

Manual of PATENT EXAMINING PROCEDURE

**Original Sixth Edition, January 1995
Latest Revision September 1995**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**MANUAL OF PATENT EXAMINING PROCEDURE
Sixth Edition**

Instructions Regarding Revision No. 1

This Revision incorporates the changes necessitated by the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, Public Law No. 103-465. Appendix R-Patent Rules and Appendix L-Patent Laws have been updated to be current through the revision of patent fees, effective October 1, 1995. Chapter 2300 has not been revised at this time, however, to reflect the new interference rules.

This revision consists of replacement pages for the title page in the front of the Manual; the Table of Contents; entire Chapters 100 through 1800, 2100, 2200, 2400 and 2500; entire Appendices II-List of Decisions, R-Patent Rules, and AI-PCT Administrative Instructions; entire Index; and a portion of Appendix L-Patent Laws.

Chapters 700 and 2100 have been added to the Sixth Edition by this Revision. Both chapters have been extensively revised from how they existed in the previous Edition. Chapter 700 has been updated to reflect current practice and to focus on the procedural or "how-to" aspects of patent examination. Chapter 2100 has been restructured and expanded to provide a detailed discussion of the legal precedent for making proper patentability determinations.

Pages which have been printed in this revision are labeled as "Rev. 1" on the bottom. Sections of the Manual which have been changed by this revision are indicated by "[R-1]" after the section title.

Additions to the text of the Manual are indicated by arrows (><) inserted in the text. Deletions are indicated by a single asterisk (*) where a single word was deleted and by two asterisks (**) where more than one word was deleted. The use of three or five asterisks in the body of the laws and rules indicates a portion of the law or rule which was not reproduced.

**J. Michael Thesz, Editor
Manual of Patent Examining Procedure**

Rev.1, Sept. 1995

Remove Pages

Title Page
Table of Contents
100-1 through 100-20
200-1 through 200-42
300-1 through 300-10
400-1 through 400-14
500-1 through 500-32
600-1 through 600-90
700-1 through 700-100
800-1 through 800-42
900-1 through 900-40
1000-1 through 1000-10
1100-1 through 1100-6
1200-1 through 1200-34
1300-1 through 1300-14
1400-1 through 1400-28
1500-1 through 1500-16
1600-1 through 1600-4
1700-1 through 1700-10
1800-1 through 1800-112
2100-1 through 2100-26
2200-1 through 2200-76
2400-1 through 2400-40
2500-1 through 2500-14

A-5 through A-16
R-1 through R-188

L-7 through L-12

AI-1 through AI-58
I-1 through I-78

Insert Pages

Title Page
Table of Contents
100-1 through 100-22
200-1 through 200-56
300-1 through 300-12
400-1 through 400-16
500-1 through 500-40
600-1 through 600-98
700-1 through 700-172
800-1 through 800-52
900-1 through 900-44
1000-1 through 1000-12
1100-1 through 1100-6
1200-1 through 1200-40
1300-1 through 1300-18
1400-1 through 1400-32
1500-1 through 1500-18
1600-1 through 1600-6
1700-1 through 1700-12
1800-1 through 1800-126
2100-1 through 2100-146
2200-1 through 2200-88
2400-1 through 2400-44
2500-1 through 2500-16

A-5 through A-26
R-1 through R-228

L-7 through L-12.2

AI-1 through AI-62
I-1 through I-90

Particular attention is called to the changes in the following sections:

CHAPTER 100:

- 103 Language has been added dealing with public access to provisional applications.
- 104 Language has been added dealing with public access to provisional applications.

CHAPTER 200:

- 201 Revised to include provisional applications.
- 201.03 Revised to clarify that in a continuing application the overlap of inventors is present so long as it exists at anytime during copendency of the prior and continuing application. 37 CFR 1.48 has been revised to include correction of inventorship in provisional applications.
- 201.04 Revised to indicate that the term "parent" will not be used to describe a provisional application.
- 201.04(b) This section has been added to describe provisional applications.
- 201.06 Revised to indicate that an application claiming the benefits of U.S.C. 119(e) should not be called a "division" of a provisional application.
- 201.06(a) Revised to indicate 37 CFR 1.60 or 37 CFR 1.62 may not be used when filing an application claiming the benefits of a provisional application under 35 U.S.C. 119(e).
- 201.06(b) Revised to incorporate amended 37 CFR 1.62 and to indicate an application which claims the benefits of a provisional application may not be filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.62.

