



**Search and Consult
Worldwide Patent Law & Practice**

User's Manual



Index:

A : Accessing E-Pat

B : Making Queries

- 1. Compiling a Query**
- 2. Specifying your criteria**

C : Navigating the Views

- 1. List View**
- 2. Short View**
- 3. Full View**
- 4. Comment**
- 5. Country Comment**
- 6. Print**

D : Administrative Tools

- 1. Saving Favorites**
- 2. Account Usage**

E : Summary

Procedure for Using E-Pat Online

A : Accessing E-Pat

1. Point your web browser to www.edital.com.
2. On the Edital home page, select the E-Pat icon.
3. In the Login screen that appears, please type your login and password.

B : Making Queries

1. Compiling a Query



In the "drop-down list" specify one of the following options (modules)

- ***Search By One Question In One Country***
This limits the user to one specific question in only one country
- ***Search By Two Questions In Multiple Countries***
Interesting for comparing countries within a group. As an example, you could compare the use requirement for all countries of the European continent with a single listing.
- ***Search By Chapter***
This is the best way to get an overview of a particular subject. This is also a good selection for making printouts while doing research. We suggest printing in "short view".
- ***Full Text Search***
This is a search engine looking for keywords within the text of our suppliers' E-Pat comment.
- ***Manage My Country Groups***
This allows you to create your own groups of countries for creating lists on E-Pat. These modifications will be reflected for all users with the same User Name & Password. You may then use this group while searching under "Search By Two Questions In Multiple Countries" or as a restricting field in "Full Text Search".

Once you specify what you want to do you are, by default, in 'Query' mode: the point at which you can specify the criteria on which you wish to base your search.

2. Specifying your criteria:

a. Country

Select a country by clicking on the “select icon”



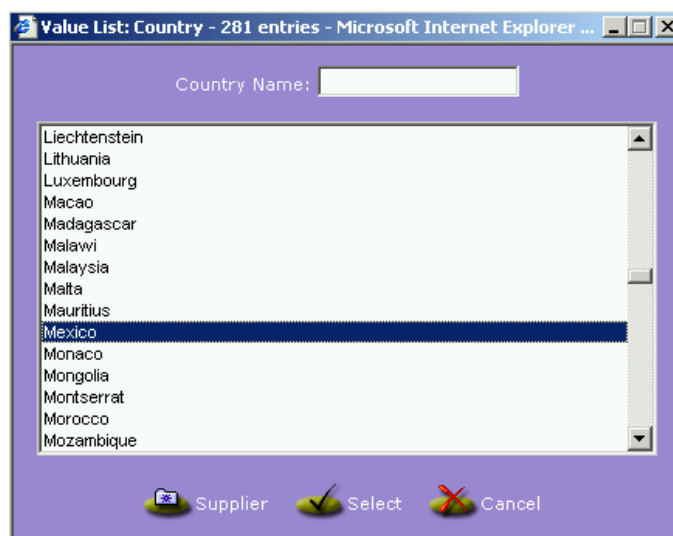
By “Country”, we mean:

- a country or territory that has its own patent system, e.g. Argentina
- a trading block that has its own patent jurisdiction, e.g. AIPO, ARIPO
- a country or territory without its own patent jurisdiction, and thus dependent on another type of jurisdiction, e.g., Ivory Coast(dependent on AIPO jurisdiction in patent matters).
- A Group of Countries (AFRICA, AMERICA, ASIA, EUROPE, EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES, EUROPEAN PATENT ORGANIZATION, PATENT COOPERATION TREATY, PACIFIC & OCEANIA)

In the modules – Search By One Question In One Country/ Search By Two Questions In Multiple Countries/Search By Chapter/ Full Text Search (Restrict To) :

