SUPPORTING STATEMENT
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Patent Cooperation Treaty
OMB CONTROL NUMBER 0651-0021
2025

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.

This collection of information is required by the provisions of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), which became operational in June 1978 and is administered by the International Bureau (IB) of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, Switzerland. The provisions of the PCT have been implemented by the United States in Part IV of Title 35 of the U.S. Code (Chapters 35-37) and Subpart C of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations (37 CFR §§ 1.401-1.499). The purpose of the PCT is to provide a standardized filing format and procedure that allows an applicant to seek protection for an invention in several countries by filing one international application in one location, in one language, and paying one initial set of fees.

The information in this collection is used by the public to submit a patent application under the PCT and by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to fulfill its obligation to process, search, and examine the application as directed by the treaty. The filing, search, written opinion, and publication procedures are provided for in Chapter I of the PCT. Additional procedures for a preliminary examination of PCT international applications are provided for in optional PCT Chapter II. Under Chapter I, an applicant can file an international application in the national or home office (Receiving Office (RO)) or the IB. The USPTO acts as the United States Receiving Office (RO/US) for international applications filed by residents and nationals of the United States. These applicants send most of their correspondence directly to the USPTO, but they may also file certain documents directly with the IB. The USPTO serves as an International Searching Authority (ISA) to perform searches and issues an international search report (ISR) and a written opinion (WOISA) on international applications. The USPTO also issues an international preliminary report on patentability (IPRP Chapter II) when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA).

The RO reviews the application and, if it contains all of the necessary information, assigns a filing date to the application. The RO maintains the home copy of the international application and forwards the record copy of the application to the IB and the search copy to the ISA. The IB maintains the record copy of all international applications and publishes

them 18 months after the earliest priority date, which is the earliest date for which a benefit is claimed. The ISA performs a search to determine whether there is any prior art relevant to the claims of the international application and will issue an international search report and written opinion as to whether each claim is novel, involves an inventive step, and is industrially applicable. The ISA then forwards the international search report and written opinion to the applicant and the IB. The IB will normally publish the application and search report 18 months after the priority date, unless early publication is requested by the applicant. Until international publication, no third person or national or regional office is allowed access to the international patent application unless so requested or authorized by the applicant. If the applicant wishes to withdraw the application (and does so before international publication), international publication does not take place.

Under optional Chapter II of the Treaty, an applicant who has filed an international application in a RO must file a demand for an international preliminary examination of the application by an IPEA, such as the USPTO. A Demand, including the form and required fees, must be filed within a prescribed time period. Usually, a Demand is filed with amendments and/or arguments under PCT Article 34 addressing objections raised in the WOISA. The International preliminary examination is a second evaluation of the potential patentability of the claimed invention (usually the claims have been amended), using the same standards on which the written opinion of the ISA was based. A copy of the examination report is sent to the applicant and to the IB. The IB then forwards a copy of the examination report to each Office elected by the applicant.

Table 1 provides the specific statutes and regulations authorizing the USPTO to collect the information discussed above:

Table 1: Information Requirements

Item No.	Requirement	Statute	Regulation
1	Request and Fee Calculation	PCT Articles 3 and 4, 35 U.S.C. §§ 361 and 376	PCT Rules 3, 4, 14-16, 37 CFR §§ 1.431-1.434, 1.445
2	Description/claims/drawings/abstracts	PCT Articles 3.2, 5-7	PCT Rules 5-12, 37 CFR §§ 1.431(a), 1.435-1.438
3	Application Data Sheet (35 U.S.C. § 371 applications)	PCT Article 8, 35 U.S.C. § 371	PCT Rule 26*bis*, 37 CFR §§ 1.76, 1.497(g)
4	Transmittal Letter to the RO/US	35 U.S.C. §§ 184 and 361	37 CFR §§ 1.10, 1.412, PCT Rule 14
5	Transmittal Letter to the DO/EO/US Concerning a Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371	35 U.S.C. §§ 363 and 371	37 CFR §§ 1.414, 1.491-1.492
6	PCT/Model of Power of Attorney	PCT Article 49	PCT Rules 90.4 and 90.5, 37 CFR § 1.455
7	PCT/Model of General Power of Attorney	PCT Article 49	PCT Rules 90.4 and 90.5, 37 CFR § 1.455
8	Indications Relating to a Deposited Microorganism	None	PCT Rule 13*bis*
9	Response to invitation to correct defects	PCT Article 14	PCT Rules 26, 53 and 60
10	Response for rectification of obvious errors	None	PCT Rule 91
11	Demand and Fee Calculation	PCT Article 31, 35 U.S.C. 362 and 376	PCT Rules 53-61, 37 CFR §§ 1.480-1.482

12	Amendments (Article 34)	PCT Articles 14, 19, 34(2)(b) and 41, 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)	PCT Rules 10, 11, 46 and 66, 37 CFR §§ 1.471-1.472, 1.485, 1.495
13	Fee Authorization	35 U.S.C. 376	37 CFR 1.25
14	Requests to transmit copies of international application	None	PCT Rule 22
15	Withdrawal of international application	PCT Administrative Sections 326 and 414, PCT Article 37, 35 U.S.C. 366	PCT Rules 90*bis*.1-.4
16	English translations after thirty months from priority date	PCT Articles 36 and 46, 35 U.S.C. 371(c)	PCT Rule 72, 37 CFR §§ 1.484, 1.492(f), 1.495
17	Petition for Revival of an International Application for Patent Designating the U.S. Abandoned Unintentionally	35 U.S.C. 371(c)-(d)	37 CFR § 1.137(b), 37 CFR § 1.17(m)
18	Petitions to the Commissioner for international applications	35 U.S.C. 371	37 CFR § 1.10, 37 CFR §§ 1.181, 1.182
19	Petitions to the Commissioner in national stage examination	35 U.S.C. 111, 116-118, and 371	37 CFR §§ 1.42, 1.47, 1.181, 1.182
20	Acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for priority (37 CFR 1.78(a)(3))	35 U.S.C. 119(e) and 120	37 CFR § 1.78
21	Request for the restoration of the right of priority	PCT Article 8	PCT Rule 26*bis*.3

2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.

