

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT**  
**United States Patent and Trademark Office**  
**Recording Assignments**  
**OMB CONTROL NUMBER 0651-0027**

**A. JUSTIFICATION**

**1. Necessity of Information Collection**

This collection of information is required by 35 U.S.C. §§ 261 and 262 for patents and 15 U.S.C. §§ 1057 and 1060 of the Trademark Act of 1946 for trademarks. These statutes authorize the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to record patent and trademark assignment documents, including transfers of properties (i.e. patents and trademarks), liens, licenses, assignments of interest, security interests, mergers, and explanations of transactions or other documents that record the transfer of ownership of a particular patent or trademark property from one party to another. Assignments are recorded for applications, patents, and trademark registrations.

The USPTO administers these statutes through 37 CFR 2.146, 2.171, and 37 CFR Part 3. These rules permit the public, corporations, other federal agencies, and Government-owned or Government-controlled corporations to submit patent and trademark assignment documents and other documents related to title transfers to the USPTO to be recorded. In accordance with 37 CFR 3.54, the recording of an assignment document by the USPTO is an administrative action and not a determination of the validity of the document or of the effect that the document has on the title to an application, patent, or trademark. Once the assignment documents are recorded, they are available for public inspection. The only exceptions are those documents that are sealed under secrecy orders according to 37 CFR 3.58 or related to unpublished patent applications maintained in confidence under 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 CFR 1.14.

In order to file a request to record an assignment, the respondent must submit an appropriate cover sheet along with copies of the assignment documents to be recorded. The USPTO provides two paper forms for this purpose, the Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595) and the Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1594), which capture all of the necessary data for accurately recording various assignment documents.

Customers may also submit assignments online by using the Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) and the Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS), which are available through the USPTO web site at <http://www.uspto.gov>. These systems allow customers to fill out the required cover sheet information online using web-based forms and then attach the electronic assignment documents to be submitted for recordation.

Previously, customers could also submit patent assignment recordation requests securely over the internet using special electronic filing software that was developed by the USPTO. Particularly large recordation requests that were prepared using the software could be

copied onto a recordable compact disc (CD) and then submitted to the USPTO by mail. Since the USPTO has retired this electronic filing software in favor of the web-based filing system, the corresponding modes of submission are being deleted from this collection.

Table 1 provides the specific statutes and regulations authorizing the USPTO to collect the information for recording patent and trademark assignments.

**Table 1: Information Requirements for Recording Patent and Trademark Assignments**

Requirement	Statute	Rule
Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet	35 U.S.C. §§ 261 and 262	37 CFR 3.11, 3.21, 3.24, 3.26, 3.28, 3.31, 3.34, and 3.41
Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet	15 U.S.C. §§ 1057 and 1060	37 CFR 3.11, 3.16, 3.25, 3.26, 3.28, 3.31, 3.34, and 3.41; 37 CFR 2.146 and 2.171
Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS)	35 U.S.C. §§ 261 and 262	37 CFR 3.11, 3.21, 3.24, 3.26, 3.28, 3.31, 3.34, and 3.41
Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS)	15 U.S.C. §§ 1057 and 1060	37 CFR 3.11, 3.16, 3.25, 3.26, 3.28, 3.31, and 3.34, 3.41; 37 CFR 2.146 and 2.171

## 2. Needs and Uses

The public uses this information collection to submit patent and trademark assignment documents to be recorded by the USPTO. The USPTO provides two paper forms, the Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595) and the Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1594), in order to assist the public in submitting assignment documents. Respondents may also submit patent and trademark assignment documents to the USPTO online by using the Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) and the Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS), which are available through the USPTO web site.

Except for those documents sealed under secrecy orders or related to unpublished patent applications, patent and trademark assignment records may be inspected by the public after they are recorded. The public uses these records to conduct ownership and chain-of-title searches. The public may view these records either at the USPTO Public Search Facilities or at the National Archives and Records Administration, depending on the date they were recorded. The public may also search patent and trademark assignment information online through the USPTO web site.

