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From: Nick Bromer [mailto:nick@rabinchamp.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 28, 2006 10:08 AM

To: AB93Comments

Subject: Proposed Changes in Examination

It's crazy the way the PTO's service keeps getting worse and worse. These changes are all about making the examiners' job easier and have nothing to do with "more reliable" examination as the PTO is saying.

No more CIP's as a matter of right? Get real! Talk about stifling private inventors! And if the PTO is going to shut off arguments after one RCE, then they should make the examiners do a decent job the first time, too! I have handled lots of cases where the lousy examination forced us into RCE.

And what about the many, many cases in which the examiner makes a fifty-bazillion-way restriction so the PTO can collect lots of application and maintenance fees and lots of disposals, without doing any additional examination? Each divisional will now have to be justified to the Director, I guess. More stupid paperwork, as well as more expense, for the applicants.

As to the "representative claims," most examiners never bother with the dependent claims anyway. I suppose this will make the lack of examination official.

I'm very disappointed.