VISEGRAD PATENT INSTITUTE

Introduction to the Visegrad Patent Institute

The Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI) is an intergovernmental organisation for cooperation in the field of patents. The Agreement on the VPI was concluded between the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Poland and the Slovak Republic (the Visegrad Group or V4).

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Home	The Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI), which will start operation on July 1st, is an		Events Calendar					
About us PCT	transportmental organization for cooperation in the field of patents established by the floor blassed countries the Chich Benedits Humano, the Bookets of triand and the			Events Calendar				
Products and sensors	Struck Republic (V4 countries).			May	2014			
Contacts	The 199 was appointed as an international bearching Authority (ISA) and international Proteinsory Examining Authority (IPEA) under the Fotont Cooperation Treaty (ICCT) in order to other a wide mapper of important objectives at various (plotos, Darspean, regional and instructive verils.		1 1				7 .	
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	The attentive of the VSI fatives the existing sect assists mode of the fector. Paint institute. You, the governance of the VSI as an interportemental organization is ensured by the Administration floater composed for the representations of the Contracting States, sales the VFN Revindand, featured by the Contract, or responsible for the organization, day, but day enablement and intermediation amount of the VEX.xxxx.							

VISEGRAD PATENT INSTITUTE

VISEGRÁDI SZABADALMI INTÉZET

VISEGRÁDSKÝ PATENTOVÝ INSTITUT

VYŠEHRADSKÝ PATENTOVÝ INŠTITÚT

WYSZEHRADZKI INSTYTUT PATENTOWY

The VPI has been appointed as an International Searching Authority (ISA) and an International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA) under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The VPI performs its activities as of 1st July 2016. The VPI acts as an ISA and an IPEA under the PCT in accordance with an Agreement between the International Bureau of WIPO and the VPI.

Main objective of the VPI

The main objective of the VPI is to offer users of the patent system from the Central and Eastern European region, in particular individual inventors, SMEs, universities and research organisations, a favourable and efficient option for obtaining patent protection abroad, and to that end to facilitate their access to the PCT system.

How does VPI work?

The VPI acts as an ISA and an IPEA for nationals and residents of the Contracting States. It can also act as an ISA/IPEA for international applications filed by nationals and residents of Lithuania and Serbia. The substantive work of the VPI is carried out by the patent offices of the Contracting States. The VPI relies on the professional expertise in searching and examining of more than 180 experienced patent examiners. The VPI is part of the network of the European ISA/IPEAs and their examiners are continuously trained in order to deliver fast and high quality work and to follow a harmonised practice with the European Patent Office in all fields of technology.



Benefits for applicants

PCT and its advantages

The PCT system makes it possible to seek patent protection for an invention simultaneously in more than 150 countries by filing a single international patent application instead of filing several separate national or regional patent applications. Applicants benefit from uniform formality requirements, international search, supplementary international search and international preliminary examination reports as well as centralised international publication. On the basis of the international search report and written opinion applicants can better evaluate with reasonable probability the chances of their inventions being patented. In addition, the system of the PCT offers the option to demand an international preliminary examination as well, in order to correct any deficiency that the application might have. However, the granting of patents remains under the sole responsibility of the respective national or regional patent offices. For more details visit https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/faqs/faqs.html.

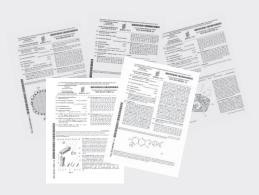
Benefits for applicants when choosing the VPI as an ISA/IPEA

The VPI operates in the proximity of Central Europe-

an applicants. The VPI has its seat in Budapest, Hungary; however, it also has branch offices in each of its Contracting States. Applicants can choose to file their international applications with their respective national patent offices or directly with the International Bureau of WIPO as receiving offices.

Nationals and residents of the Contracting States of the VPI can use their respective national languages when filing the international application. Translation to any of the PCT's languages (for example to English) can follow at a later stage, for the purpose of publication. For communication with the VPI's branch offices, the respective national languages can also be used.

Moreover, if the VPI benefits from the results of an earlier search carried out by any of the national offices of the VPI's Contracting States, 40% of the search fee paid will be refunded to the applicant. Should applicants decide to opt for a European regional phase, here too they receive a fee reduction of 1150 € from the supplementary search fee for a European search report, so only an amount of 200 € is payable to the European Patent Office (EPO). The amount paid as supplementary search fee is also taken into account later in the procedure, and the examination fee is therefore only 1700 € for our applicants (200 € less, than in those cases when the EPO acted as ISA/IPEA). For more details visit https://www.epo.org/law-practice/legal-texts/official-journal/2020/03/a30.html.



For more information and tailormade support contact your local branch office or the VPI secretariat

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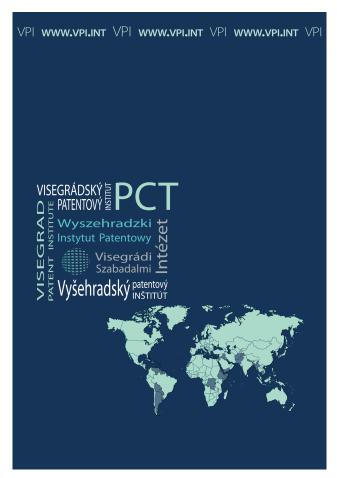
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