Survey Concerning Citation Practices in Intellectual Property Offices

Response ID:126 Data

2. Section 1: Identification page

1. Please enter the ST.3 code of the member state or inter-governmental organization you represent.

FI - Finland

2. Please enter the name of the office or organization you represent. For instance, International Bureau of WIPO.
If your organization name is the same as your ST.3 code name, you may put "n/a".

FINNISH PATENT AND REGISTRATION OFFICE

3. Questions about citation references provided by your Office: Sections 2 to 4

Section 2: Citation reference availability

5. Does your Office publish citation references associated with your Office's patent documents?

Yes
Please comment if necessary:

6. Select one option describing the availability, to the public, of your Office's citation references.

Available to the public

7. In which of the following location(s) associated with patent documents, published by your Office, can citation references be found?

Substantive search and/or examination report
Bibliographic data
Please comment on any of the above mentioned locations, if appropriate:

8. If citation references are part of the bibliographic front page information, are they included in INID code (56)?

Yes

9. Beyond the locations listed as options in question 7 above, select the location(s) outside the patent document where citation references can be found:

10. Are hyperlinks included for the above Internet locations?

No
Please comment if necessary:

11. Does your Office give information about a patent document that cites the specific patent document the user is looking at (i.e., a forward citation)?

No

12. Are hyperlinks to the citing document provided?

No
Please comment if necessary:

13. Does your Office follow the recommendations set out in WIPO Standard ST.14 for the identification of citation references?

Yes
Please comment if necessary:

14. Does your Office provide indications, to the general public, informing about who suggested or decided on including the citation references?

Yes

If available, where can indications of who created a citation reference be found by the general public?

Substantive search and/or examination report
Please comment if necessary:

4. Section 3: Search Report Information

15. Does your Office prepare international search reports (ISRs) in the capacity as an International Searching Authority under the PCT?

Yes

5. Section 3: Search Report Information

16. Do you have quality control on citation references entered on search reports?

Yes (Please provide examples in detail): We have certain mandatory structured fields for citation information; in most cases, citation data is automatically populated from the database source in accordance with WIPO St. 14 rules.
Please comment if necessary::

17. Do your citation references include online URLs?

Sometimes (specify when): For NPL, when available.

18. Are unique document identifiers used, e.g., DOI?

Sometimes (Specify when): For NPL, when available.

If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

Digital Object Identifier (DOI)
ISBN and ISSN

6. Section 3: Search Report Information

19. Does your Office prepare Office-specific national/regional search reports (non PCT)?

Yes

7. Section 3: Search Report Information

20. Do you have quality control on citation references entered on search reports?

Yes (Please provide examples in detail): We have certain mandatory structured fields for citation information; in most cases, citation data is automatically populated from the database source in accordance with WIPO St. 14 rules.
Please comment if necessary::

21. Are relevance indicators stated?

Yes

22. Do your citation references include online URLs?

Sometimes (Specify when): For NPL, when available.

23. Are unique document identifiers used, e.g., DOI?

Sometimes (Specify when): For NPL, when available.

If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

Digital Object Identifier (DOI)
ISBN and ISSN

8. Section 3: Search Report Information

24. Please comment on any major differences between the provision of ISR and other search report citation references if any

No major differences.

9. Section 4: Centralizing/Tagging Citation References

25. Do you (intend to) add tags to identify citation references?

No

26. Does your Office have a centralized database containing citation reference identification data elements?

Yes

If possible, please specify any structural elements on which the database is founded, for example:

Relational database: PRH provides search report data in ST.36 format via an API service, generated from the relational database.

Is the information in the database technically and legally exchangeable e.g., with other Offices?

Yes

27. Are citation references from your Office searchable by the general public?

No

28. Please add any further comments you may have about any of the questions in section 4 above:

10. Questions about your Office's published documents that may be cited (within a citation reference): Sections 5 to 7

Section 5: Location of published patent documents which can be considered to be an (or the) authentic source

29. Which mediums represents the (or an) authentic legal rendition (authoritative source) of your Office's published patent application?

