

ROADMAP FOR PATENT CREATION

INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION

LECTURE 28

A very warm welcome in the third module of week 6 of the Course, roadmap for patent creation, titled “international patent classification” IPC that is “international patent classification” we can say IPC- lingua franca language it is the way of communicating technology domain. IUPAC system. The system is universal Thanks to wipo
So let us see now how it works

We will divide this into

Objectives of IPC

- **History of IPC**
 - **Bodies of the IPC Union**
 - **Layout of Classification Symbols**
 - **Hierarchical Structure of IPC**
 - **Principles of classification**
 - **Classification procedures**
 - **Basic questions**
 - **Objectives of IPC**
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- The first objective of creating the IPC system is that it can act as an instrument for the orderly arrangement of patent documents in order to facilitate access to the technological and legal information contained therein;
 - Second it is a basis for selective dissemination of information to all users of patent information;
 - A basis for investigating the state of the art in given fields of technology;
 - A basis for the preparation of industrial property statistics which in turn permit the assessment of technological development in various areas.
 - **Establishment of an effective search tool – For the retrieval of patent documents by intellectual property offices and other users.**
- Establishment of an effective search tool to figure out novelty and evaluate the inventive step or non-obviousness (including the assessment of technical advance and useful results or utility) of technical disclosures in patent applications.**

- **History of IPC.** The very first edition of the Classification – European Convention on the International Classification of Patents for Invention of 1954.

- Following the signing of the Strasbourg Agreement, the International (European) Classification of Patents for Invention, that had been published on September 1, 1968, and referred to as the first edition of the Classification.

- Since then, the Classification has been periodically revised in order to improve the system and to take account of technical development.

- Currently we use the Eighth Edition (2006) of IPC.

- **Bodies of the IPC Union**

- The principal bodies of the IPC Union are the Assembly and the Committee of Experts. The IPC Committee of Experts has established a subsidiary body, the IPC Revision Working Group (IPC/WG).

- The IPC Revision Working Group (IPC/WG) is in charge of the revision of the IPC and meets regularly twice a year in Geneva.

- Participation is open to all members and observers of the IPC Union.

- The administration of the IPC revision is carried out by the International Bureau of WIPO.

Classification represents the whole body of knowledge which may be regarded as proper to the field of patents for invention,

Section

Subsection

Class

Subclass

Group

- **Layout of Classification Symbols**

- So there are total eight sections. Sections are the highest level of hierarchy of the Classification.

➤ Section Symbol – Each section is designated by one of the capital letters A through H.

➤ Section Title – The section title is to be considered as a very broad indication of the contents of the section.

- These eight **sections** are –

A – HUMAN NECESSITIES

B – PERFORMING OPERATIONS; TRANSPORTING

C – CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY

D – TEXTILES; PAPER

E – FIXED CONSTRUCTIONS

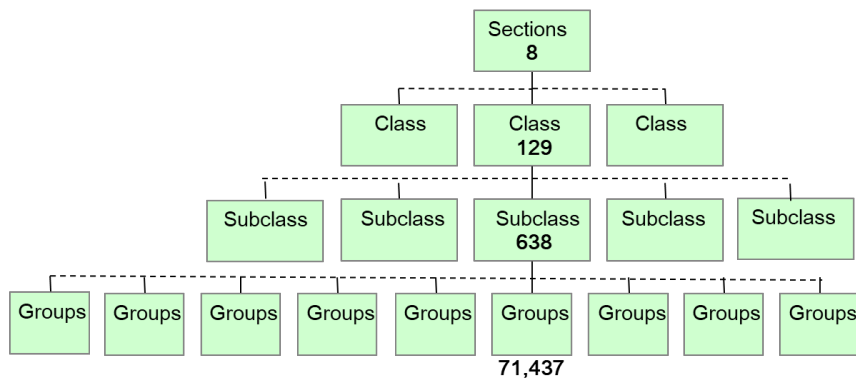
F – MECHANICAL ENGINEERING; LIGHTING; HEATING; WEAPONS; BLASTING

G – PHYSICS

H – ELECTRICITY

Within sections, informative headings may form subsections, which are titles without classification symbols. Example: Section A (HUMAN NECESSITIES)

contains the following subsections: Agriculture Foodstuffs; Tobacco Personal or Domestic Articles Health; Life Savings; Amusement



CLASS –

Each section is subdivided into classes which are the second hierarchical level of the Classification.

- a. **Class Symbol** – Each class symbol consists of the section symbol followed by a two-digit number. Example: H01
- b. **Class Title** – The class title gives an indication of the content of the class. Example: H01

Section H is for electricity

H01 is BASIC ELECTRIC ELEMENTS
H02 GENERATION, CONVERSION, OR DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRIC POWER
H03 BASIC ELECTRONIC CIRCUITRY
H04 ELECTRIC COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUE
H05 ELECTRIC TECHNIQUES NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR
H99 SUBJECT MATTER NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR IN THIS SECTION [2006.01]

BASIC ELECTRIC ELEMENTS

- c. Class Index – Some classes have an index which is merely an informative summary.