- 201.07 Revised to indicate an application claiming the benefits of a provisional application under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) should not be called a "continuation".
- 201.08 Revised to indicate an application claiming the benefits of a provisional application under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) should not be called a "continuation-in-part".
- 201.11 Language added dealing with claiming benefits of an earlier filing date based upon a provisional application.
- 201.13 The list of countries for which 35 U.S.C. 119 priority is granted has been updated.
- 202.02 Language added dealing with notation on the file wrapper when priority is claimed based on a provisional application.
- 203.05 Revised to indicate a provisional application becomes abandoned no later than 12 months after its filing date.

CHAPTER 300:

- 306.01 This section has been added to deal with assignment of an application claiming the benefits of a provisional application.

CHAPTER 400:

- 409.01(f) Revised to clarify the rights of the legal representative of a deceased *pro se* joint inventor.
- 409.03(b) Revised to discuss the requirements of a declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 when there is a non-signing inventor.

CHAPTER 500:

- 501 Revised to indicate the change of addresses for patent related, trademark related and other correspondence.
- 502 Revised to clarify address for documents sent by private courier.
- 502.02 Revised to clarify correspondence signature requirements.

- 504 Revised to emphasize that a provisional application will not be examined.
- 505 Revised to warn that the last day for pendency of a provisional application may occur on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday within the District of Columbia.
- 506 Revised to discuss handling of incomplete provisional applications.
- 510 Revised to warn that the last day for pendency of a provisional application may occur on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday within the District of Columbia.
- 511 The list of Department of Commerce District Offices has been updated.
- 512 Revised to include suggested format for Certificate of Mailing to include addressing correspondence to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents.
- 513 Revised to clarify certificate of mailing procedures while the Office is preparing to formally change addresses.

CHAPTER 600:

- 601 Revised to include guidelines for drafting a model provisional application.
- 601.01 Revised to describe the handling of a provisional application which is entitled to a filing date but has missing elements, and to indicate that a nonprovisional application may be converted to a provisional application.
- 601.03 Revised to indicate that, when a reproduction of a change of correspondence address is filed in a plurality of applications, the paper containing the original signature may be retained by applicant.
- 602.05 Revised to indicate the Office no longer checks the date of execution of the oath or declaration, so the issue of stale oaths or declarations will not be raised.

- 603 Revised to clarify that the requirement for an inventor who refuses or cannot be found to execute a supplemental declaration may be suspended or waived (37 CFR 1.183).
- 605.07 Revised to clarify the meaning of joint inventors, i.e., that some quantum of collaboration or connection is required, and to indicate each inventor named in a joint provisional application must have made a contribution to the subject matter disclosed.
- 607.02 Revised to clarify the procedure for refunding the filing fee when applicant desires to withdraw the application which has not been processed.
- 608.01 Revised to encourage the use of the metric units followed by the equivalent English units in specification, and to indicate a filing date will be given to provisional application when filed in a language other than English.
- 608.01(a) Revised to recommend that provisional applications follow the same general format as a nonprovisional application, although claims are not required.
- 608.01(p) Revised to remove the utility guidelines because they have been placed in MPEP § 706.02(a)(1), and to clarify that mere reference to another document does not constitute an incorporation by reference.
- 608.02 Form paragraph 6.40 has been revised to reflect the current Office policy on information on how to effect drawing changes.
- 608.04 Revised to include that no amendment is permitted in a provisional application after it receives a filing date.
- 609 Revised to include that Information Disclosure Statements are not permitted in provisional applications, to clarify that Examiners will consider information cited by or submitted to the Office in a parent application when examining a continuation or continuation-in-part application, and to clarify when non-English information in a continuing application needs a concise explanation of relevance.

