



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

### Memorandum

To: Alexander Hunt  
Chief, Information Policy Branch  
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, DC 20503

From: Marcie Lovett  
Director, Records Management Division  
Office of the Chief Information Officer  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, VA 22313

### Subject: Request for Emergency Processing

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) requests emergency review of an information collection request associated with two international intellectual property agreements.

The USPTO signed Memoranda of Cooperation (MOCs) with the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) and the Japan Patent Office (JPO) on May 20 and 21, respectively, to implement new Collaborative Search pilots (CSP). The new pilots will be conducted under an International Work Sharing Program. The CSP will be piloted by the USPTO and both of the aforementioned foreign patent offices. The USPTO seeks to begin collection of this information on August 1, 2015 for the USPTO-JPO CSP and on September 1, 2015 for the USPTO-KIPO CSP. The MOCs takes effect on July 1, 2015.

A waiver is sought for the requirement of a 60-day and 30-day Federal Register notice prescribed by Sec. 1320.5(a)(1)(iv). The collection of information is needed prior to the expiration of the time period established by 5 C.F.R. 1320. Use of normal clearance procedures is reasonably likely to prevent or disrupt the collection of information and will not allow USPTO to participate in these bi-lateral agreements.

The Obama Administration has a long track record of supporting a variety of intellectual property and STEM-related initiatives. This new pilot program seeks to speed up the patent approval process via means of international bi-lateral sharing of patent searches and research conducted by the participating patent offices and the patent examiners assigned to the particular cases.

This program receives information from applicants who are requesting inclusion in the pilot program, and is similar to existing USPTO collections. This collection includes information



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pertaining to individuals who request inclusion within the program and also follows up on interactions between participants to gauge user satisfaction with the pilot program.

If successful, this program may be extended beyond its current pilot status or broadened to include other patent offices under similar bi-lateral information sharing agreements.

The USPTO asks OMB to conclude its review of this information collection request by Tuesday, June 30, 2015.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcie Lovett".

Marcie Lovett