The information requested in this collection is necessary for respondents to file an international patent application and for the USPTO to process, search, and examine international applications and related correspondence under the PCT. If this information were not collected, the USPTO would not be able to fulfill its obligations under the PCT as a RO, ISA, or IPEA. The IB also uses this information to administer international applications as required by the PCT.

Some of the information in this collection has associated forms as indicated in Table 2 below. Use of the forms is not mandatory, but the USPTO advises applications to use these forms to ensure that all of the necessary information is provided and to assist the USPTO in processing the international applications quickly and efficiently. The Request and Demand forms include Annexes (Fee Calculation Sheets) and Notes with instructions on completing these forms. The WIPO also furnishes the *PCT Applicant's Guide* and other documents to give the public additional guidance on preparing the international applications.

The information collected, maintained, and used in this collection is based on OMB and USPTO guidelines. This includes the basic information quality standards established in the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), in OMB Circular A-130, and in the USPTO information quality guidelines.

Table 2 outlines how this collection of information is used by the public and the USPTO:

Table 2: Needs and Uses

Item No.	Form/ Function	Form No.	Needs and Uses
1	Request and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes)	PCT/RO/101	• Used by the public to supply the information required for an international patent application. • The optional Fee Calculation Sheet may be used by the public to indicate the amount of money being submitted and how the money is to be applied. • The public uses the Fee Calculation Sheet or Annex as an attachment to the PCT Request. • Used by the USPTO to process the international application according to the PCT. • Used by the USPTO to verify the calculations and to identify any errors in them.
2	Description/claims/drawings/ abstracts	No Form Associated	• Used by the public as part of the international application. In most instances, the description, claims, drawings, and abstract are identical to the corresponding elements in the previously filed U.S. application, and the papers submitted for the international application are a photocopy of the papers in the national application. • Used by the USPTO to process the international application according to the PCT.
3	Application Data Sheet	No Form Associated	• Used by the public as an optional way to submit bibliographic data with identifying information for an application, including information about each applicant, correspondence address, application contents, representatives, priority, and assignees. • Used by the USPTO to process applications and to correctly identify applications for which priority is claimed.
4	Transmittal Letter to the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)	PTO-1382	• Used by the public as a cover letter to supply a certification if the application was submitted via Express Mail and entitles an applicant to obtain a filing date as of the date of deposit with the postal authorities. • Used by the public for security clearance purposes to supply information concerning the similarity or differences between the subject matter disclosed in the international application and any national application filed earlier in the USPTO. • Used by the public as a transmittal letter for extensions of time, power of attorney, general power of attorney, substitute sheets, priority documents, fee payments, obvious error rectification, and other items. • Used by the USPTO to screen and certify the accompanying international application for the purpose of determining whether a license for foreign transmittal should and could be granted and for other purposes.
5	Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Filing Under 35 U.S.C. 371	PTO-1390	• Used by the public to submit the required materials and fees for examination of an international application to the USPTO as the U.S. Designated Office or Elected Office. • Used by the USPTO to fulfill its role as the U.S. Designated Office or Elected Office to process and examine international patent applications entering the national stage.

6	PCT/Model of Power of Attorney	WIPTO form; PCT/Model of Power of Attorney	• Used by the public to allow for the appointment of an agent to represent an applicant for a given international application or multiple international applications filed under the PCT. • Used by the public to provide the information needed to permit attorneys or agents registered to practice before the USPTO to represent an applicant filing an international application with the US/RO and to prosecute an international application on behalf of the applicant. • Used by the USPTO to accept the appointment of an attorney or agent to represent an applicant for a given international application filed under the PCT.
7	PCT/Model of General Power of Attorney	WIPTO form; PCT/Model of General Power of Attorney	• Used by the public to allow for the appointment of an agent to represent an applicant for a given international application or multiple international applications filed under the PCT. • Used by the public to provide the information needed to permit attorneys or agents registered to practice before the USPTO to represent an applicant filing an international application with the US/RO and to prosecute an international application on behalf of the applicant. • Used by the USPTO to accept the appointment of an attorney or agent to represent an applicant for a given international application filed under the PCT.
8	Indications Relating to a Deposited Microorganism	PCT/RO/134	• Used by the public to provide a sample of the microorganism to a recognized depository institution and notify the US/RO of this action in writing. • Used by the USPTO to confirm that a sample of the microorganism was provided to a recognized depository institution.
9	Response to invitation to correct defects	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to correct defects noted by the RO. There is no required form for supplying the corrections. • Used by the USPTO to determine if noted defects have been corrected.
10	Request for rectification of obvious errors	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to request that the appropriate RO, ISA, IPEA, or the IB correct obvious errors in the international application, as filed. • Used by the USPTO to grant the request that the appropriate RO, ISA, IPEA, or the IB correct obvious errors in the international application, as filed.
11	Demand and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes)	PCT/IPEA/401	• Used by the public to request examination of the international application under Chapter II of the PCT. • The PCT Fee Calculation Sheet or Annex is used by the public to calculate the fees that are due and being submitted. • Used by the USPTO to conduct an international preliminary examination of an international application under Chapter II of the PCT. • The PCT Fee Calculation Sheet is used by the USPTO to properly credit the fees that are due and submitted.
12	Amendments (Article 34)	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to modify the international application in response to the findings in the international search report or in the written report. • Used by the USPTO to approve the modification of the international application in response to the findings in the international search report or in the written report.
13	Fee Authorization	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to charge the applicant=s deposit account along with instructions concerning how much to charge and for what purpose. • Used by the USPTO Finance Branch to apply the charged fees to the applicant's deposit account.