The Information Quality Guidelines from Section 515 of Public Law 106-554, Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2001, apply to this information collection and comply with all applicable information quality guidelines, i.e. OMB and specific operating unit guidelines.

This proposed collection of information will result in information that will be collected, maintained, and used in a way consistent with all applicable OMB and USPTO Information Quality Guidelines.

Table 2 outlines how this collection of information for recording assignments is used by the public and the USPTO.

**Table 2: Needs and Uses of Information Collection for Recording Assignments**

Form and Function	Form #	Needs and Uses
Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet	PTO-1595	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Used by the public to submit assignment documents indicating the transfer of rights, title, and interest in a patent property from one party to another for recording by the USPTO.</li> <li>● Used by the public to submit corrected cover sheets or documents to the USPTO for recording.</li> <li>● Used by the USPTO to process and record patents, patent assignments, or other associated documents.</li> <li>● Used by the USPTO to ensure that all relevant bibliographic data is entered in the files and the searchable public database.</li> </ul>
Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet	PTO-1594	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Used by the public to submit assignment documents indicating the transfer of rights, title, and interest in a trademark property from one party to another for recording by the USPTO.</li> <li>● Used by the public to submit corrected cover sheets or documents to the USPTO for recording.</li> <li>● Used by the USPTO to process and record marks, assignments, or other associated documents.</li> <li>● Used by the USPTO to ensure that all relevant bibliographic data is entered in the files and the searchable public database.</li> </ul>
Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS)	PTO-1595	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Used by the public to submit patent assignment documents online through the USPTO web site.</li> <li>● Used by the public to submit corrected cover sheets or documents to the USPTO for recording.</li> <li>● Used by the USPTO to process and record patents, patent assignments, or other associated documents.</li> <li>● Used by the USPTO to ensure that all relevant bibliographic data is entered in the files and the searchable public database.</li> </ul>
Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS)	PTO-1594	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Used by the public to submit trademark assignment documents online through the USPTO web site.</li> <li>● Used by the public to submit corrected cover sheets or documents to the USPTO for recording.</li> <li>● Used by the USPTO to process and record patents, patent assignments, or other associated documents.</li> <li>● Used by the USPTO to ensure that all relevant bibliographic data is entered in the files and the searchable public database.</li> </ul>

### 3. Use of Information Technology

Customers may submit assignment documents to the USPTO by either using paper forms or the online assignment systems available on the USPTO web site. The paper forms associated with this collection, the Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595) and

the Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1594), may be downloaded from the USPTO web site in PDF format, filled out on the computer, and then printed for mailing or faxing to the USPTO. Once received, the cover sheets and associated assignment documents are scanned directly into the assignment document workflow system. Fax submission streamlines the processing of assignment documents by enabling the USPTO to skip the paper scanning stage and to provide the customer with the resulting Notice of Recordation by return fax.

After being electronically processed and recorded, the assignment information is then fed into the appropriate patent or trademark database system. Information about recorded patent and trademark assignments is disseminated to the public through the USPTO web site, where customers may search for the assignment information associated with a specific application, patent, or trademark registration.

The USPTO also offers web-based electronic filing options for both patent and trademark assignments. The Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) and the Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS) are both available to customers on the USPTO web site. The web pages for EPAS and ETAS allow customers to enter the required assignment data, attach the supporting documentation in electronic format, and submit the assignment recordation request online. Payment of filing fees can be made by credit card, USPTO deposit account, or electronic fund transfer (EFT). After the payment transaction is completed, an electronic confirmation receipt is displayed on the screen and emailed to the customer. EPAS and ETAS are the preferred methods of submission since they provide for a more timely recordation of assignment changes and response back to the customer.

#### **4. Efforts to Identify Duplication**

The information collected is required for the USPTO to record an assignment transaction and is not collected elsewhere, with one exception. The information regarding the current owner(s) of the interest (address and type of entity) is already maintained by the USPTO. However, this information is submitted routinely and could be required to distinguish between entities of the same name. Customers who file electronically using EPAS or ETAS may save this data from an assignment request as a template to be reused in future submissions.