620.06 This section has been removed, with the current information being moved to MPEP § 717.02.

CHAPTER 700:

705.01 Revised to clarify that approval from the Group Director of the requesting group is necessary for a request for a Patentability Report.

706.02 Rewritten to provide more specific guidance in the area of best available prior art, distinction between 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103, and determining the effective filing date of an application. The citation of case law has been removed because it is covered in Chapter 2100. The form paragraphs necessary for making a 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection have been moved to section 706.02(i). The form paragraphs necessary for making a 35 U.S.C. 103 rejection have been moved to section 706.02(m).

706.02(a) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on determining whether to apply 35 U.S.C. 102(a), (b), or (e) based upon printed publications or patents.

706.02(b) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on overcoming a 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection based upon printed publications or patents.

706.02(c) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) or (b) based upon knowledge by others or public use or sale.

706.02(d) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(c).

706.02(e) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(d).

706.02(f) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on use of provisional rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

706.02(g) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(f).

- 706.02(h) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(g).
- 706.02(i) Rewritten to consolidate the form paragraphs used for making a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102.
- 706.02(j) Rewritten to provide specific guidance in the area of 35 U.S.C. 103.
- 706.02(k) Rewritten to provide specific guidance in the area of provisional rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)/103.
- 706.02(l) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(f)/103, 35 U.S.C. 102(g)/103, and the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 103.
- 706.02(m) Rewritten to consolidate the form paragraphs used for making a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103.
- 706.03 Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections not based on Prior Art.
- 706.03(a) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 101.
- 706.03(a)(1) Added to provide guidelines for examination of applications for compliance with the utility requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101 and 35 U.S.C. 112.
- 706.03(c) This section has been rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.
- 706.03(d) Rewritten to provide specific guidance on rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.
- 706.03(e) through 706.03(j) Removed because they are covered in section 2173.
- 706.03(k) Rewritten and refers to Chapter 804 for double patenting rejections.

- 706.03(n)** Removed because it is covered in section 2173.
- 706.03(o)** Revised to cover handling of subject matter originally claimed but not shown in the drawings.
- 706.03(p)** Removed because it is covered in section 706.02(a).
- 706.03(s)** Rewritten to provide guidance in the area of foreign filing without license.
- 706.03(t)** Removed because it is covered in Chapters 300 and 800.
- 706.07(g)** Added to address transitional after-final practice as result of Public Law No. 103-465.
- 707.05** Revised to indicate that examiners should search all applications based on the actual U.S. filing date of the application since applicant might cancel the claim for priority as a result of the 20-year patent term.
- 707.05(c)** Revised to clarify that it is recommended that the pertinent feature of references which are not used as a basis for rejection be pointed out briefly.
- 707.05(d)** Revised to clarify the practice regarding citing a reference referred to in a response on a PTO-892.
- 708.02** Revised to include Office policy on applications relating to HIV/AIDS and cancer being made special.
- 709** Revised to clarify the procedure for suspension of action.
- 710.01(a)** Revised to clarify handling of extensions of a 30-day period for response.
- 710.02(c)** Revised to clarify policy on time limits set in order for applicant to remit additional fees or correct an unsigned or improperly signed amendment.
- 710.02(d)** Revised to clarify the difference between shortened statutory periods and time limits.

