

Filing an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

The following document must be submitted to file an IDS:

- IDS form:
 - Can be prefaced with a written explanation which is included within the IDS doc code
 - Identifies pertinent references
 - Acts as the old Form PTO-1449
 - May include IDS Fees
 - Before first action: You can submit any IDS and they are considered part of the original filing
 - After non-final action: You can either pay the fee or sign an IDS certification saying that you only knew about it within the last 3 months
 - After final action or after allowance: You must both pay the fee and sign the certification

EFS-Web Doc Code Category	EFS-Web Doc Code Description	Business Process	Doc Code Name in Transaction History	Form Type Number	Printable Image Sample Document
IDS/References	Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) Filed	The applicant provides an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) at the earliest possible stage of prosecution detailing the most pertinent references known to applicant. The Examiner is to consider each reference cited in the IDS prior to the next Office action on the merits.	IDS	SB08a Information Disclosure Statement	IDS_sd

These documents are also often included with an IDS:

- Transmittal letter
- Foreign Reference
- Non-Patent Literature

FS-Web Doc Code Category	EFS-Web Doc Code Description	Business Process	Doc Code Name in Transaction History	Form Type Number	Printable Image Sample Document
General Transmittal	Transmittal Letter	Upon filing any papers to the USPTO regarding the filing of a new application, applicant includes a transmittal letter indicating the contents of the submission, including any fees that may accompany the papers.	TRNA	PTO/SB/21	
IDS/References	Foreign Reference	The foreign references originally cited by the Examiner or the applicant are made of record in the application and are viewable in IFW.	FOR		FOR_sd
IDS/References	NPL Documents	Document code is used for indicating Non Patent Literature (NPL) submitted by applicant or cited by the examiner.	NPL		