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USPTO and the Patent and Trademark Resource Center Program

M. Neil Massong
Patent & Trademark Resource Center Program
Federal Depository Library Conference
May 1, 2014



U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

- Examines patent applications and grants patents
- Examines trademark applications and registers trademarks
- Disseminates information about patents and trademarks



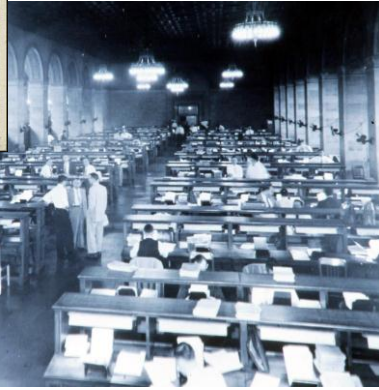


At one time...



118. PATENT OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C.

**Old Patent Office,
Washington, D.C.**



**Public Search Room,
Old Patent Office**

3



USPTO Headquarters Today: Public Search Facility



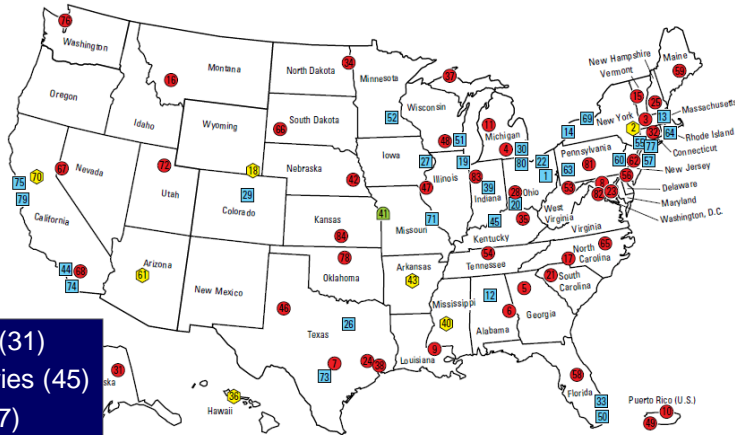
**Madison Building,
USPTO campus,
Alexandria, Virginia**

**Current Public Search Facility—
Open to Public Users, M-F, 8AM-
8PM (Research Assistance 8AM-
5PM)**





Also, Partnerships with Libraries-- PTRCs: Patent & Trademark Resource Centers



Public Libraries (31)
 Academic Libraries (45)
 State Libraries (7)
 Special Libraries (1)
Total 84



What is a PTRC?

A library officially designated by the USPTO to disseminate agency information.

Pays an annual statutory fee and must send at least one representative to an annual training seminar held at USPTO headquarters.

Authorized under 35 USC 12.

1871 - Printed patents offered to libraries on a depository basis

1977 - 1st Patent Depository Conference

Chuck Malone of Western Illinois University at PTRC Designation Ceremony with Commissioner of Patents Peggy Focarino





Name Change in Oct. 2011



PTDLs = PTRCs

Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries
are now

**Patent and
Trademark Resource Centers**

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PTRCs are...Librarians Helping Customers Access IP Information



Trained librarians show patrons to search, find referenced patent and non-patent literature, promote programs to support inventors.



8



PTRCs are...Librarians Finding Answers to Questions

How do I do a patent search?

Where can I find a list of patent attorneys?

Do you have info on invention promotion firms?

How do I do a trademark search?

How much does it cost to get a patent or trademark?

9



PTRCs are...Librarians Helping Customers of All Ages



Linda Kocis of Cincinnati OH PTRC (pictured) and John Schlipp of Highland Heights KY PTRC taught kids and teens about Intellectual Property concepts using comic books in their “Superhero Matinee” series of programs.

10



PTRCs are...Programs for Inventors and Small Businesses



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Traditional Method of Getting Information to Customers: Print



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Most Print Publications of USPTO Now Online

Official Gazette Weekly
Began January 3, 1872

Included Office Notices, and Patent and Trademark sections.