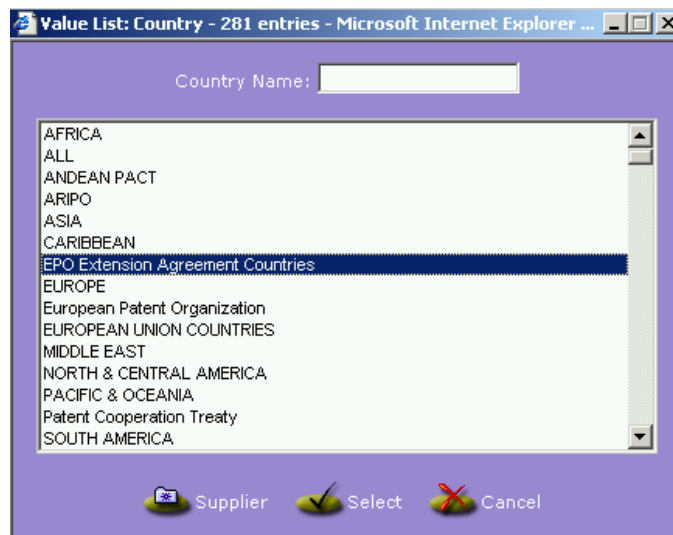
The list is not strictly in alphabetical order, but is divided into two parts.

1. The first half lists those countries or trading organizations with their own jurisdictions
2. The second half lists those countries or territories without their own patent registers, and which depend on other jurisdictions. E.g. If you wished to select the Faroe Islands, you would not see that country listed in the first half of the list. Scroll down to the second half, where you will see ‘Faroe Islands (see Denmark)’.



In the module – Search By Two Questions In Multiple Countries :

In addition to the aforementioned, this module also contains the Group of Countries.



Notes:

- When you wish to see the result of your query, if the country is not a jurisdiction, a pop-up message will inform you accordingly. If you confirm your wish to select that country, then the entry in the Country box will change to the underlying jurisdiction. For example: If you select and confirm Tahiti as your country, the jurisdiction selected will be France, and the country name will automatically change to France.
- EUROPEAN PATENT ORGANIZATION & PATENT COOPERATION TREATY are both included under Groups of Countries. However, they are also displayed in 'individual countries' half of the window.
- When the Group of Countries is selected, the result will list the answers for all countries comprising the group, e.g. when EUROPEAN PATENT ORGANIZATION is selected, the answer for Austria, Belgium, Denmark, etc. will be displayed. However, when European Patent Organization is selected as a multi-country jurisdiction, there will only be one answer, corresponding to EPO legislation.

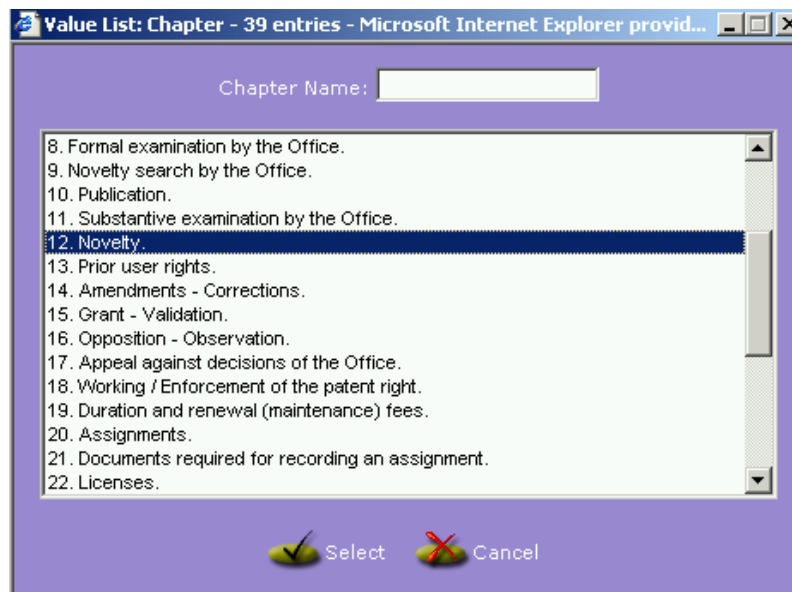
b. Chapter

Select a chapter by clicking on the “select icon”



'Chapter' is one of the fields in Query/Specify Criteria. It contains a list of the most typical patent-related topics, e.g. unpatentable inventions, the applicant, the application, cancellation, ...