#### **5. Minimizing Burden to Small Entities**

The information collected is the minimum needed to execute the transaction and to ensure that the recording of the assignment is complete. This collection of information does not impose a significant economic impact or put an unnecessary burden on small entities or small businesses. The same information is required of every applicant and is not available from any other source.

#### **6. Consequences of Less Frequent Collection**

This information is collected only when an applicant submits a patent or trademark assignment document or other associated documents to the USPTO to be recorded. This information collection could not be conducted less frequently. If the collection of information were not conducted, the USPTO could not comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 261 and 262, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1057 and 1060 of the Trademark Act, 37 CFR part 3, and 37 CFR 2.146 and 2.171.

## **7. Special Circumstances in the Conduct of Information Collection**

There are no special circumstances associated with this collection of information.

## **8. Consultation Outside the Agency**

The 60-Day Notice was published in the *Federal Register* on January 28, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 4848). The comment period ended on March 28, 2008. No public comments were received.

The USPTO has long-standing relationships with groups from whom patent application information is collected, such as the American Intellectual Property Law Association, as well as patent bar associations, independent inventor groups, and users of our public search facilities. Their views are expressed in regularly scheduled meetings and considered in developing proposals for information collection requirements. There have been no comments or concerns expressed by these or similar organizations concerning the time to provide the information required under this program.

## **9. Payments or Gifts to Respondents**

This information collection does not involve a payment or gift to any respondent.

## **10. Assurance of Confidentiality**

Assignment records related to unpublished patent applications are maintained in confidence in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. Except for those documents that are related to unpublished patent applications maintained in confidence or sealed under secrecy orders, the records for patents and trademarks, assignments, and other associated documents can be inspected by the public under 37 CFR 1.11, 1.12, and 2.200. Recorded serial numbers are not provided to the public until the patent is actually issued. These records can be viewed either at the USPTO or at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), depending on the date that they were recorded, and via a searchable database on the USPTO web site.

Anyone wishing to view documents recorded under secrecy orders or view recorded documents in which the federal government has an interest must submit authorization in writing before the USPTO will release the documents for inspection according to 37 CFR

3.58. Also, documents sealed under secrecy orders cannot be filed electronically due to national security concerns. In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579), a Privacy Act Notice covering patent assignments and their associated system of records has been published in the *Federal Register*.

## **11. Justification for Sensitive Questions**

None of the required information in this collection is considered to be of a sensitive nature.

## **12. Estimate of Hour and Cost Burden to Respondents**

Table 3 calculates the burden hours and costs of this information collection to the public, based on the following factors:

- **Respondent Calculation Factors**

The USPTO estimates that it will receive approximately 363,388 total responses per year for this collection, as outlined in Table 3 below.

The USPTO estimates that approximately 63% of the annual responses for this collection will be submitted electronically via EPAS or ETAS.

- **Burden Hour Calculation Factors**

The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 30 minutes (0.5 hours) to prepare and submit a patent or trademark recordation request.

- **Cost Burden Calculation Factors**

In 2005 the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association published a report that summarized the results of a survey with data on hourly billing rates. The professional rate of \$304 per hour used in this submission is the median rate for associate attorneys in private firms as published in that report. The USPTO expects that the information in this collection will be prepared by both attorneys and paralegals. The estimated rate of \$197 per hour used in this collection is an average of the attorney rate of \$304 per hour and the paraprofessional rate of \$90 per hour. These are fully-loaded hourly rates. Using the average rate of \$197 per hour, the USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for submitting the information in this collection will be \$35,793,915 per year.

**Table 3: Burden Hour/Burden Cost to Respondents for Recording Assignments**

Item	Hours (a)	Responses (yr) (b)	Burden (hrs/yr) (c) (a) x (b)	Rate (\$/hr) (d)	Total Cost (\$/yr) (e) (c) x (d)
Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595)	0.5	130,387	65,194	\$197.00	\$12,843,218.00
Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1594)	0.5	4,584	2,292	\$197.00	\$451,524.00
Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS)	0.5	203,969	101,985	\$197.00	\$20,091,045.00
Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS)	0.5	24,448	12,224	\$197.00	\$2,408,128.00
<b>Totals</b>	.....	<b>363,388</b>	<b>181,695</b>	.....	<b>\$35,793,915.00</b>

### 13. Total Annualized Cost Burden

There are no capital start-up or maintenance costs associated with this information collection. However, this collection does have annual (non-hour) costs in the form of filing fees, recordkeeping costs, and postage costs.