- 710.02(e)** Revised to clarify that a specific number of months should be included in a petition for extension of time, that a general authorization to charge any necessary fees will not be interpreted as a petition for extension of time, and that, even though the time to correct informalities noted on the Notice of Allowability are subject to extensions of time, the statutory time period for payment issue fee is nonextendable.
- 710.06** Revised to include procedure whereby applicant may petition to reset the period for response when there was a delay in the U.S. Postal Service or where there was a late receipt of Office action.
- 711.01** Revised to clarify that a letter of express abandonment which is not timely filed is not acceptable to expressly abandon the application.
- 711.03(c)** Revised to reflect current procedures relating to petitions to revive unintentional or unavoidably abandoned applications.
- 711.03(e)** Added to deal with petitions relating to revival of abandoned provisional applications.
- 713.01** Revised to emphasize that the attorney or applicant should indicate in advance of an interview what issues are desired to be discussed by submitting, in writing, proposed amendment.
- 713.09** Revised to clarify that interviews may be held after the shortened statutory period and prior to the maximum permitted statutory period of six months without an extension of time.
- 714.03** Revised to clarify when a one month time limit should be given to complete and/or correct an amendment after final.
- 715** Revised to include the effects of NAFTA and URAA on affidavits or declaration filed under 37 CFR 1.131.
- 715.01(a)-(c)** Rewritten to provide more specific guidance in the area of 37 CFR 1.131 versus 37 CFR 1.132.

- 715.02** **Rewritten to provide more specific guidance in the area of 37 CFR 1.131 affidavits establishing possession of either the whole invention claimed or something falling within the claim.**
- 715.03** **Rewritten to provide more specific guidance in the area of 37 CFR 1.131 affidavits showing as much as the minimum disclosure required by the specification to furnish support for a generic claim.**
- 715.04** **Revised to clarify who may make an affidavit under 37 CFR 1.131 and the formal requirements therefor.**
- 715.05** **Rewritten to provide more specific guidance regarding a patent claiming the same invention.**
- 715.07(a)-(d)** **Rewritten to provide more specific guidance in the area of the facts and documentary evidence required by 37 CFR 1.131.**
- 715.09** **Revised to clarify when affidavits under 37 CFR 1.131 may be presented.**
- 715.10** **Added to clarify that an affidavit under 37 CFR 1.131 must be reviewed for evidence of prior public use or sale or failure to disclose best mode.**
- 716** **Rewritten and broken down into numerous subsections to provide more specific guidance in the area of 37 CFR 1.132 affidavits or declarations traversing a rejection.**
- 716.01** **Added to deal with the timeliness and consideration of evidence submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.**
- 716.01(a)** **Added to caution Examiners that objective evidence submitted under 37 CFR 1.132 must be considered whenever present.**
- 716.01(b)** **Added to deal with the nexus requirement and evidence of nonobviousness submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.**

- 716.01(c)** Added to deal with the probative value of objective evidence submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 716.01(d)** Added to deal with weighing objective evidence submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 716.02** Added to deal with the allegation of unexpected results submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 716.02(a)** Added to deal with when evidence shows unexpected results.
- 716.02(b)** Added to deal with burden on applicants to establish unexpected results.
- 716.02(c)** This section has been added to deal with weighing evidence of expected and unexpected results.
- 716.02(d)** This section has been added to deal with whether unexpected results are commensurate in scope with the claimed invention.
- 716.02(e)** Added to deal with comparing the claimed subject matter with the closest prior art.
- 716.02(f)** Added to discuss the need for advantages to be disclosed or inherent.
- 716.02(g)** Added to deal with the need for declaration or affidavit form for evidence submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 716.03** Added to deal with the allegation of commercial success submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 716.03(a)** Added to deal with whether the commercial success is commensurate in scope with the claimed invention.
- 716.03(b)** Added to deal with whether commercial success is derived from the claimed invention.
- 716.04** Added to deal with evidence establishing long-felt need and failure of others submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.

- 716.05 Added to deal with skepticism of experts as evidence of non obviousness.
- 716.06 Added to deal with evidence of competitors copying claimed invention submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 716.07 Added to deal with evidence of inoperability of references submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 716.08 Added to deal with utility and operability of applicant's disclosure.
- 716.09 Added to deal with evidence showing that the disclosure is sufficient submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 716.10 Added to deal with evidence attributing a reference to the applicant submitted under 37 CFR 1.132.
- 717.02 Revised to clarify when an application should be returned to Application Branch for correction of file wrapper.
- 720.04 Revised to clarify that an oral hearing is ordinarily not held in a public use proceeding.

CHAPTER 800:

- 803.03-
803.03(b) Added to deal with restriction requirements involving transitional applications pursuant to 37 CFR 1.129(b).
- 806.04(j) Deleted since it did not reflect current practice.