For the best listing of all questions and answers related to a particular jurisdiction and subject, use “Search By Chapter”.



c. **Question (depends on the module)**

Select a question by clicking on the “select icon” 

There is a question hyperlink in three of the four modules:

- Search By One Question In One Country
- Search By Two Questions In Multiple Countries
- Full Text Search

Purpose of the Question hyperlink [Question:](#)

If you are unsure of where the question you wish to ask is located, you can perform a key word search using one or two words (the 'First Word' and the 'Second Word'), on the entire database of Short Questions, Long Questions and Chapters. This search will help you quickly identify the question you want answered.

Using the Question hyperlink

- Select one of the aforementioned modules.
- Select a country and a chapter (if applicable).
- Click the blue "Question" link. This will open the “Find What” (search) window.
- Enter the first word (or the first few letters of the word) in the First Word field. You must enter at least 3 characters.
- (Optional) Enter the second word (or the first few letters of the word) in the Second Word field. Again, you must enter at least 3 characters.
- (Optional) If you wish your first and/or second words to be highlighted in the result, check 'Highlight Words in Text'.

- Click the List View tab for the result. Under Results, you will see all the chapters, (short) questions and long questions in which the words appear.
- To select any one, click the Select hyperlink attached to that particular chapter/question.
- Click the Query tab to return to query mode.

d. Restricted Short Answer (depends on the module)

Select a restricted answer by clicking on the “select icon”



This option is available in the following 3 modules:

- **Search By Two Questions In Multiple Countries**
- **Search By Chapter**
- **Full Text Search**

It is advisable to use this option with Country Groups, rather than with individual countries. The option enables you to restrict the result of the search only to those countries in which the Short Answer is one of the options in the drop-down list.

The list of options will change depending on the Country, Chapter and Question, which have been selected. Using this option, you can view only the countries that have the same answer to a given question.

For example, to know which countries a novelty search is done by the Office:

1. In the 'Country' field, select the group (AFRICA, AMERICA, ASIA, EUROPE, EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES, EUROPEAN PATENT ORGANIZATION, PATENT COOPERATION TREATY, PACIFIC & OCEANIA or ALL)
2. Select the chapter (9. Novelty search by the Office)
3. Select the question (7. Is novelty search made by the Office of the country?)
4. In the 'Restrict To' box, select 'Yes' to restrict the response to those countries where the answer is “Yes”.

Result: you will obtain a listing of all the countries in the group for which a design in colour is answered “Yes”.

Note: Some Countries might have a listed answer "See comment". This could indicate that the answer is included within the text of the comment. It is always advisable to compare the countries with comments against the results of your search to ensure accuracy.

C : Navigating the Views

1. List View

After compiling your query, you can click the List View tab at the top for the result.

Specified Criteria

- The criteria you selected when compiling your query are displayed again here.
- The long version of the question, if there is one, is also displayed here. In the original Query window, only the abridged version is displayed.

Results

- Country Name - A country name in blue indicates there is a Country Comment that can be consulted by clicking the link to the Full View or simply by clicking on the country name.
- Short Answer - A "short answer" in blue indicates that there is a Comment that can be consulted by clicking the link to the Short View, Full View or simply by clicking on the answer.
- The name of the Supplier – Office details can be displayed simply by clicking the name.

