



Europäisches
Patentamt
European
Patent Office
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des brevets

Guidelines2day and Article 123(2) EPC

Roadshow for professional representatives

European Patent Academy

supported by



Foreword

The last ten years have been marked by unprecedented growth in the European patent system: new countries have joined the EPC, the number of European patent attorneys has gone up by 40% and European patent filings have skyrocketed. This growth has at times been a challenge for those of us involved in training, as demand for courses and seminars for patent professionals has surged in response. The European Patent Academy, in fruitful co-operation with the epi, has been committed to providing that training throughout the member states for the past decade.

One of our most successful training formats is the “roadshow”, a series of roving seminars which enables EPO and epi expert speakers to reach our public in many member states. This type of event was initiated with EPC2000 and then continued with the major “Guidelines for Examination” revision in 2012. This year we are recasting these seminars to present two topics of particular interest: the morning is devoted to the latest changes to the Guidelines, while the afternoon session looks at how Article 123(2) EPC is applied at the EPO.

We hope these events will serve their purpose of familiarising patent attorneys with the latest changes in EPO procedures, as well as offering a forum for an open and productive exchange between patent professionals working at the EPO and those employed in private practice and industry.

Jean-Michel Zilliox
Director Programme
European Patent Academy

Programme

- 08.30** **Registration**
- 09.00** **Welcome address**
- 09.10** **Introduction to the new Guidelines for Examination**
– Outline of major changes in the Guidelines
– Fees clarification
- 09.50** **Rule 164 EPC**
- 10.40 Coffee break
- 11.00** **Doing business with the EPO electronically**
– Electronic filing
– Payment functionalities
– Electronic notification
– File inspection
– Preparing typed amendments in oral proceedings
- 11.45** **Early entry into the European phase**
- 12.15** **Using effectively the procedural options**
– PCT-Direct
– Early Certainty from Search
– Third party observations
– PPH

13.00	Q&A
13.15	Lunch break
14.15	Final stage of the examination and the new Rule 71(3) waiver
14.45	Article 123(2) EPC and its implementation
15.45	Coffee break
16.00	Article 123(2) EPC – examples
17.15	Q&A
17.30	End of the event

Roadshow speakers



Roland Böhrer, DE, lawyer, Patent Law, EPO Munich, studied law and business administration at the universities of Bayreuth and Birmingham. After completing a PhD in competition law at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, he worked as an attorney for Hogan Lovells in Munich and Düsseldorf, focusing on patent litigation and IP transactions. In 2012 he joined the EPO, where he works as a lawyer in Directorate Patent Law. He is co-author of the book “Concise International and European IP Law”.



Laurence Brüning-Petit, FR, lawyer, Patent Law, EPO Munich. Studied law in Lyon and Augsburg. Received her LL.M in 1998 and her PhD in Patent Law in 2006. Worked as a research assistant at CEIPI (Strasbourg) and as a freelancer for the Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property, Competition and Tax Law (Munich) between 1999 and 2004. Joined the EPO and Directorate Patent Law in 2004, becoming head of section in 2014.

epi Mathieu de Rooij, NL, European patent attorney, studied Aerospace Engineering at Delft University of Technology. Previous working experience: examiner at the EPO from 2002 to 2008, in the Directorate of Civil Engineering & Thermodynamics, particularly in the field of gas and steam turbines and wind energy. CEIPI and epi tutor. Partner of ZBM Patents & Trademarks in Barcelona.



Reinoud Hesper, NL, lawyer, Patent Law, EPO Munich, studied law at Utrecht University and the Institut des Hautes Etudes Européennes in Strasbourg. As a senior lawyer, he leads the Euro-PCT and Receiving Section. In his capacity as a Euro-PCT expert, he is a regular speaker at (PCT) conferences. He is also co-author of the Singer-Stauder commentary on the EPC (6th edition 2013, in German). His contribution provides a detailed commentary on the Euro-PCT route (Articles 150-153 EPC).





eipi Andrew Hards, DE/GB, chartered UK, German and European patent attorney, studied chemistry at the universities of Munich and Sapporo. He later obtained a PhD in physics. In 2008, he co-founded the patent law firm Hards & Franke. Since 2012 he has been working as a partner at Global IP Europe in Munich. He is a lecturer for the EQE pre-examination online course at the European Patent Academy.



