

## FOCUS SESSION GENERIC QUESTIONS

### *Initial Application Filing Interface*

Would a structured format for submitting applications and documents be beneficial?  
Please discuss pros/cons.

Would a form based system be useful for non-application paperwork?

Would a text-based application improve the filing process? For example, would it be useful to have immediate formality compliance checks upon submission?

What is most time consuming about the current application filing process?

What one change would you recommend to the current filing process?

What are the strengths of the current patent application process?

### *Continuing Applicant/Office Interface*

What interactions do you have with the PTO after the filing of an application?

Is the current filing of amendments and petitions effective? What can be improved?

Is communication during the prosecution of your application effective?

What additional types of information/communication would be useful during the prosecution of your application?

What one change would you like to make to the process of your interactions with the PTO?

What is the one thing the PTO does best with respect to communications and notifications?

### *Fees*

What payment method do you most commonly utilize to pay fees online to the USPTO? (i.e., credit card, deposit account, EFT). Could you elaborate as to why you prefer to use this particular payment method?

Is there a particular payment method you do NOT use? Could you elaborate as to why you do NOT use this particular payment method?

Do you find the payment process difficult or cumbersome with respect to one or more of the USPTO systems/storefronts?

- a. If yes, which system/storefront(s) do you find it difficult for paying fees?
- b. Would you elaborate on the nature of any problem(s) you have encountered at this storefront(s) with respect to paying fees (e.g- screen hangs/freezes during payment, same information needs to be re-entered multiple times etc...)?

Is there anything specific about completing online fee payments at the USPTO that you feel could be improved?