CHAPTER 900:

- 901.04 Revised to indicate that the 35 U.S.C. 102(e) date for non-provisional applications claiming the benefit of a prior provisional application is the filing date of the provisional application.
- 903.08(b) Revised to indicate provisional applications are not classified or assigned since they are not examined.

CHAPTER 1000:

- 1002.02** Revised to clarify that a dismissal of a petition, a denial of a petition without prejudice, and other interlocutory orders are not final agency decisions.
- 1002.02(a)** This section has been deleted in favor of the revision of section 1002.02(b).
- 1002.02(b)** Revised to clarify which petitions and requests are decided by the Special Program Law Office and the Office of Petitions.
- 1002.02(c)** Revised to clarify which petitions and requests are decided by the Group Directors.
- 1002.02(c)(2)** Added to indicate that the Group Director of Group 1800 decides petitions relating to the sequence rules.
- 1002.02(f)** Revised to clarify which petitions and matters are decided by the Chief Administrative Patent Judge.
- 1002.02(p)** Added to clarify which petitions and matters are decided by the PCT Legal Administrator.
- 1002.02(q)** Added to clarify which petitions are decided by the Director of Office of National Application Review.

CHAPTER 1100:

- 1101** Revised to clarify that a provisional application cannot include a request for a SIR.
- 1111** Revised to update the rights which are waived by the initial publication of a SIR.

CHAPTER 1200:

- 1206** Revised to include that a statement identifying the real party in interest and identifying all other appeals or interferences known to appellant are required in an appeal brief.

- 1208 Revised to include that a statement acknowledging the identification of the real party in interest and related appeal and interferences must be included in an Examiner's answer.
- 1208.03 Revised to include that the Examiner must notify appellant of the status of an amendment, affidavit, or declaration filed with a Reply Brief.
- 1209 Revised to clarify that a request for oral hearing should be filed as a separate paper, to clarify the current Office Policy on participation of Examiners at oral hearings, and to clarify when the jurisdiction of an application is transferred from the examining group to the Board.
- 1214.01 Revised to clarify the procedures following a new grounds of rejection by the Board when the Board's decision also includes an affirmance.
- 1214.06 Revised to clarify the procedures following a new grounds of rejection by the Board when the Board's decision also includes an affirmance.

CHAPTER 1300:

- 1302.04 Revised to emphasize that a statement pertaining to an earlier U.S. effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 or 35 U.S.C. 119(e) should appear at the first sentence of the description of the application.
- 1302.09 Revised to remind examiners to review and correct the application for any changes regarding prior U.S. application priority at the time of allowance.
- 1309.01 This section has been added to deal with patent terms and extensions for applications filed on or after June 8, 1995.

CHAPTER 1500:

- 1504.10 Revised to indicate that a design application may not make a claim for priority of a provisional application.

CHAPTER 1700:

- 1706** Revised to update the guidelines for Disclosure Documents.
- 1720** Added to deal with dissemination of Court and Board decisions.
- 1721** Added to deal with treatment of Court and Board decisions affecting Office policy and practice.

CHAPTER 1800:

- 1817** The list of PCT member states has been updated.
- 1844** Sample PCT International Search Report form 210 has been revised to indicate that, when multiple inventions are found, the class/subclass of each invention need not be listed.
- 1848** Revised to indicate the International Searching Authority will indicate if a sequence listing has been separately furnished.
- 1865** Revised to indicate that USPTO has agreed to serve as an International Preliminary Examining Authority for residents or nationals of Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, in addition to the countries previously listed.
- 1878** Revised to include guidance on filling out item II and item III of PCT/IPEA/408 form.
- 1878.02** Revised to clarify that all interviews of substance must be made of record by using a PCT/IPEA/428 form.
- 1879** Rewritten regarding preparing the International Preliminary Examination Report.
- 1893.01(e)** Revised to indicate that the PCT Legal Affairs Branch decides PCT related petitions.
- 1893.03(c)** Revised to indicate that, when a certified copy of the priority document has been filed, the Examiner should acknowledge the receipt in the next Office action.