This collection has filing fees associated with submitting patent and trademark assignment documents to be recorded. The filing fees for recording patent and trademark assignments are the same for both paper and electronic submissions. However, the filing cost for recording patent or trademark assignments varies according to the number of properties involved in each submission.

The filing fee for submitting a patent assignment as indicated by 37 CFR 1.21(h) is \$40 for recording each property in a document, while the filing fee for submitting a trademark assignment as indicated by 37 CFR 2.6(b)(6) is \$40 for recording the first property in a document and \$25 for each additional property in the same document. The USPTO estimates that the average fee for a patent assignment recordation request is approximately \$65 and that the average fee for a trademark assignment recordation request is approximately \$184. Therefore, this collection has an estimated total of \$27,075,028 in filing fees per year, as outlined in Table 4 below.

**Table 4: Filing Fees/Non-hour Cost Burden to Respondents for Recording Assignments**

Item	Responses (a)	Filing Fees (\$) (b)	Total Non-hour Cost Burden (c) (a) x (b)
Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595)	130,387	\$65.00	\$8,475,155.00
Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1594)	4,584	\$184.00	\$843,456.00
Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS)	203,969	\$65.00	\$13,257,985.00
Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS)	24,448	\$184.00	\$4,498,432.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>363,388</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>\$27,075,028.00</b>

There are also recordkeeping costs associated with submitting assignment documents online using EPAS and ETAS. The USPTO recommends that customers print and retain a copy of the acknowledgment receipt that appears on the screen after a successful submission. Customers will also receive a copy of this receipt by email. The USPTO estimates that it will take 5 seconds (0.001 hours) to print a copy of the acknowledgment receipt and that approximately 228,417 submissions per year will be completed via EPAS and ETAS, for a total of approximately 228 hours per year for printing this receipt. The USPTO expects that these receipts will be printed by paraprofessionals at an estimated rate of \$90 per hour, for a recordkeeping cost of \$20,520 per year.

Customers may incur postage costs when submitting a patent or trademark assignment request to the USPTO by mail. The USPTO expects that some assignment requests will be submitted by fax but that approximately 87,569 of the 134,971 paper assignment requests per year will be submitted by mail. The USPTO estimates that the average first-class postage cost for a mailed Patent or Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet submission is 80 cents, resulting in a total postage cost for this collection of \$70,055 per year.

$$87,569 \text{ mailed submissions} \times \$0.80 \text{ postage} = \$70,055 \text{ total postage}$$

**The total annual (non-hour) cost burden for this collection in the form of filing fees (\$27,075,028), recordkeeping costs (\$20,520), and postage costs (\$70,055) is estimated to be \$27,165,603 per year.**

#### **14. Annual Cost to the Federal Government**

The USPTO employs both GS-7 Legal Instrument Examiners and GS-9 Paralegals to process submissions for this information collection. The USPTO estimates that approximately 80% of the employees processing these submissions are GS-7, step 1 and 20% are GS-9, step 1. The current hourly rate for a GS-7, step 1 employee is \$18.85 and for a GS-9, step 1 employee is \$23.05. When 30% is added to account for a fully-loaded hourly rate (benefits and overhead), the hourly rate for a GS-7, step 1 employee is \$24.51 (\$18.85 + \$5.66) and the hourly rate for a GS-9, step 1 employee is \$29.97 (\$23.05 +



\$6.92). Based on the percentages of the employees processing these submissions, the average hourly rate for the USPTO staff processing these submissions is \$25.60 (80% of the fully-loaded GS-7, step 1 rate of \$24.51 is \$19.61; and 20% of the fully-loaded GS-9, step 1 rate of \$29.97 is \$5.99; for a total of \$25.60).