SUBCLASS

– Each class comprises one or more subclasses which are the third hierarchical level of the Classification.

- a. Subclass Symbol – Each subclass consists of class symbol followed by a capital letter.
Example: H01S

- b. Subclass Title – The subclass title indicates as precisely as possible the content of the subclass.

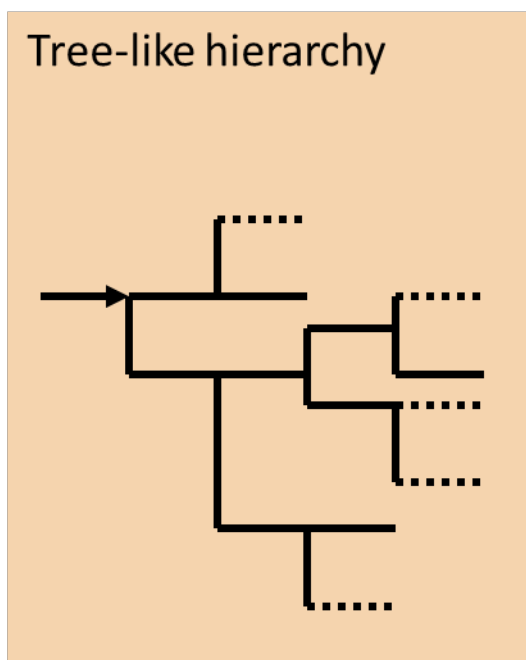
Example: H01S Devices Using Stimulated Emission So H-section 01-class And S- subclass

- c. Subclass Index – Most subclasses have an index which is merely an informative summary giving a broad survey of the content of the subclass.

- d. GROUP – Each subclass is broken down into subdivisions referred to as “groups”, which are either main groups (i.e. the fourth hierarchical level of the Classification) or subgroups (i.e. lower hierarchical levels dependent upon the main group level of the Classification).

- a. Main Group Title – The main group title precisely defines a field of subject matter within the scope of its subclass considered to be useful for search purposes. Main group symbols and titles are presented in bold in the Classification. Example: H01S 3/00 Laser

Hierarchical Structure of IPC



Section:	H	ELECTRICITY
Class:	H01	BASIC ELECTRIC ELEMENTS
Subclass:	H01F	MAGNETS
Main group:	H01F 1/00	Magnets or magnetic bodies characterized by the magnetic materials therefore
One-dot subgroup:	1/01	• of inorganic materials
Two-dot subgroup:	1/03	•• characterised by their coercivity
Three-dot subgroup:	1/032	••• of hard-magnetic materials
Four-dot subgroup:	1/04	•••• Metals or alloys

Five-dot subgroup:	1/047	•••••	Alloys characterised by their composition
Six-dot subgroup:	1/053	••••••	containing rare earth metals

Principles of the Classification

The primary purpose of the Classification is to facilitate the retrieval of technical subject matter. It is therefore devised, and has to be used, in such a way that one and the same technical subject is classified in,

- Two types of information may be found in patent documents. These are –

INVENTION INFORMATION - Invention information is technical information in the total disclosure of a patent document (for example, description, drawings, claims) that represents an addition to the state of the art.

It is determined in the context of the state of the art, using guidance provided by the claims of the patent document, with due regard given to the description and the drawings

“Addition to the state of the art” means all novel and unobvious subject matter specifically disclosed in a patent document, which subject matter does not represent part of the prior art, i.e., the difference between the subject matter in a patent document and the collection of all technical subject matter that has already been placed within public knowledge.

- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - Additional information is non-trivial technical information which does not in itself represent an addition to the state of the art but might constitute useful information for the searcher.

The additional information complements the invention information by identifying, for example, the constituents of a composition or mixture, or elements or components of a process or structure, or use or applications of classified technical subjects.

Classification Procedure Classification of patents granted after search and examination:

Basic questions

Basic Ques. 1. Are there other Patent Classification Systems

There are two important classification systems used in addition by the largest patent offices (EP, US, JP), i.e. the “EP and US joint CPC system” and the “Japanese FI system”, both of the two systems are based on the IPC.

Basic Ques. 2. Which language versions of IPC are available?

- The authentic versions of the IPC are English and French.
- Translations of the IPC are also prepared and published in other languages. For example, the IPC is available in

Chinese, Czech, Dutch, Estonian, German, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese (Brazil), Serbian, Slovak, Spanish.

Basic Ques. 3. How and Where can I get IPC?

The complete IPC is available only via Internet; there is no printed publication of the IPC. However, the Internet publication allows for print-outs of parts of the IPC, e.g. subclasses, through the hyperlink next to the subclass title. One can also refer the printable PDF files in the IPC Download and IT Support area of WIPO (<https://www.wipo.int/classifications/ipc/en/ITsupport/>)

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- **Video**

With this we come to the end of this session. In the next session , See you in the next session

thank you!