1895.01 Revised to indicate that the international filing date will appear in the continuing data section on the file wrapper label.

1896 Revised to clarify the effective date as a reference of an application claiming the benefit of a copending PCT international application or a provisional application.

CHAPTER 2200:

2211 Revised to clarify the period of enforceability of a patent.

2250 Revised to clarify the period of enforceability of a patent.

2287 Revised to indicate that the group is responsible for providing for the Office of Publications a clean copy of the patent which was reexamined and that the examiner should inspect the title report.

CHAPTER 2400:

2408 Revised to clarify the term of deposit under a 20-year patent term.

2422.07 Revised to indicate that applicants are encouraged to file a sequence listing (37 CFR 1.821(c)) for a provisional application.

Manual of PATENT EXAMINING PROCEDURE

**Original Sixth Edition, January 1995
Latest Revision September 1995**



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

Table of Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	1
100 Secrecy, Access, National Security, and Foreign Filing	100-1
200 Types, Cross-Noting, and Status of Application	200-1
300 Ownership and Assignment	300-1
400 Representative of Inventor or Owner	400-1
500 Receipt and Handling of Mail and Papers	500-1
600 Parts, Form, and Content of Application	600-1
700 Examination of Applications	700-1
800 Restriction in Applications Filed Under 35 U.S.C. 111; Double Patenting	800-1
900 Prior Art, Classification, Search	900-1
1000 Matters Decided by Various Patent and Trademark Office Officials	1000-1
1100 Statutory Invention Registration (SIR)	1100-1
1200 Appeal	1200-1
1300 Allowance and Issue	1300-1
1400 Correction of Patents	1400-1
1500 Design Patents	1500-1
1600 Plant Patents	1600-1
1700 Miscellaneous	1700-1
1800 Patent Cooperation Treaty	1800-1
1900 Protest	1900-1
2000 Duty of Disclosure	2000-1
2100 Patentability	2100-1
2200 Citation of Prior Art and Reexamination of Patents	2200-1
2300 Interference Proceedings Under Public Law 98-622	2300-1
2400 Biotechnology	2400-1
2500 Maintenance Fees	2500-1
Appendix I Partial List of Trademarks	A-1
Appendix II List of Decisions Cited	A-5
Appendix L Patent Laws	L-1
Appendix R Patent Rules	R-1
Appendix T Patent Cooperation Treaty	T-1
Appendix AI PCT Administrative Instructions Under the PCT	AI-1
Appendix P Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property	P-1
Index	I-1

The Patent and Trademark Office does not handle the sale of the Manual, distribution of notices and revisions, or change of address of those on the subscription list. Correspondence relating to existing subscriptions should be sent to the Superintendent of Documents at the following address:

Superintendent of Documents
Mail List Section
Washington, D.C. 20402

Telephone: (202)512-2267

Inquiries relating to purchasing the Manual should be directed to:

Superintendent of Documents
United States Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402

Telephone: (202)512-1800

Orders for reproduced copies of individual replacement pages or of previous revisions of the Manual should be sent to the following address:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Attention: Certification Branch
Washington, D.C. 20231

Previous editions and revisions of the Manual are available on microfilm in the Public Search Room.

The Manual is available on CD-ROM and on diskette from:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Office of Electronic Information Products and Services
Washington, D.C. 20231

Telephone: (703)308-0322

Employees of the Patent and Trademark Office should direct their requests for the Manual, replacement pages, notices, and revisions to the Patent Academy.

Additions to the text of the Manual are indicated by arrows (><) inserted in the text. Deletions are indicated by a single asterisk (*) where a single word was deleted and by two asterisks (**) where more than one word was deleted. The use of three or five asterisks in the body of the laws and rules indicates a portion of the law or rule which was not reproduced.

First Edition, November 1949

Second Edition, November 1953

Third Edition, November 1961

Fourth Edition, June 1979

Fifth Edition, August 1983

Sixth Edition, January 1995

Revision 1, September 1995