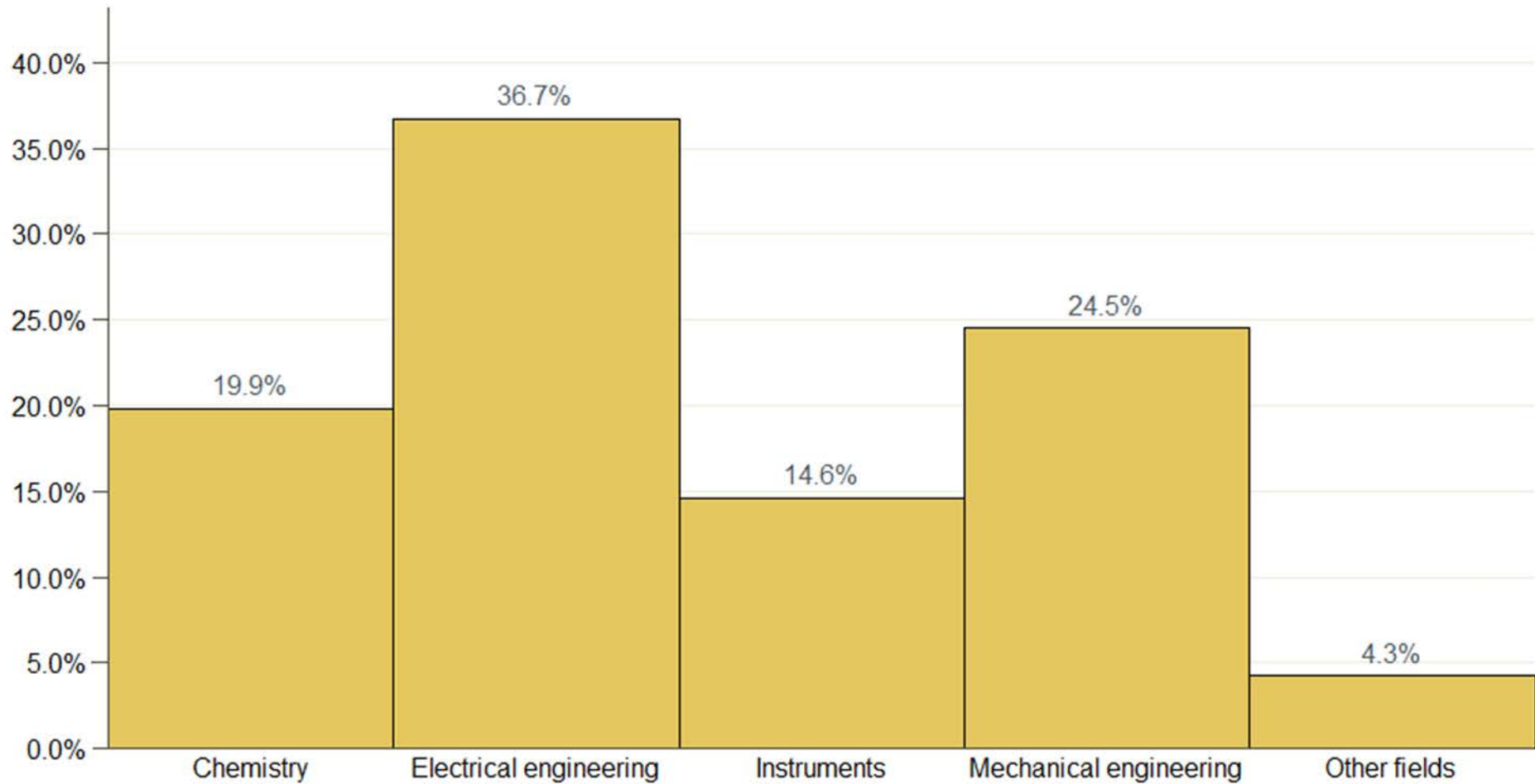
Distribution of PPH requests by joint cluster



- Civil Engineering and Thermodynamics and Industrial Chemistry each have over one tenth of all PPH requests
- Biotechnology, Medical and Consumer Technology, and Pure and Applied Organic Chemistry have the lowest percentage of PPH requests. This suggests that applicants in these technical fields need to gain time rather than accelerate prosecution

Distribution of PPH requests by WIPO IPC tech sector

PPH requests by WIPO IPC-technology sector



- Electrical engineering has over a third of all PPH requests at the EPO

Future trends

- Development of **common PPH metrics**
 - uniform metric definitions
 - essential for monitoring and supporting PPH
- Work on the further **harmonisation/unification** of
 - PPH participation requirements, and
 - PPH practice
- Potential **expansion** of the EPO PPH activities
 - promotion of the **PCT – PPH**



www.epo.org

Thank you for your attention!