14	Requests to transmit copies of international application	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to pay for the cost of preparing and mailing copies of the international application where at 14 months the RO has failed to transmit the record copy to the IB. • Used by the USPTO to ensure that the transmittal of the international application is identical to the application filed with the RO.
15	Withdrawal of international application	PCT/IB/372	• Used by the public to request withdrawal of the international application, designations of the state, demands, elections, and priority claims by a notice addressed to the IB or the RO. • Used by the USPTO to withdraw the international application, designations of the state, demands, elections, and priority claims by accepting a notice addressed to the RO.
16	English translations after thirty months of international application	No Form Associated	• Used by the public in the event any Elected Office requires a translation of annexes to the international preliminary examination report. • Used by the public to make written observations on any errors of translation in the international preliminary examination report and send such copies to the interested parties. • Used by the USPTO to transmit a copy of the translation of the international preliminary examination report to the applicant at the same time it is transmitted to the interested Elected Office(s). • Used by the USPTO to cancel the final international preliminary examination report and the annexes if they are not in English.
17	Petition for Revival of an International Application for Patent Designating the U.S. Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR § 1.137(a)	PTO/SB/64/PCT	• Used by the public to request revival of an application that was abandoned unintentionally. • Used by the USPTO to consider requests for revival of an unintentionally abandoned application and ensure all the proper documentation and fees are included.
18	Petitions to the Commissioner for international applications	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to petition or Appeal for relief in exceptional circumstances. • Used by the USPTO to grant relief in exceptional circumstances.
19	Petitions to the Commissioner in national stage examination	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to petition or appeal for relief in exceptional circumstances. • Used by the USPTO to grant relief in exceptional circumstances.
20	Acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for priority (37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3))	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to claim benefit of the filing date of a prior filed application which has at least one common inventor if filed outside the time period. • Used by the USPTO to grant relief if the conditions are met.
21	Request for the restoration of the right of priority	No Form Associated	• Used by the public to allow a priority claim to an earlier application even if the international application is filed outside the priority period. • Used by the USPTO to grant relief if the conditions are met.

3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burden.

The forms associated with this information collection may be downloaded from the USPTO website in Portable Document Format (PDF), filled out electronically, and then either printed for mailing or submitted online to the USPTO.

The PCT provides for electronic filing of international applications, as long as the confidentiality requirements are met. Customers may submit PCT materials to the USPTO electronically through Patent Center, the USPTO's online filing system for patent applications and related documents. Patent Center allows customers to file applications and associated documents through their standard web browser without downloading special software, changing their documentation preparation tools, or altering their workflow processes. Customers may create their patent applications and associated documents using the tools and processes that they already use and then convert those documents into standard PDF files that are submitted through Patent Center to the USPTO. The fillable PDF forms that can be submitted through Patent Center may be downloaded from the USPTO website and do not require special PDF creation software.

Registered and unregistered users can file documents through Patent Center. The documents of registered users are protected using a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) system and digital certificates which provide authentication and encryption security. For filers who are not registered, the documents are submitted to Patent Center using Transport Layer Security (TLS) or Secure Socket Layer (SSL) protocol.

Patent Center offers many benefits to filers, including immediate notification that a submission has been received by the USPTO, automated processing of requests, and avoidance of postage and other paper delivery costs. Users can access Patent Center from any computer with an internet connection. Since Patent Center is hosted on the USPTO's secure servers and not on the individual's personal computer, USPTO staff can update Patent Center without requiring any action from the user. Customers can submit fee payments and other requests in real time. The PDF forms can be passed around to multiple users for collaboration.

4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purposes described in Item 2 above.

The information is only collected when an applicant or representative submits an international application and is not collected elsewhere. Duplication of identifying information is required on subsequent correspondence to ensure that the correspondence can be associated with the correct application. In general, the PCT is designed to minimize the need for duplication by allowing an applicant to file a single application that has the effect of a national application filed in multiple countries.

5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe any methods used to minimize burden.

The information in this collection is necessary in order to process requests related to PCT applications. The same information is required from every applicant and is not available from any other source.

Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 41(h)(1), the USPTO provides a fifty percent (50%) reduction in the fees charged under 35 U.S.C. 41(a) and (b) for small entities. The USPTO also provides a fifty percent (50%) reduction of the already-reduced small-entity fees for those entities asserting micro entity status. The USPTO's regulations concerning the payment of reduced patent fees by small entities and micro entities are at 37 CFR §§ 1.27 and 1.28, and reduced patent fees for applicants with either small-entity or micro-entity status are shown in 37 CFR §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.18 and 1.20.

No significant burden is placed on small or micro entities, in that small entities must only identify themselves as such in order to obtain these benefits, and micro entities must only provide a certification of micro entity status. An assertion or certification of small or micro entity status, respectively, only needs to be filed once in an application or patent (although a fee may be paid in the micro entity amount only if the applicant or patentee is still entitled to micro entity status on the date the fee is paid).

6. Describe the consequence to federal program or policy activities if the collection is not conducted or is conducted less frequently, as well as any technical or legal obstacles to reducing burden.

This information is collected only when an applicant or representative submits an international application. This collection of information is necessary to process an international application under the PCT and could not be conducted less frequently. If this information were not collected, the USPTO would not be able to process the application as required by 35 U.S.C. 364(a).

7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:

- **requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
- **requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
- **requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
- **requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records, for more than three years;**
- **in connection with a statistical survey, that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;**

- **requiring the use of a statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
- **that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or**
- **requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secrets, or other confidential information unless the agency can demonstrate that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

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

8. **If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection prior to submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to these comments. Specifically address comments received on cost and hour burden. Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, disclosed, or reported. Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every 3 years - even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that may preclude consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.**

The 60-Day *Federal Register* Notice was published on June 23, 2025 (90 FR 26555).[1] The comment period ended on August 22, 2025. One substantive comment was received. The main points of the comment and the USPTO response are listed below.

The comment suggested inexperienced filers face a greater burden in understanding USPTO procedures and rules during patent examination, which may necessitate greater support and increased time estimates to account for this variety of experienced levels. This comment also requested that the Agency separate respondent categories between attorneys and unrepresented filers. The commenter did not provide specific details about how the burden estimate should be revised for unrepresented filers.

Section A: Improved Pathways for Applicants with Varying Experience Levels
Comment:
The commentor suggests introducing custom ways to collect data from applicants and

easier paths for applicants to make simple, low-risk filings. The commentor says that this would "keep the system working while making things less difficult when it's not necessary." They are concerned about the different effort/workload expected of individual inventors, small businesses, and big companies for filing PCT applications.