The following is a “List View” regarding **Novelty Searches** done in “**Search By Two Questions In Multiple Countries**” using the **European Union** country group.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cyprus (Republic of)	No	See comment	Markides
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Czech Republic	Yes	See Comment	PATENTSERVIS, a.s.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Denmark	Yes	Automatically	Hoiberg A/S
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estonia	Yes	Automatically	AAA LEGAL SERVICES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finland	Yes	Search made automatically	KOLSTER OY AB
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> France	No	See Comment	Cabinet BEAU DE LOMENIE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Germany	Yes	Must be requested	HOFFMANN, EITL & PARTNER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greece	Yes	Must be requested	DR. HELEN G. PAPACONSTANTINO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hungary	Yes	Automatically	S.B.G. & K.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ireland	No	Must be requested	F.R. KELLY & CO.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Italy	To be answered later	To be answered later	ING. BARZANO & ZANARDO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Latvia	No	Not applicable	PATENT OFFICE FORAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lithuania	No	No	A.A.A. BALTIC SERVICE COMPANY
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luxembourg	No	Must be requested	Marks & Clerk
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Malta	See country comment	See country comment	SALOMONE, SANSONE & CO.

2. Short View

This view provides greater detail of the search result.

Specified Criteria

- The criteria you selected when compiling your query are displayed again here.
- The 'long' version of the question, if there is one, is also displayed here. In the original Query window, only the abridged version is displayed.

Results

The following fields are displayed:

- Country Name - A country name in blue indicates there is a Country Comment that can be consulted by clicking the link to the Full View or simply by clicking on the country name.
- Short Answer - A "short answer" in blue indicates that there is a Comment that can be consulted by clicking the link to the Short View, Full View or simply by clicking on the answer.
- Comment – If a comment accompanies the short answer, this is displayed.
- The name of the Supplier – Address can be displayed by clicking the name.

The following is a “**Short View**” regarding **Opposition/Observation** done in “**Search By Chapter**” using **Brazil**.



The screenshot shows the E-Pat interface with the following content:

QUERY LIST VIEW SHORT VIEW FULL VIEW

E-Pat Search By Chapter

SPECIFIED CRITERIA

Country: Russian Federation
Chapter: 16. Opposition - Observation.

RESULTS [16 Of 16 Selected]

Supplier: [INTELS](#)

0. Chapter Summary.

Long Question: Chapter Summary.
Short Answer: See E-Pat Comment
Chapter Summary: Throughout the entire period of validity a patent may be attacked and invalidated fully or in part in the following cases: a) the protected industrial property does not comply with the statutory criteria of patentability under Patent Law; b) features that cannot be found disclosed in the original application file are recited in the claims of invention, utility model or in combination of material features of industrial design; c) the Letters Patent has a misjoinder of inventor (joint inventors) or patent owner(s). (Article 29 of Patent Law).

1. Does the law provide for opposition proceedings?

Long Question: Does the law provide for opposition proceedings?
Short Answer: Yes

2. On filing an opposition, must all arguments be submitted?

Long Question: On filing an opposition, must all arguments be submitted (although not necessarily completely developed)? (as opposed to initiating the opposition first and filing some or all of the arguments later.)
Short Answer: Yes

3. On filing an opposition, must some documents be signed by the opponent himself?

Long Question: On filing an opposition, must some documents be signed by the opponent himself (as opposed to the attorney/agent of record being entitled to sign all documents)? In principle, when the answer is "Yes", the E-Pat Comment will specify which documents must be signed by the opponent.
Short Answer: No

3. Full View

This view includes all the above plus the “Country Comment” if it exists.