Split into separate Patents and Trademarks issues on February 2, 1971. GPO also offered Office Notices as a separate pamphlet.

Official Gazette: Patents Weekly
Began February 2, 1971
Ended paper 9/24/02

Includes Office Notices

Official Gazette: Trademarks Weekly
Began February 2, 1971
Ended 9/24/02

Includes Office Notices

CD-ROM
Began 7/2/02
Ended 12/27/11

Web
Began July 2, 2002
Current 52 weeks only
Archive Copies available as Zip files on <http://patents.reedtech.com/pgoo.php>

Web
Began March 6, 2001
<http://www.uspto.gov/news/og/trademark Og/Index.jsp>

Official Gazette example of format transition from print to web.



Current Primary Method of Sharing Information with Customers: Web Site

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Of 300 federal agency subcomponents, the USPTO was named the best place to work in the federal government's Best Places to Work in 2013 by the non-profit Partnership for Public Service. The USPTO's rise to #1 follows a steady climb from #172 in 2007 to #5 in 2012.

#1 The Best Places to Work IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

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A blog from USPTO's leadership

America Invents Act
Your guide to the law

Patent Litigation Online Toolkit

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>> ip law & policy

USPTO NEWS



PTRCs are...Instruction on How to Search Patents on the USPTO Website

Patent #: US008689376 Section: Front Page 1 of 21 pages Help

(12) **United States Patent** (10) Patent No.: **US 8,689,376 B2**
 Becker et al. (45) Date of Patent: **Apr. 8, 2014**

(54) PATIENT HANDLING DEVICE INCLUDING LOCAL STATES PUBLICATION, ONE TOUCH FOWLER ANGLE ADJUSTMENT, AND POWER-ON ALARM CONFIGURATION 4,196,425 A 4/19/99 Williams, Jr. et al.
 4,264,096 A 4/15/91 SANCY et al.
 4,295,117 10/1991 SANCY
 4,633,237 A 12/1996 Jackson et al.
 4,700,180 A 10/1997 SANCY
 (Continued)

(75) Inventors: David Ferrance Becker, Kalamazoo, MI (US); Christopher John Hopper, Kalamazoo, MI (US); Michael Joseph Hayes, Kalamazoo, MI (US); Vivek Shankar, Kalamazoo, MI (US); Richard C. Mayaras, Jr., Kalamazoo, MI (US) EP 1 899 027 A2 4/2002
 EP 1 854 559 A1 10/2003
 (Continued)

(73) Assignee: Stryker Corporation, Kalamazoo, MI (US) OTHER PUBLICATIONS

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 446 days. Patent Search Report for PCT/US2006/043290 (which corresponds to the present U.S. Appl. No. 11:557,349), mailed Mar. 14, 2007.
 (Continued)

(21) Appl. No.: 11:057,349 Primary Examiner—William Kelleher
 (22) Filed: Nov. 7, 2006 (TA) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Warner Norenco & Judd LLP

(65) US 2007/010345 A1 Jul. 19, 2007

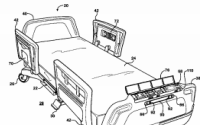
Related U.S. Application Data
 (69) Provisional application Nos. 69734-083, filed on Nov. 7, 2005.

(51) Int. Cl. A61F 27/00 (2006.01)
 (52) U.S. Cl. 5600; 5722; 5622; 5613; 5905
 (58) Field of Classification Search USPC: 5600, 222, 422, 413, 605
 See application file for complete search history.

(56) References Cited
 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
 3,589,199 A 8/1971 Bausing
 4,667,265 A 1/1978 Lucy et al.