Response:
The information collected in this information collection is the minimum necessary to file an international application, and therefore the USPTO cannot adopt custom pathways for certain applicants. The USPTO tracks information about applications by entity status categories (undiscounted, small, and micro) and does not collect information about the experience level of applicants. As a result, the collection is based on applicants under these respective categories, and not by the levels of applicant experience. The USPTO offers discounts to certain filers. Small entity applicants receive a 60% discount and micro entity applicants receive an 80% discount on most USPTO fees. For more information on applicant entity statuses and discounted rates please see: https://www.uspto.gov/patents/apply/save-on-fees.

Section B: Burden Estimates
Comment:
The commentor stated that the burden hour assumptions listed in the 60-day notice "don't account for varying experience levels, [application] complexity, [or] available support." They are concerned that individuals filing applications without legal support face larger delays than small businesses or big companies filing similar applications. Therefore, the commentor recommended that the average burden estimates should reflect the "varying applicant experience levels, use of legal assistance, and time lost to technical and procedural problems."

Response:
The burden estimates used by the USPTO are averages, which already take into account the participation of filers with varying patent filing experience. The USPTO does not collect information pertaining to the experience level of applicants. The commenter did not provide specific details about which items in the present collection require changes or specify exactly how an item's burden estimate should be revised. The commenter's generic estimation of excess burden cannot be applied wholesale to the information collection.

Section C: PCT User Experience
Comment:
The commentor provides three recommended process improvements to improve user experience when filing applications while also maintaining the USPTO's data quality standards. These recommendations include:

1. Improved guidance systems for filers;
2. Comprehensive examples of completed forms used for common scenarios; and
3. Enhanced feedback mechanisms.

Response:
The USPTO appreciates the feedback and suggestions made. The USPTO understands that many filers have questions about the filing process and need assistance. The USPTO offers many resources to help applicants file their applications. The PCT page on the USPTO website offers numerous links to resources about the PCT. Information contained on the USPTO website covers PCT legal information, including the treaty, regulations, and guidelines. The website also includes forms, fees, and information to understand the PCT process, such as:

- an FAQ about PCT;[1]
- the PCT Applicant's Guide;[2]
- a PCT time limits calculator;
- the time limit for the National or Regional phase;
- the PCT newsletter;[3] and
- an introduction to the PCT (in the USPTO's e-learning module).[4]

The website also includes assistance and contact information, including an International Patent Legal Administration (IPLA) email list to notify PCT applicants of updates to the forms and other information. It also includes the phone number for the PCT Helpdesk, which provides assistance to the public and answers questions that applicants have on the PCT process.[5] The website also provides links to related international intellectual property and patent sites such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the European Patent Office (EPO), and the Korean Ministry of Intellectual Property (MOIP).

Additionally, the USPTO's Patent Center is a web-based tool that incorporates filing, retrieving, and managing patent applications within a single, unified interface. A Patent Center User Guide provides applicants assistance in navigating the system.[6] The USPTO implemented many of the suggestions for improvement it received during Patent Center's extended rollout. For example, user feedback has resulted in improvements, such as:

- facilitated document description selection with type ahead search of keywords;
- saved submission storage for 14 days;
- increased the number of documents that can be filed in one submission to 100;
- ability to switch between attorneys without having to re-authenticate; and
- searching by attorney docket number from the Patent Center sign-in page.

Overall, Patent Center provides many enhancements to the patent application process,

[1] https://www.wipo.int/en/web/pct-system/faqs/faqs.
[2] https://www.wipo.int/en/web/pct-system/guide/index
[3] https://www.wipo.int/en/web/pct-system/newslett/index.
[4] https://www.uspto.gov/video/cbt/GIPA-English/PCT/index.htm.
[5] https://www.uspto.gov/patents/basics/international-protection/patent-cooperation-treaty.
[6] https://www.uspto.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Patent_Center_User_Guide_November_2023.pdf.

including:

- incorporation of filing and application management within a single user interface for enhanced user experience;
- utilization of the same USPTO.gov accounts and sponsorships that were used to log in to EFS-Web and PAIR;
- submission of the specification, claims, abstract and drawings in a single DOCX document without the need to manually separate sections;
- a “drag-and-drop" interface that allows filers to upload multiple files at once;
- separate submission and payment receipts that clearly confirm the status of submitted documents and successful payments; and
- a training mode which acts as an interactive simulation where applicants can safely practice filing their documents.

Section D: PCT Filing Process

Comment:

The commentor was concerned that PCT filings are “overwhelming for first-time applicants, small business, and those without legal support.” They cited complex forms, poor user experience, and high-risk errors as the main problems facing those filers.

The commentor provided suggestions for improvement, including: implementing smart forms, auto-filing information for repeat filers, accepting flexible file formats, providing real-time error checking, and linking up with WIPO’s ePCT platform.

Response:

The U.S. Receiving Office (RO/US) has previously implemented items suggested by the commentor in the filing of PCT applications. As indicated above, the USPTO has a number of resources available to applicants to assist them in filing their international application at the U.S. Receiving office (RO/US). In addition, the ePCT system addresses many of the commentor’s current concerns.

The ePCT system is a secure browser-based application that offers a wide range of services to U.S. applicants and makes the filing and management of international applications easier and more efficient. The RO/US allows the use of WIPO’s ePCT platform for filing international applications at the RO/US as it offers many benefits to U.S. applicants such as data validation and error detection, to help applicants properly complete the PCT Request form. During the filing process, formality errors are detected prior to submission and applicants can then correct them before the international application is filed at the US/RO. It also entitles U.S. applicants to a fee reduction by using ePCT in their international application filings.

The ePCT system also provides for auto-population filing of information for the PCT Request form, and other forms, such as the Declaration of Inventorship for the purpose of the U.S. If the declaration contains one inventor, the declaration form automatically

populates the inventor's details recorded in the International Bureau's (IB) database. Also, applicants can submit a wide range of online requests with real-time validations for actions such as changes under Rule 92*bis*. For more information on ePCT, see https://pct.wipo.int/ePCT.

With respect to commentor's suggestion on accepting flexible file format, commentor is directed to USPTO's Legal Framework for Patent Electronic System, which informs the public about the file formats accepted for filing patent applications at the USPTO. See USPTO's Legal Framework for Patent Electronic System.