Specified Criteria

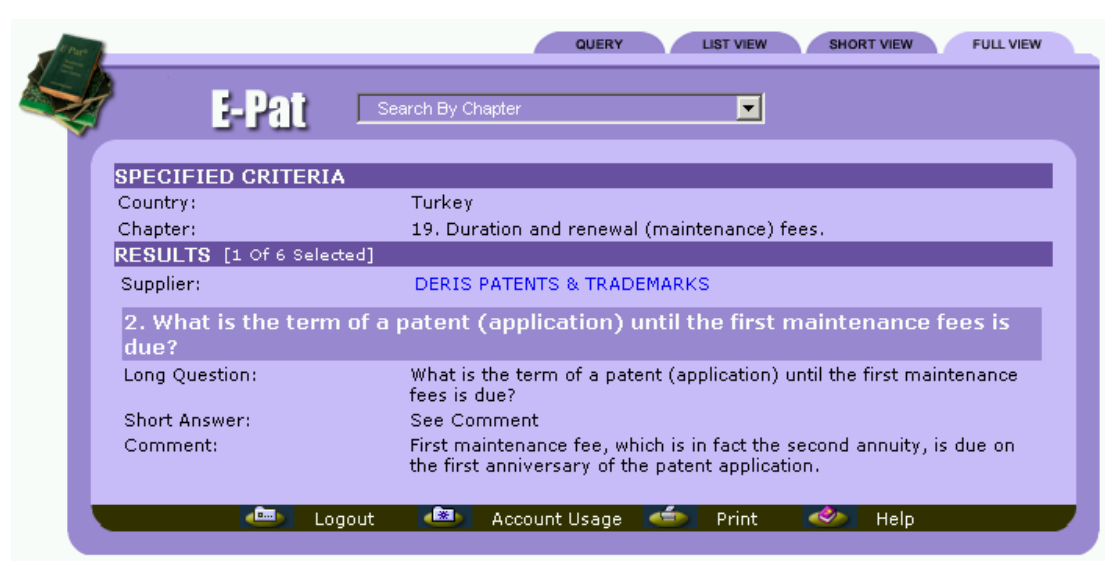
- The criteria you selected when compiling your query are displayed again here.
- The ‘long’ version of the question, if there is one, is also displayed here. In the original Query window, only the abridged version is displayed.

Results

The following fields are displayed:

- Country Name - A country name in blue indicates there is a Country Comment that can be consulted by clicking the link to the Full View or simply by clicking on the country name.
- Country Comment – Shown if available.
- Short Answer - A "short answer" in blue indicates that there is a Comment that can be consulted by clicking the link to the Short View, Full View or simply by clicking on the answer.
- Comment – If a comment accompanies the short answer, this is displayed.
- The name of the Supplier – Address can be displayed by clicking the name.

The following is a “Full View” of Question 10 of the chapter on **Duration & Renewal for India**.



The screenshot shows the E-Pat interface with a purple header and navigation tabs for QUERY, LIST VIEW, SHORT VIEW, and FULL VIEW. The main content area displays the following information:

SPECIFIED CRITERIA	
Country:	Turkey
Chapter:	19. Duration and renewal (maintenance) fees.

RESULTS [1 Of 6 Selected]

Supplier:	DERIS PATENTS & TRADEMARKS
2. What is the term of a patent (application) until the first maintenance fees is due?	
Long Question:	What is the term of a patent (application) until the first maintenance fees is due?
Short Answer:	See Comment
Comment:	First maintenance fee, which is in fact the second annuity, is due on the first anniversary of the patent application.

At the bottom of the interface, there are navigation links: Logout, Account Usage, Print, and Help.

4. Comment

E-Pat is designed to answer all your patent law questions using a series of Questions & Answers. In many cases the answer will be a simple “Yes” or “No”.

Comments, if there are any, are displayed in the Short View and the Full View. In List View, you will be advised that there is a Comment when the answer appears in blue. You can view this comment simply by clicking on the short answer.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1. Must an assignment be recorded before a patent (application) is used in third party proceedings?	Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2. Are there other reasons for recording an assignment?	Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Is there a certain time limit for recording an assignment or a merger after its conclusion?	No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4. Is a duly recorded assignment effective from the date that the request for recordal was made?	No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5. Can the assignment of an application be recorded?	Yes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	6. Is assignment of a co-owner's part allowed without consent of the other co-owner?	Yes, see comments

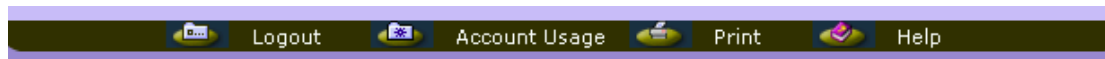
5. Country Comment

These comments offer a general explanation of the patent system in a specific jurisdiction or any changes to the system.