ABSTRACT
 (57)
 A patient handling device includes a controller, with a plurality of sensors, control panels, and lamps electrically connected to the controller. The patient handling device records the normal/declined state of the various components when power is applied. When one of the components goes outside the normal/declined state, the controller issues an alarm. This alarm includes illuminating a plurality of amber alert lamps which can normally be viewed by a user at any position around the outside of the patient handling device. The patient handling device also includes a position control. This control restricts movement of an upper (lower) portion of the patient handling device in a certain range of angular positions, while permitting movement of the upper portion outside the certain range.

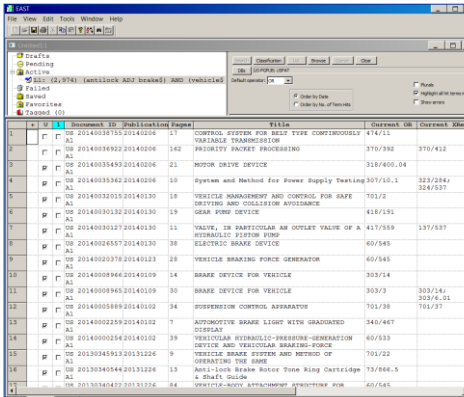
27 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets




PTRC's are...Instruction on How to Search Patents Using PubWEST and PubEAST

PubWEST (Public Version of the Web-based Examiners Search Tool) and PubEAST (Public Version of Examiners Assisted Search Tool) provide access to patent search databases that are only available at PTRC's and the USPTO's Public Search Facility.

The time-saving features of PubWEST and PubEAST make them especially appealing to library users who are frequent patent searchers.



Pub No.	Pub No.	Pub No.	Pub No.	Pub No.	Title	Current	Pub No.	Current	Pub No.
US	2014003115	201401008	13	CONTROL SYSTEM FOR BEAT TYPE CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE TRANSMISSION	11/412				
US	2014003092	201401006	162	PRESSURE SENSING PROCESSING	370/392				370/413
US	2014003549	201401004	21	MOTOR DRIVE DEVICE	318/400,04				
US	2014003340	201401000	10	System and Method for Power Supply Switchover	307/10.1				323/284; 324/537
US	2014003201	201401000	18	VEHICLE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL FOR SAFE DRIVING AND COLLISION AVOIDANCE	701/2				
US	2014003130	201401000	19	GEAR PUMP DEVICE	418/191				
US	2014003017	201401000	11	VALVE, IN PARTICULAR AN ORBITAL VALVE OF A HYDRAULIC STEERING PUMP	417/559				137/537
US	2014002657	201401000	38	ELECTRIC BRAKE DEVICE	60/545				
US	2014002078	201401000	28	VEHICLE BRAKING FORCE GENERATOR	60/545				
US	2014000896	201401000	14	BRAKE DEVICE FOR VEHICLE	303/14				
US	2014000896	201401000	30	BRAKE DEVICE FOR VEHICLE	303/3				303/14; 303/4; 303/5
US	2014000889	201401002	34	SUSPENSION CONTROL APPARATUS	701/38				701/37
US	2014002259	201401002	7	ADJUSTIVE BRAKE LIGHT WITH GRADUATED CURVE	240/467				
US	2014000034	201401002	39	VEHICULAR HYDRAULIC-PRESSURE-GENERATION DEVICE AND VEHICULAR BRAKING-FORCE	40/533				
US	2013034513	20131226	9	VEHICLE BRAKE SYSTEM AND METHOD OF OPERATING THE SAME	701/22				
US	2013034044	20131226	13	AXLE-LOCK BRAKE ROTOR WITH KING CARTRIDGE & SHAFT SHAFT	13/846.5				
US	2013034047	20131226	24	WHEEL-ROTOR ATTACHMENT STRUCTURE FOR	40/545				



...Instruction on How to Search Trademarks on the USPTO Website

Trademarks > Trademark Electronic Search System (TESS)

Welcome to the **Trademark Electronic Search System (TESS)**. This search engine allows you to search the USPTO's database of registered trademarks and prior pending applications to find marks that may prevent registration due to a **likelihood of confusion** refusal.