The 30-Day *Federal Register* Notice was published on November 21, 2025 90 FR 52622).[7] The comment period will end on December 22, 2025.

9. Explain any decision to provide any payment or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

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

[7] https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2025-11-21/pdf/2025-20515.pdf.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy. If the collection requires a systems of records notice (SORN) or privacy impact assessment (PIA), those should be cited and described here.

Confidentiality of patent applications is governed by statute (35 U.S.C. 122) and regulation (37 CFR §§ 1.11 and 1.14). The USPTO has a legal obligation to maintain the confidentiality of the contents of unpublished patent applications and related documents. For secure electronic access to the patent electronic filing system (Patent Center), the USPTO employs digital certificates and PKI technology to permit only authorized individuals to access private patent application information and to maintain the confidentiality and integrity of the information as it is transmitted over the Internet. Upon publication of an application or issuance of a patent, the patent application file is made available to the public, subject to the provisions for providing only a redacted copy of the file contents. The entire file of a reexamination proceeding is available to the public.

USPTO is required by 35 U.S.C. 131, to maintain the patenting process. Information is collected on petitions and applications for patent products including information regarding representation.

This collection contains information which is subject to the Privacy Act. This information is collected on petitions filed for patent maintenance. Privacy Act Statements are included on all of these forms. The following SORN provide privacy disclosures and information about USPTO's handling of personally identifiable information (PII) that is part of this collection.

SORN PAT/TM-7 Patent Application Files, published March 29, 2013 (78 FRN 19243) provides information about USPTO's handling of personally identifiable information that is collected regarding patent applications.[8] SORN 7 identifies the categories of individuals covered by the system containing applicants for patent, including inventors, legal representatives for deceased or incapacitated inventors, and other persons authorized by law to make applications for patent. Categories of records in the system comprises the following: oath or declaration of applicant including name, citizenship, residence, post office address and other information pertaining to the applicant's activities in connection with the invention for which a patent is sought. Statements containing various kinds of information with respect to inventors who are deceased or incapacitated, or who are unavailable or unwilling to make application for patent.

[8] https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2013-03-29/pdf/2013-07341.pdf.

The information in SORN 7 is protected from disclosure to third parties in accordance with the Privacy Act until the application is published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issued as a patent under 35 U.S.C. 153. Prior to application publication or patent issuance, the information in SORN 7 is protected from disclosure to third parties in accordance with the Privacy Act, except that disclosure is permitted for the following routine uses including, but not limited to: law enforcement in the event that the system of records indicates a violation or potential violation of law; a federal, state, local, or international agency, in response to its request; an agency, organization, or individual for the purpose of performing audit or oversight operations as authorized by law; non-federal personnel under contract to the agency; the Department of Justice for Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) assistance; a member of Congress working on behalf of an individual to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested the member's assistance with respect to the subject matter of the record; the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for personnel research purposes; and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for legislative coordination and clearance.

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.

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

12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. The statement should:

- **Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. Unless directed to do so, agencies should not conduct special surveys to obtain information on which to base hour burden estimates. Consultation with a sample (fewer than 10) of potential respondents is desirable. If the hour burden on respondents is expected to vary widely because of differences in activity, size, or complexity, show the range of estimated hour burden, and explain the reasons for the variance. Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices.**
- **If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form and aggregate the hour burdens.**
- **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage rate categories. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included under 'Annual Cost to Federal Government'.**

- **Provide an estimate for the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information.**

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 412,493 responses per year from 412,493 respondents for this information collection, with approximately 20% of these responses submitted by small entities.

  The USPTO estimates that 99% of the responses for this information collection will be submitted electronically via Patent Center, which customers may access through the USPTO website.

- **Burden Hour Calculation Factors**
  The USPTO estimates that it takes the public approximately 15 minutes (0.25 hours) to 4 hours, depending on the complexity of the situation and item, to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate document(s), and submit the item to the USPTO. Using these burden factors, USPTO estimates that the total respondent hourly burden for this information collection is 343,739 hours per year.

- **Cost Burden Calculation Factors**
  The USPTO uses a professional rate of $447 per hour for respondent cost burden calculations, which is the median rate for intellectual property attorneys in private firms as shown in the 2023 *Report of the Economic Survey* published by the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA).

  Using these hourly rates, the USPTO estimates that the total respondent cost burden for this information collection is $153,651,333 per year.

Table 3: Total Burden Hours and Hourly Costs to Private Sector Respondents

Item No.	Item	Estimated Annual Respondents (a)	Responses per Respondent (b)	Estimated Annual Responses (a) x (b) = (c)	Estimated Time for Response (hours) (d)	Estimated Burden (hour/year) (c) x (d) = (e)	Rate[9] ($/hour) (f)	Estimated Annual Respondent Cost Burden (e) x (f) = (g)
1	Request and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes)	52,400	1	52,400	1	52,400	$447	$23,422,800
2	Description/Claims/ Drawings/Abstracts	52,400	1	52,400	3	157,200	$447	$70,268,400
3	Application Data Sheet (35 U.S.C. 371 Applications)	108,371	1	108,371	0.38 (23 minutes)	41,181	$447	$18,407,907
4	Transmittal Letter to the	13,926	1	13,926	0.25	3,482	$447	$1,556,454

[9] 2023 Report of the Economic Survey, published by the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA); pg. F–41. The USPTO uses the average billing rate for intellectual property work in all firms which is $447 per hour (https://www.aipla.org/home/news-publications/economic-survey).