Country Comments, if there are any, are displayed in the Full View only. In List View and in Short View, you will be advised that there is a Country Comment when the country name appears in blue. You can view this comment simply by clicking on the country name.

6. Print

You must first compile your query and select a view before you can print out your results. Once you have selected a view, the Print tab will be visible.



1. Click Print, a window will appear asking if your Print should be in List View, Short View or Full View.
2. Select a View and a Print Preview will be displayed.
3. Proceed with the usual steps for printing from your computer.



SPECIFIED CRITERIA

Country: Canada
 Chapter: 2. Claim Categories.

RESULTS [8 Of 8 Selected]

Supplier: LEGER ROBIC RICHARD

0. Chapter Summary.

Long Question: Chapter Summary.

Short Answer: See chapter summary

Chapter Summary: The objective of the present chapter is to give an overview of the different types of claims that are accepted by Canadian Law. Product claims, process (method) claims, apparatus claims, use claims, product-by-process claims, and multi-dependent claims are all accepted in accordance to Canadian Law. Claims must define distinctly and in explicit terms the subject matter of an invention for which protection is sought. Patentable claims must define novel subject matter. Claims should also specify in a positive manner all the elements, features, and critical aspects of the invention that are necessary to ensure the result as set forth in the description. Each claim must be restricted to a single sentence.

1. Does the law or practice allow product claims?

Long Question: Does the law or practice allow product claims?

Short Answer: Yes

Comment: In product claims, the product may be defined in three ways: (i) By structure, in the chemical field this includes empirical formula, structural formulae, and chemically acceptable names. (ii) In terms of the process by which it is made. These are known as product-by-process claims. (iii) In terms of physical or chemical properties. A claim that defines a product by a mixture of two or three of these forms is also possible. Under subsection 27(4) of the Patent Act, the applicant is required to distinguish any new product from all other products by claiming it distinctly and explicitly. The structure, if known, should be given in the claim. Reference: MOPOP 11.08

D : Administration Tools

1. Saving Favorites

“Favorites” is where you may save a set-up of criteria for use in the future. It is ideal when you perform the same search on more than one occasion with only a couple of variables. In E-Pat, different favorite searches can be saved on each searching module.

To Add a Search

- Select your country or group of countries
- Select your chapter and question if applicable
- Click the selection “Add” next to the favorite box
- Give your search a name
- Click on submit

The screenshot shows the E-Pat search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search By Two Questions In Multiple Countries" and a dropdown menu. Below this, there is a "Favorites" section with a dropdown menu labeled "Select your favorite que" and two radio buttons for "Add" and "Remove". The main search area is titled "SPECIFY CRITERIA THEN CLICK ON ONE OF THE TABS". It contains several sections: "Country:" with a dropdown menu, "First Question" section with "Chapter:" and "Question:" dropdowns, and "Restrict To (Optional)" section with "Short Answer:" dropdown. The "Second Question" section is identical to the "First Question" section. Each dropdown menu has a question mark icon next to it.

To Remove a Search

- Click the selection “Remove” next to the favorite box
- Select the favorite you wish to remove
- Click on submit

2. Account Usage

It is possible to review your use of E-Pat by clicking on “Account Usage”. When you do this, a pop-up window appears. Click on the drop-down box and select the date to see all searches performed on that day.

E : Summary

E-Pat offers many creative ways of finding information. For assistance with an individual search, contact our help desk.

Questel - Edital		
Europe	(International) 8000-783-7835 or (Belgium) 32 2 716 32 32	support.Europe@edital.com
US / Pacific	800 456 7248 or 888-296-6510	support@edital.com