The USPTO estimates that it takes an employee 30 minutes (0.5 hours) to process a request to record a patent or trademark assignment submitted with a paper cover sheet and 15 minutes (0.25 hours) to process an online submission via EPAS or ETAS.

Table 5 calculates the burden hours and costs to the Federal Government for processing this information collection.

**Table 5: Burden Hour/Cost to the Federal Government for Recording Assignments**

Item	Hours (a)	Responses (yr) (b)	Burden (hrs/yr) (c) (a) x (b)	Rate (\$/hr) (d)	Total Cost (\$/yr) (e) (c) x (d)
Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet	0.50	130,387	65,194	\$25.60	\$1,668,966.00
Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet	0.50	4,584	2,292	\$25.60	\$58,675.00
Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS)	0.25	203,969	50,992	\$25.60	\$1,305,395.00
Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS)	0.25	24,448	6,112	\$23.07	\$156,467.00
<b>Totals</b>	-----	<b>363,388</b>	<b>124,590</b>	-----	<b>\$3,189,503.00</b>

## 15. Reason for Change in Burden

### Summary of Changes Since the Previous Renewal

This information collection is currently approved with a total of 331,294 responses and 165,648 burden hours per year. For this renewal, the USPTO estimates that the total annual responses will be 363,388 and the total annual burden hours will be 181,695, which is an increase of 32,094 responses and 16,047 hours from the currently approved burden for this collection. This increase in burden hours includes both program changes and administrative adjustments.

The total annual (non-hour) cost burden for this renewal of \$27,165,603 is an increase of \$4,000,532 over the currently approved total of \$23,165,071 in annual (non-hour) costs for this collection. The increase in annual costs for the current renewal includes both program changes and administrative adjustments.

### Change in Respondent Cost Burden

When this collection was previously approved in June 2005, the estimated hourly rate used for respondents was \$184, which was an average of the attorney rate of \$286 per hour and the paraprofessional rate of \$81 per hour. For this renewal the estimated hourly rate has been revised to \$197 based on the average of the updated rates of \$304 for attorneys and \$90 for paraprofessionals. This revised hourly rate, along with the increase of 16,047 total burden hours for this collection, results in an increase of \$5,314,683 (from \$30,479,232 to \$35,793,915) in respondent cost burden for this collection.

### Changes in Responses and Burden Hours

For this renewal, the USPTO estimates that the annual responses for this collection will increase by 32,094, from 331,294 to 363,388 responses per year. Consequently, the USPTO estimates that the total annual burden hours will increase by 16,047, from 165,648 to 181,695 hours per year. The changes in burden for the requirements in this collection are as follows:

- The USPTO estimates that the annual responses for the paper Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595) will decrease by 146,711, from 277,098 to 130,387, due to expected decreases in paper filings for patent assignments. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden decrease of 73,355 hours as an administrative adjustment.**
- The USPTO estimates that the annual responses for the paper Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1594) will decrease by 14,324, from 18,908 to 4,584, due to expected decreases in paper filings for trademark assignments. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden decrease of 7,162 hours as an administrative adjustment.**
- The option of submitting patent assignments using separate electronic filing software, including mailing oversized electronic submissions to the USPTO on CD, has been eliminated due to the retirement of this software in favor of a web-based filing solution. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden decrease of 2,831 hours as a program change.**
- The USPTO estimates that the annual responses for the Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) will increase by 185,333, from 18,636 to 203,969, due to expected increases in online filings. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden increase of 92,667 hours as an administrative adjustment.**
- The USPTO estimates that the annual responses for the Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS) will increase by 13,457, from 10,991 to 24,448, due to expected increases in online filings. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden increase of 6,728 hours as an administrative adjustment.**

**In sum, this information collection has a total burden increase of 16,047, with a decrease of 2,831 hours due to program changes being offset by a net increase of 18,878 hours due to administrative adjustments.**