Item No.	Item	Estimated Annual Respondents (a)	Responses per Respondent (b)	Estimated Annual Responses (a) x (b) = (c)	Estimated Time for Response (hours) (d)	Estimated Burden (hour/year) (c) x (d) = (e)	Rate ($/hour) (f)	Estimated Annual Respondent Cost Burden (e) x (f) = (g)
	United States Receiving Office (RO/US)				(15 minutes)			
5	Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Submission Under 35 U.S.C. 371	94,228	1	94,228	0.25 (15 minutes)	23,557	$447	$10,529,979
6	PCT/Model of Power of Attorney	13,371	1	13,371	0.25 (15 minutes)	3,343	$447	$1,494,321
7	PCT/Model of General Power of Attorney	1,486	1	1,486	0.25 (15 minutes)	372	$447	$166,284
8	Indications Relating to a Deposited Microorganism	10	1	10	0.25 (15 minutes)	3	$447	$1,341
9	Response to Invitation to Correct Defects	18,609	1	18,609	2	37,218	$447	$16,636,446
10	Request for Rectification of Obvious Errors	1,989	1	1,989	0.50 (30 minutes)	995	$447	$444,765
11	Demand and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes)	688	1	688	1	688	$447	$307,536
12	Amendments (Article 34)	611	1	611	1	611	$447	$273,117
13	Fee Authorization	48,600	1	48,600	0.25 (15 minutes)	12,150	$447	$5,431,050
14	Requests to Transmit Copies of International Application	514	1	514	0.25 (15 minutes)	129	$447	$57,663
15	Withdrawal of International Application	225	1	225	0.25 (15 minutes)	56	$447	$25,032
16	English Translations After Thirty Months from Priority Date	3,238	1	3,238	2	6,476	$447	$2,894,772
17	Petition for Revival of an International Application for Patent Designating the U.S. Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR 1.137(a)	928	1	928	1	928	$447	$414,816
18	Petitions to the Commissioner for International Applications	49	1	49	4	196	$447	$87,612
19	Petitions to the Commissioner in National Stage Examination	424	1	424	4	1,696	$447	$758,112
20	Acceptance of an Unintentionally Delayed Claim for Priority (37 CFR 1.78(a)(3))	220	1	220	2	440	$447	$196,680
21	Request for the Restoration of the Right of Priority	206	1	206	3	618	$447	$276,246
	Totals	**412,493**	**- - -**	**412,493**	**- - -**	**343,739**	**- - -**	**$153,651,333**

13. Provide an estimate for the total annual cost burden to respondents or record keepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden already reflected on the burden worksheet).

- **The cost estimate should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component (annualized over its expected useful life) and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of services component. The estimates should take into account costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major cost factors including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the time period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software; monitoring, sampling, drilling and testing equipment; and record storage facilities.**
- **If cost estimates are expected to vary widely, agencies should present ranges of cost burdens and explain the reasons for the variance. The cost of purchasing or contracting out information collections services should be a part of this cost burden estimate. In developing cost burden estimates, agencies may consult with a sample of respondents (fewer than 10), utilize the 60-day pre-OMB submission public comment process and use existing economic or regulatory impact analysis associated with the rulemaking containing the information collection, as appropriate.**

There are no capital start-up costs, maintenance costs, or recordkeeping costs associated with this information collection. However, there are non-hour costs in the form of filing fees, translations, drawings, and associated postage costs for mailing items to USPTO.

The total non-hour respondent cost for this collection is estimated to be $452,882,158 per year, which includes $285,961,858 in filing fees, $4,533,200 in translation costs, $162,340,900 in drawing costs, and $46,200 in postage.

Filing Fees

There are fees associated with submitting items as part of this information collection, for a total of $285,961,858 per year as outlined in Table 4 below.

Table 4: Filing Fees

Item No.	Fee Code	Item	Estimated Annual Responses (a)	Filing Fee ($) (b)	Estimated Non-hourly Cost Burden (a) x (b) = (c)
1	1702	Request and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes – International Filing Fee) first 30 pages	26	$1,457	$37,882
1	1701	Request and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes - International Filing Fee electronically filed without ePCT or PCT-EASY zip file)	11,865	$1,347	$15,982,155
1	1710	Request and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes - International Filing Fee electronically filed with ePCT or PCT-	40,433	$1,238	$50,056,054

		EASY zip file)			
2	1614	[PCT National Stage] Claims – extra independent (over three) (Undiscounted entity)	8,143	$600	$4,885,800
2	2614	PCT National Stage] Claims – extra independent (over three) (Small entity)	2,724	$240	$653,760
2	3614	PCT National Stage] Claims – extra independent (over three) (Micro entity)	100	$120	$12,000
2	1615	[PCT National Stage] Claims – extra total (over 20) (Undiscounted entity)	11,162	$200	$2,232,400
2	2615	[PCT National Stage] Claims – extra total (over 20) (Small entity)	7,010	$80	$560,800
2	3615	[PCT National Stage] Claims – extra total (over 20) (Micro entity)	204	$40	$8,160
2	1616	[PCT National Stage] Claim – multiple dependent (Undiscounted entity)	453	$925	$419,025
2	2616	[PCT National Stage] Claim – multiple dependent (Small entity)	509	$370	$188,330
2	3616	[PCT National Stage] Claim – multiple dependent (Micro entity)	54	$185	$9,990
3	1681	National Stage Application Size Fee – for each additional 50 sheets that exceed 100 sheets (Undiscounted entity)	4,273	$450	$1,922,850
3	2681	National Stage Application Size Fee – for each additional 50 sheets that exceed 100 sheets (Small entity)	3,175	$180	$571,500
3	3681	National Stage Application Size Fee – for each additional 50 sheets that exceed 100 sheets (Micro entity)	32	$90	$2,880
3	1602	Search fee – regardless of whether there is a corresponding application (see 35 U.S.C. 361(d) and PCT Rule 16) (Undiscounted entity)	6,586	$2,400	$15,806,400
3	2602	Search fee – regardless of whether there is a corresponding application (see 35 U.S.C. 361(d) and PCT Rule 16) (Small entity)	14,049	$960	$13,487,040
3	3602	Search fee – regardless of whether there is a corresponding application (see 35 U.S.C. 361(d) and PCT Rule 16) (Micro entity)	722	$480	$346,560
3	1604	Supplemental search fee when required, per additional invention (Undiscounted entity)	265	$2,400	$636,000
3	2604	Supplemental search fee when required, per additional invention (Small entity)	528	$960	$506,880
3	3604	Supplemental search fee when required, per additional invention (Micro entity)	31	$480	$14,880
3	1631	Basic National Stage Fee (Undiscounted entity)	78,355	$350	$27,424,250
3	2631	Basic National Stage Fee (Small entity)	28,565	$140	$3,999,1000
3	3631	Basic National Stage Fee (Micro entity)	1,451	$70	$101,570
3	N/A	National Stage Search Fee – U.S. was the ISA or IPEA and all claims satisfy PCT Article 33(1)-(4)	741	$0	$0
3	1641	National Stage Search Fee –U.S. was the ISA (Undiscounted entity)	2,596	$150	$389,400
3	2641	National Stage Search Fee – U.S. was the ISA (Small entity)	6,815	$60	$408,900
3	3641	National Stage Search Fee – U.S. was the ISA (Micro entity)	213	$30	$6,390
3	1642	National Stage Search Fee – search report prepared and provided to USPTO (Undiscounted entity)	74,373	$580	$43,136,340
3	2642	National Stage Search Fee – search report prepared and provided to USPTO (Small entity)	20,551	$232	$4,767,832
3	3642	National Stage Search Fee – search report prepared and provided to USPTO (Micro entity)	1,096	$116	$127,136
3	1632	National Stage Search Fee – all other situations (Undiscounted entity)	1,116	$770	$859,320
3	2632	National Stage Search Fee – all other situations (Small entity)	766	$308	$235,928
3	3632	National Stage Search Fee – all other situations (Micro entity)	104	$154	$16,016
3	1633	National Stage Examination Fee – all other situations (Undiscounted entity)	78,048	$880	$68,682,240

