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From: Haughey, Paul C. [mailto:pchaughey@townsend.com]

Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2006 11:59 PM

To: AB94Comments

Subject: Comment

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

I have been a patent attorney for over 20 years, and am a partner with Townsend and Townsend and Crew. However, my views are my personal views, and not those of my firm or my clients.

I think this is a good idea. Examiners usually only seriously consider the independent claims anyway, and seem to do a cursory search and throw the first patent they find against the dependent claims without much analysis. Thus, this should allow more efficient use of time and more focussed examination.

- Paul Haughey