WARNING: Before conducting your search, you must understand the following: (1) what the database includes; (2) how to construct a complete search; and (3) how to interpret the search results. Click **TESS TIPS** for detailed information on these and other important search topics.

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This option is used to search word and/or design marks. **NOTE:** You must first use the **Design Search Code Manual** to look up the relevant Design Codes.
- ▶ **Word and/or Design Mark Search (Free Form)**
This option allows you to construct word and/or design searches using Boolean logic and multiple search fields. **NOTE:** You must first use the **Design Search Code Manual** to look up the relevant Design Codes.



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PTRC Program provides public programs and on-site staff training at 6 or more PTRC's each year. Staff training is supplemented with webinars, also.





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PTRC Library List A - L

Alabama

Auburn	Ralph Brown Draughon Library, Auburn	334 844-1737
Birmingham	Birmingham Public Library	205 226-3620

Alaska

Fairbanks	Hatcher Library, Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska, Fairbanks	907-474-2636
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Arkansas

Little Rock	Arkansas State Library	501 682-2053
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California

Los Angeles	Los Angeles Public Library	213 228-7220
Riverside	Orbach Science Library, University of California, Riverside	951 827-3316
Sacramento	California State Library	916 654-0261
San Diego	San Diego Public Library	619 236-5813
San Francisco	San Francisco Public Library	415 557-4900
Sunnyvale	Sunnyvale Public Library	408 730-7300

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Patent Search CBT

<http://www.uspto.gov/video/cbt/ptrcsearching/>

How to Conduct A Preliminary U.S. Patent Search: a Step by Step Strategy



Patent & Trademark Resource Center Program
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Alexandria, Virginia

[Description: Please be aware that when you are using the application with the JAWS screen reader, the virtual cursor changes location as the tabIndex appear on the screen. An image of the PTRC acronym logo is included on this slide.]



Slide 1 / 60 | Stopped

00:03 / 00:47

How to Conduct A Preliminary US Patent Search: A Step by Step Strategy



PTRC
Patent & Trademark Resource Center
Michael Hydorn

Outline Thumb Notes Search

Slide Notes

Conducting a thorough search of U.S. patent files is an important step in the process of filing a patent application.

This computer based training course is an overview of how to conduct a preliminary U.S. patent search using a step by step approach.

You may pause this tutorial at any time to consult with a librarian or information professional who will be happy to answer your questions and demonstrate how to use any of the resources mentioned. By beginning your patent search process at a Patent and Trademark Resource Center, you have access

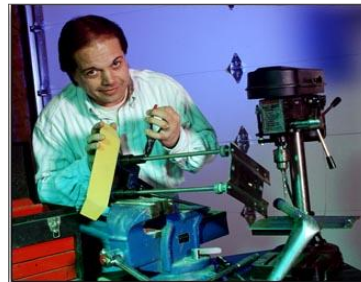
38 Minutes 49 Seconds Remaining

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- Researchers/Engineers
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- Historians/Genealogists





Patents



A U.S. patent is...

a property right granted by the Government of the United States of America to an inventor,

“to **exclude others from making, using, offering for sale, or selling the invention throughout the United States or importing the invention into the United States,”**

for a limited time,

in exchange for public disclosure of the invention.”

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What Can Be Patented? (Utility Patent Example)

- Machine, Article of Manufacture, Process, Composition of Matter, Business Methods (since mid-90's court decision)
- Any new, useful improvement of the above
- Term: 20 years from filing date.