Website (if multiple website separate each address with a semi- colon ";"): https://patenttitietopalvelu.prh.fi/en/
APIs of Webservices: All PDF publications are available via the information service or by request. Starting from 2024, PDF publications are also accessible through the API.
Other (Please specify): All PDF publications are available via the information service or by request. Starting from 2024, PDF publications are also accessible through the API.

30. Which mediums represents the (or an) authentic legal rendition (authoritative source) of your IPO's published granted patents?

Website (if multiple website separate each address with a semi- colon ";"): https://patenttitietopalvelu.prh.fi/en/
APIs of Webservices: All PDF publications are available via the information service or by request. Starting from 2024, PDF publications are also accessible through the API.
Other (please specify): All PDF publications are available via the information service or by request. Starting from 2024, PDF publications are also accessible through the API.

31. Regarding the medium indicated above, is there one or more (file) formats that should be looked at (in preference to other formats)?

Yes

If yes, please select all formats that should be considered in preference to other formats

.pdf (Adobe)

32. Is your Office using commercial providers for publishing patent documents?

No

11. Section 6: Availability of location identifiers

33. Which, if any, text- based identifiers do your published patent documents contain:

Page numbers
Line numbers

34. Which, if any, identifiers of non-textual elements occur within the description part of your published patent document:

Image/figure numbers within the description:
Chemical formula numbers: Allowed but not required. Many applicants use them.
Tables: Allowed but not required. Many applicants use them.
Mathematical formulas: Allowed but not required. Many applicants use them.

12. Section 7: Paragraph number details

35. Does your published patent documents include paragraph numbers?

No

13. Section 7: Paragraph number details

Paragraph numbers are typically created by:

Paragraph numbers are recreated:

Describe any special treatment you give to long paragraphs:

Describe how you treat numbered paragraphs that are subsequently amended:

If necessary, please provide additional comment on any part of the questions or answers given above in this section.

14. Section 8: Citing documents based on machine translations

36. Does your Office currently allow to cite machine-translated documents in search or examination reports?

Yes

15. Section 8: Citing documents based on machine translations

37. When citing a document without paragraph numbering, how does your Office identify the relevant passage in the machine translation?

We refer to the page and line number in the printout.

38. How does your Office ensure that applicants can access the exact machine translation used by your Office?

The exact machine translation is sent directly to the applicant

39. Does your Office record or store the machine translation used by the examiner for internal or public reference?

Yes, for internal use only

40. Does your Office have a preferred format for citing machine translations in search or examination reports?

Yes (Please provide example): We use paragraph numbers when ever possible.

41. Has your Office encountered cases where an applicant disputed the relevance of a citation based on a machine translation?

No

42. Should there be a standardized method for referencing the machine translation engine and date of translation in the international search report?

Yes

43. Should WIPO Standard ST.14 be revised to include recommendation on how references to machine translations should be cited in a patent document?

Yes

16. General questions about Citation Practices: Sections 9-10
Section 9: Examples of citation references published by your Office, if this information is available.

44. If possible, please provide a patent (application) number and a publicly available internet address that contains one or more typical examples of patent and non-patent literature citation references.

Specify application number and kind code, e.g., WO 2005/110961 A1 : FI 20245823 A1
Specify Internet address and any instructions helpful to find patent (application) number, e.g., IA=IB2005001265&REF=RSS : See Patent information service: https://patenttitietopalvelu.prh.fi/en/ search by application number 20245823
Specify where in the document the citation references can be found, e.g., page 1, lines 19 and 25, search report at end of document : Search report at end of A1 publication document

17. Section 10: Additional comments about citation practices

45. If applicable, please make any further comments, e.g., you may wish to comment on difficult aspects of citation practices for your IPO:

e.g., it is not clear how or whether to state a url as part of a citation reference : An overly long URL causes problems in PDF printouts.