Tobias Irmscher, DE, lawyer, Patent Law, EPO Munich, studied law in Marburg and Würzburg (Dr. iur.) and at the London School of Economics (LL.M). He lectures at the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and at the International Hellenic University, Thessaloniki, and is co-author of the Benkard EPC commentary. He joined the EPO's Legal Service in 2006 and has been working in Directorate Patent Law since 2012.



eipi Didier Lecomte, FR, European patent attorney, European and Benelux trade mark attorney and authorised representative at the LU and BE patent offices. He has a Masters in mechanical and electrical engineering from the University of Liège and also specialised in applied thermodynamics for one year at the University of Aachen. He worked for seven years as a patent examiner at the EPO in Munich. He then joined a private practice in 2005 before eventually founding his own firm in 2007.

Jochen Moser, DE, administrator, Patent Procedures Management, EPO Munich. Studied electrical engineering at the universities of Karlsruhe and Southampton and at the ESIEE Paris. Passed the EQE in 2006. Work experience as a software developer for telecommunications networks in Germany. In 2000 he started at the EPO, where he worked as an examiner in telecommunications before joining Directorate Practice and Procedure. He is currently in charge of co-ordinating procedural changes and associated work instructions for examiners.



epi Cees Mulder, NL, European patent attorney, holds a PhD in physics (1982) and in law (2011). In 2001, he was one of the founding partners of DeltaPatents. Since 2009, he has been Assistant Professor of Intellectual Property Law at the Faculty of Law of Maastricht University. He is the author of the book “The Cross-Referenced Patent Cooperation Treaty” (published annually) and co-author of the book “Proceedings before the European Patent Office – A Practical Guide to Success in Opposition and Appeal.”





Luigi Petrucci, IT, administrator, Patent Procedures Management, EPO The Hague. Studied aeronautical engineering at “La Sapienza” University in Rome and business administration at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam (Masters). Joined the EPO in 1999. Worked as an examiner in the area of big industrial machines and as a quality auditor. Since June 2013, he has been working in the Patent Procedures Management directorate, where he is entrusted mainly with the development of patent procedures and the co-ordination of the yearly review of the Guidelines.



Heli Pihlajamaa, FI, Director Patent Law, EPO Munich, studied law at Helsinki University and at the Max Planck Institute in Munich. Work experience at the Finnish Patent Office and a patent attorney’s office in Helsinki. Joined the EPO in 1996 and became Director in 2011. She acts as a legal member in opposition cases and advises EPO higher management on policy issues and legal amendments. She has written books and articles on patent law in Finnish.

Alfred Spigarelli, FR, Director Patent Procedures Management, EPO The Hague, graduated from the Engineering School in Metz and CEIPI in Strasbourg. He joined the EPO as an examiner in applied physics after initial experience in industrial property in industry. In 2008 he created the operations support directorate Patent Procedures Management. He also acts as an adviser for senior management on political and strategic issues relating to patent law and procedures.



Cyril Valfort, FR, administrator, Patent Procedures Management, EPO Munich. Studied mechatronics. Joined the EPO in 1999. Passed the CEIPI exam in Strasbourg in 2001 and the EQE in 2004. Worked as an examiner in the area of artificial ventilation and inhalers (medical technology). Since 2013, he has been working as an administrator in the Patent Procedures Management directorate, where he is entrusted with the development of patent procedures. He is a member of Working Group 2 (Global Dossier and patent information) within the framework of IP5.





eipi Leythem Wall, GB, chartered UK and European patent attorney, studied chemistry at the University of Oxford, holds a Certificate in IP Law from the University of London and a Diploma in Patent Litigation from the University of Strasbourg. He works in the London office of the international law firm Finnegan, and before this was an in-house IP law attorney for ExxonMobil in Brussels. He is a Chartered Scientist and a frequent lecturer on intellectual property at the Royal Society of Chemistry.



Piotr Wierzejewski, BE/PL, administrator, Patent Procedures Management, EPO The Hague. Studied computer science. Worked as a university lecturer and IT/telecom consultant. Joined the EPO in 2003. Worked for nine years as an examiner in the area of computer-implemented inventions. Since 2012, he has been working as an administrator in the Patent Procedures Management directorate, where he is entrusted with the development of patent procedures. He also co-ordinates procedural aspects of international co-operation within the framework of IP5.

Roadshow dates 2015

The Hague, 15 April
Copenhagen, 27 April
Lisbon, 8 May
Warsaw, 9 June
Budapest, 22 June
Zurich, 3 July
Munich, 1 September
London, 21 September
Paris, 12 October
Madrid, 20 October
Istanbul, 14 November
Milan, 1 December

Notes

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