3	2633	National Stage Examination Fee – all other situations (Small entity)	28,108	$352	$9,894,016
3	3633	National Stage Examination Fee – all other situations (Micro entity)	1,410	$176	$248,160
3	1605	Preliminary examination fee – U.S. was the ISA (Undiscounted entity)	146	$705	$102,930
3	2605	Preliminary examination fee – U.S. was the ISA (Small entity)	375	$282	$105,750
3	3605	Preliminary examination fee – U.S. was the ISA (Micro entity)	58	$141	$8,178
3	1606	Preliminary examination fee – U.S. was not the ISA (Undiscounted entity)	94	$880	$82,720
3	2606	Preliminary examination fee – U.S. was not the ISA (Small entity)	23	$352	$8,096
3	3606	Preliminary examination fee – U.S. was not the ISA (Micro entity)	1	$176	$176
3	1607	Supplemental examination fee per additional invention (Undiscounted entity)	5	$705	$3,525
3	2607	Supplemental examination fee per additional invention (Small entity)	23	$282	$6,486
3	3607	Supplemental examination fee per additional invention (Micro entity)	1	$141	$141
3	1617	Search fee, examination fee or oath of declaration after thirty months from priority date (Undiscounted entity)	20,529	$170	$3,489,930
3	2617	Search fee, examination fee or oath of declaration after thirty months from priority date (Small entity)	11,479	$68	$780,572
3	3617	Search fee, examination fee or oath of declaration after thirty months from priority date (Micro entity)	250	$34	$8,500
4	1601	Transmittal fee (Undiscounted entity)	32,857	$285	$9,364,245
4	2601	Transmittal fee (Small entity)	18,756	$114	$2,138,184
4	3601	Transmittal fee (Micro entity)	787	$57	$44,859
11	N/A	Demand and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes)	688	$216	$148,608
14	1621	Transmitting application to Intl. Bureau to act as receiving office (Undiscounted entity)	239	$285	$68,115
14	2621	Transmitting application to Intl. Bureau to act as receiving office (Small entity)	242	$114	$27,588
14	3621	Transmitting application to Intl. Bureau to act as receiving office (Micro entity)	33	$57	$1,881
16	1618	English translation after thirty months from priority date (Undiscounted entity)	2,263	$150	$339,450
16	2618	English translation after thirty months from priority date (Small entity)	1,328	$60	$79,680
16	3618	English translation after thirty months from priority date (Micro entity)	84	$30	$2,520
17	1628	Petition for the extension of the twelve-month (six-month for designs) period for filing a subsequent application (undiscounted entity)	52	$2,260	$117,520
17	2628	Petition for the extension of the twelve-month (six-month for designs) period for filing a subsequent application (small entity)	78	$904	$70,512
17	3628	Petition for the extension of the twelve-month (six-month for designs) period for filing a subsequent application (micro entity)	20	$452	$9,040
20	1454	Petition for the delayed submission of a priority or benefit claim, an unintentionally delayed claim for priority or benefit, delay less than or equal to two years (undiscounted entity)	83	$2,260	$187,580
20	2454	Petition for the delayed submission of a priority or benefit claim, , delay less than or equal to two years (small entity)	127	$904	$114,808
20	3454	Petition for the delayed submission of a priority or benefit claim, , delay less than or equal to two years (micro entity)	10	$452	$4,520
20	1469	Petition for the delayed submission of a priority or benefit claim, delay greater than two years (undiscounted entity)	2	$3,000	$6,000
20	2469	Petition for the delayed submission of a priority or benefit claim, delay greater than two years (small entity)	1	$1,200	$1,200

20	3469	Petition for the delayed submission of a priority or benefit claim, delay greater than two years (micro entity)	1	$600	$600
		Totals	**527,287**	**- - -**	**$285,961,858**

Translations

Applicants entering the national stage in the U.S. are required to file an English translation of the international application if the international application was filed in another language and was not published under PCT Article 21(2) in English.[10] A processing fee is required for accepting an English translation after 30 months from the priority date. This requirement may carry additional costs for the applicant to contract for a translation of the documents in questions. The USPTO believes that the average length of the document to be translated with 10 pages and that it will cost approximately $140 per page for the translation, for an average translation cost of $1,400 per document.

The USPTO estimates that it will receive approximately 3,238 English translations after 30 months from the priority date annually, for a total of $4,533,200 year for English translations of non-English language documents for PCT applications.

Drawings

Applicants may also incur costs for drawings that are submitted as part of PCT applications. Some applicants may produce their own drawings, while others may contract out the work to various patent illustration firms. For the purpose of estimating burden for this collection, the USPTO will consider all applicants to have their drawings prepared by these firms. According to the PCT Applicants Guide - National Phase, the average cost to produce a drawing is $1,150.

The USPTO expects that it will receive 141,166 sets of drawings with a total of $162,340,900 per year for PCT application drawing costs.