U.S. Patent Apr. 9, 2002 Sheet 9 of 16 US 6,367,817 B1

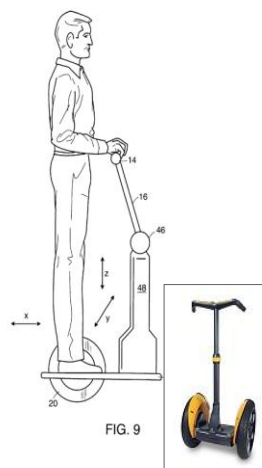
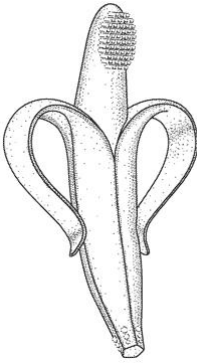


FIG. 9

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Design Patents



- Granted for a new, original and ornamental design for an article of manufacture. Only the appearance is protected.

- Term: 14 years from the date the patent is granted

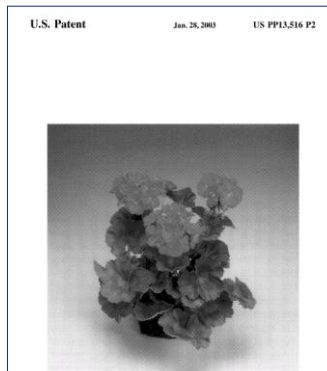


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Plant Patents

- Granted for a new, asexually reproduced plant
- Term: 20 years from filing date



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What Cannot Be Patented?

- Inventions which are **NOT NEW** (lack novelty);
- Inventions which were **“MADE PUBLIC”** more than one year prior to patent application filing date ;
- Inventions which are **OBVIOUS** variations of known technology (obvious to one familiar with the technology);
- **Laws of nature, physical phenomena & abstract ideas**; the subject matter of a patent must be “useful.”



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Patent Information Supporting the Independent Inventor

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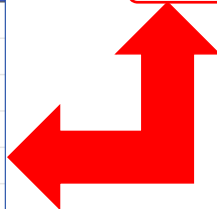
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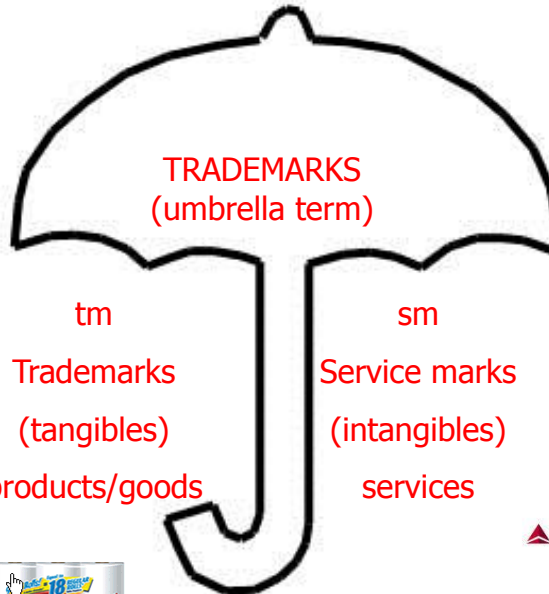
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What is a Trademark?



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TM, SM and ®

"TM" (trademark) or "SM" (service mark) – used to designate one is claiming rights in a mark

"®" – used only **after** the USPTO registers a mark, not while an application is pending; cannot be used if the mark is not registered with USPTO



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Trademark Information Network Videos



www.uspto.gov/trademarks/process/TMIN.jsp

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Patents vs. Trademarks

1. Protect inventions.
2. Patented inventions may/may not make it to commerce
3. Length of protection is limited
4. Only issued at the federal level
5. Comparatively complex, costly applications

1. Protect words, etc. used on products and services in commerce
2. Many trademarked products/services are not patented
3. Length of protection is not limited, IF...
4. Also issued at the state level
5. Much less complex and less costly applications

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Summary: Ways to Help Customers Seeking Patent & Trademark Information

Familiarize yourself with the content of the USPTO website. Some website information is aimed at the independent inventor and small businesses.

Familiarize yourself with the Patent and Trademark Resource Center library nearest you. Many questions can be handled by phone or email to your nearest PTRC library representative.

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Questions?

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