#### Changes in Annual (Non-hour) Costs

For this renewal, the USPTO estimates that the total annual (non-hour) costs for this collection will increase by \$4,000,532, from \$23,165,071 to \$27,165,603 per year. The changes in annual (non-hour) costs for this collection are as follows:

- This collection is currently approved with \$50 in capital start-up costs associated with the production of CDs for oversized electronic submissions. This CD filing option is being deleted from this collection. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden decrease of \$50 for capital start-up costs as a program change.**
- This collection is currently approved with \$81 in recordkeeping costs associated with retaining a back-up copy of the CD and transmittal documentation for CD submissions. This CD filing option is being deleted from this collection. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden decrease of \$81 for recordkeeping costs as a program change.**
- This collection is currently approved with an additional \$2,835 in recordkeeping costs associated with submitting assignment documents electronically using EPAS, ETAS, or the previous electronic filing software. The USPTO recommends that customers print and retain a copy of the acknowledgment receipt after a successful electronic submission. The retirement of the previous electronic software results in a decrease of \$486 in recordkeeping costs associated with those submissions, while increases in filings for EPAS and ETAS result in an increase of \$18,171 in recordkeeping costs for this renewal. **Therefore, this collection takes a net burden increase of \$17,685 in recordkeeping costs, with a decrease of \$486 as a program change being offset by an increase of \$18,171 as an administrative adjustment.**
- This collection is currently approved with a total of \$23,056,435 in filing fees. For this renewal, the retirement of the previous electronic filing software and the associated oversized CD submissions results in a decrease of \$379,060 in filing fees. This decrease is offset by a net increase of \$4,397,653 in filing fees associated with paper and online assignment submissions. This increase is due to the overall expected increase in filings for these submissions along with a slight increase in the estimated average filing cost for each submission. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden increase of \$4,018,593 in filing fees, with a decrease of \$379,060 as a program change offset by an increase of \$4,397,653 as an administrative adjustment.**

- This collection is currently approved with a total of \$105,670 in postage costs for submitting patent and trademark assignment recordation requests by mail. For this renewal, the elimination of oversized CD submissions results in a decrease of \$15 in postage costs, and the expected decreases in filings for paper submissions results in an additional decrease of \$35,600 for this collection. **Therefore, this collection takes a burden decrease of \$35,615 in postage costs, including decreases of \$15 as a program change and \$35,600 as an administrative adjustment.**

In sum, this collection has an annual (non-hour) cost burden of \$27,165,603, with \$20,520 in recordkeeping costs, \$27,075,028 in filing fees, and \$70,055 in postage costs. **Therefore, this collection has a total increase in annual (non-hour) cost burden of \$4,000,532, with a decrease of \$379,692 due to program changes being offset by a net increase of \$4,380,224 due to administrative adjustments.**

[Note: The previously approved estimate of \$23,165,071 in annual costs for this collection is listed as \$23,165,000 in the current inventory system. The \$71 difference is due to rounding the estimate to the nearest thousand dollars in order to accommodate the legacy inventory system. This rounded figure was carried over when the legacy data was migrated to the current inventory system. Consequently, the annual cost burden increase of \$4,380,224 for this collection that is due to administrative adjustments is displayed as an increase of \$4,380,295 in the current inventory system in order to compensate for the previously rounded figure and to result in the new annual cost burden of \$27,165,603 for this collection as described above.]

## **16. Project Schedule**

The USPTO does not plan to publish this information for statistical use. However, patent and trademark assignment records are available to the public at the USPTO Public Search Facilities and on the USPTO web site.

## **17. Display of Expiration Date of OMB Approval**

The forms in this information collection will display the OMB Control Number and the expiration date.

## **18. Exception to the Certificate Statement**

This collection of information does not include any exceptions to the certificate statement.

**B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS**

This collection of information does not employ statistical methods.

## REFERENCES

- A. The USPTO Information Quality Guidelines
- B. Form PTO-1595 Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet
- C. Form PTO-1594 Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet
- D. Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) online forms
- E. Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS) online forms
- F. 60-Day Notice published in the *Federal Register* on January 28, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 4848)