XML Document Provision

IP5 Heads of Office with IP5 Industry Meeting
May 31, 2017

Japan Patent Office
Benefits of XMLization

- XMLization enables applicants/attorneys to import patent documents automatically and accurately to their text-based DBs.
- XMLization with text-based DBs will enable the following:
  - Enhance managing applications
  - Enable documents to be easily created by exporting and pre-populating accurate data from DBs

 BeautifulSoup

Current State

Future Outlook

Image Data/Files

Manual Typing

Text-based Database

Time Consuming!

XML Documents

Automatic Importing!

Accurate DB!

Warning of due date

Assistance for preparing documents
Surveys conducted by the JPO

The JPO conducted following surveys last year.

- **Surveys on barriers/constraints for the IP5 Offices**
  - The JPO conducted a survey to know what obstacles IP5 Offices have to overcome in XMLization and seek solutions.

- **Surveys on user needs**
  - The JPO conducted a user survey to know, for example, which documents/data users want to receive in XML format.

- **Surveys on services provided by the private sector**
  - The JPO had meetings with tool vendors to investigate usage of XML document data in the commercial sector.
The barriers or constraints of XMLization differ from office to office, but the major issues are the necessity of system development and budget for it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>present</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>full XML</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KIPO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>text</strong></td>
<td>partial XML</td>
<td><strong>full XML</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SIPO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not Determined</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USPTO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>text (docx)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Not Determined</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Through user surveys conducted by the JPO last year, it became clear that users had strong expectation for XMLization.

[Summary of the surveys]

✓ Comparably, outgoing documents from Offices obtained higher demand for XMLization.

✓ Users expects standardization of XML tags. However, mapping table between each Office’s tag could be alternative.

✓ To standardize a tag in English and Human Readable manner is essential for users.

✓ Users hoped that the XML data can be provided by web services such as OPD.
Patent management systems developed by tool vendors can automatically import XML documents from Offices into their databases accurately, and provides various and useful functions.

Tool vendors expect standardization of XML tags. However, they also believe that it would be possible to import XML data even if not standardized. The first priority is to be provided with XML data by Offices.
Summary and Next Steps

[Summary]
- Based on the 2016 survey, the JPO checked barriers/constraints at the IP5 Offices and user needs in terms of the XMLization.
- It became clear that users had strong expectation for XMLization.

[Next steps]
- The JPO will continue to support the IP5 Offices.
- The JPO will conduct follow-up surveys on XMLization in the Offices this year.
- This year, the JPO will compare tags in XMLized documents, such as office actions in the Offices, based on the sample data provided by KIPO and the USPTO to check the feasibility of XML tag mapping.
Thank you