Postage Costs

Although the USPTO prefers that the items in this information collection be submitted electronically, responses may be submitted by mail through the United States Postal Service. The USPTO estimates that approximately 1% of the 412,493 items will be submitted in the mail resulting 4,125 mailed items. The USPTO estimates that the average postage cost for a mailed submission, using a Priority Mail legal flat rate envelope, will be $11.20. Therefore, the USPTO estimates the total mailing costs for this information collection at $46,200.

14. Provide estimates of annualized costs to the federal government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include

[10] https://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/mpep-9025-appx-t.html#d0e363622.

quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information. Agencies may also aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 in a single table.

The USPTO employs GS-9 and GS-15 employees to process submissions for this information collection.

The USPTO estimates that the cost of a GS-9, step 1 employee is $45.64 per hour (GS hourly rate of $33.50 with 36.25% ($12.14) added for benefits and overhead).

The USPTO estimates that the cost of a GS-15, step 1 employee is $109.42 per hour (GS hourly rate of $80.31 with 36.25% ($29.11) added for benefits and overhead).

The USPTO estimates that it takes an employee between 9 minutes (0.15 hours) and 6.5 hours to process the information submitted by the public in this collection.

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

Item No.	Item	Estimated Annual Responses (a)	Estimated Burden Hours (b)	Estimated Hourly Burden (a) x (b) = (c)	Rate[11] ($/hr) (d)	Total Federal Government Cost (c) x (d) = (e)
1	Request and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes)	52,400	0.50 (30 minutes)	26,200	$45.64	$1,195,768
2	Description/claims/drawings/abstracts	52,400	0.50 (30 minutes)	26,200	$45.64	$1,195,768
3	Application Data Sheet (35 U.S.C. 371 applications)	108,371	0.50 (30 minutes)	54,186	$45.64	$2,473,049
4	Transmittal Letter to the United States Receiving Office (RO/US)	13,926	0.15 (9 minutes)	2,089	$45.64	$95,342
5	Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) Concerning a Submission Under 35 U.S.C. 371	94,228	0.15 (9 minutes)	14,134	$45.64	$645,076
6	PCT/Model of Power of Attorney	13,371	0.15 (9 minutes)	2,006	$45.64	$91,554
7	PCT/General Power of Attorney	1,486	0.15 (9 minutes)	223	$45.64	$10,178
8	Indications Relating to a Deposited Microorganism	10	0.15 (9 minutes)	2	$45.64	$91

[11] https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/pdf/2025/DCB_h.pdf.

9	Response to invitation to correct defects	18,609	1 (60 minutes)	18,609	$45.64	$849,315
10	Request for rectification of obvious errors	1,989	1.50 (90 minutes)	2,984	$45.64	$136,190
11	Demand and Fee Calculation Sheet (Annex and Notes)	688	0.30 (18 minutes)	206	$45.64	$9,402
12	Amendments (Article 34)	611	0.75 (45 minutes)	458	$45.64	$20,903
13	Fee Authorization	48,600	0.15 (9 minutes)	7,290	$45.64	$332,716
14	Requests to transmit copies of international application	514	0.15 (9 minutes)	77	$45.64	$3,514
15	Withdrawal of international application	225	1 (60 minutes)	225	$45.64	$10,269
16	English Translations after thirty months from priority date	3,238	0.30 (18 minutes)	971	$45.64	$44,316
17	Petition for Revival of an International Application for Patent Designating the U.S. Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR 1.137(a)	928	2.50 (150 minutes)	2,320	$109.42	$253,854
18	Petitions to the Commissioner for international applications	49	6.50 (390 minutes)	319	$109.42	$34,905
19	Petitions to the Commissioner in national stage examination	424	6.50 (390 minutes)	2,756	$109.42	$301,562
20	Acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for priority or benefit claim (37 CFR 1.78 or 37 CFR 1.55)	220	2.50 (150 minutes)	550	$109.42	$60,181
21	Request for the restoration of the right of priority	206	2.50 (150 minutes)	515	$45.64	$23,505
	Totals	**412,493**	**- - -**	**162,320**	**- - -**	**$7,787,457**

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments reported on the burden worksheet.

Table 6: ICR Summary of Burden

	Requested	Program Change Due to New Statute	Program Change Due to Agency Discretion	Change Due to Adjustment in Agency Estimate	Change Due to Potential Violation of the PRA	Previously Approved
Annual Number of Responses	412,493	0	0	-8,323	0	420,816
Annual Time Burden (Hr)	343,739	0	0	-14,530	0	358,269
Annual Cost Burden ($)	452,882,158	0	0	70,873,405	0	382,008,753

Changes in the Collection Since the Last Renewal

Two nonsubstantive change requests (change worksheets) were filed since the last renewal.

The first change worksheet was submitted to OMB in March 2023. In this worksheet, the USPTO reduced the filing fees paid to the agency by small entities and micro entities as a part of RIN 0651-AD66 (Reducing Patent Fees for Small Entities and Micro Entities Under the Unleashing American Innovators Act of 2022). This rulemaking resulted in a reduction in filing fees paid by small entity and micro entity filers.

The second change worksheet was submitted to OMB in November 2024. In this worksheet, the USPTO changed the amount of the fee codes to comply with rulemaking RIN 0651-AD64 (Setting and Adjusting Patent Fees During Fiscal Year 2024).

Change in Responses and Hourly Burden due to Adjustment in Agency Estimate

The total number of responses has decreased by 8,323 due to estimated fluctuations in the number of respondents/submissions in this information collection. This results in a corresponding decrease of 14,530 hours in the annual time burden estimates.

Change in Annual Non-hour Costs due to Adjustment in Agency Estimate

For this renewal, the USPTO estimates that the total annual non-hour costs will increase by $70,873,405 from the previous approval. This increase is due to estimated fluctuations in submissions for items that have translation costs and drawing costs, especially with the estimated number of respondents who are submitting applications that have associated drawing costs.

16. For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection of information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.

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

17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be inappropriate.

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

expiration date of OMB approval.

18. Explain each exception to the topics of the certification statement identified in "Certification for Paperwork Reduction Act Submissions."

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.