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**

- **acceleration of procedure through utilisation of work results**
- **no recognition of work**

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* 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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Patent Office</th>
<th>Work product</th>
<th>Launch date</th>
<th>Number of requests</th>
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## Status of bilateral PPH pilot programmes: 1 April 2015

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<td><strong>Total (cumulative)</strong></td>
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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.
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
Thank you for your attention!