FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

USPTO Official Training Material Now Available Online - New Web Portal to Provide the Public with Access to Intellectual Property Training Modules

The U.S. Department of Commerce, NTIS, and in agreement with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, today announced the launch of a pilot program to provide the public with access to official agency training content via the Web at usptotraining.gov

June 23, 2011 – Washington D.C. – The United States Department of Commerce, NTIS, and in agreement with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), today announced the launch of a pilot program to provide the public with access to official agency training content via the Web at usptotraining.gov.

Through a collaboration with the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) more than 60 computer-based training modules on intellectual property law are being made available online to the general public for the first time though a learning management system (LMS).

These training modules were primarily created for the USPTO patent and trademark examiners, but all intellectual property professionals can benefit from the information they provide. The training modules are being made available to the public for the first time in support of President Obama's transparency and open government initiative.

Examples of the more than 60 training modules available via usptotraining.gov include:

- Interview practice between examiner and applicant
- Basic requirements to file a patent application
- Introduction to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)
- The Trademark International Classification System for goods and services
- Written description guidelines, examples and court decisions

Additional modules and new features may be added following the completion of the 90-day pilot period. A fee will be charged to access most of the available modules.

Feedback on the program will be invited during the pilot period and can be submitted to: usptotrainingcomments@ntis.gov

About National Technical Information Service:

The National Technical Information Service serves as the largest central resource for government-funded scientific, technical, engineering, and business related information available today. For more than 60 years NTIS has assured businesses, universities, and the public timely access to approximately 3 million publications covering over 350 subject areas.

Our mission supports the Department of Commerce mission to promote the nation's economic growth by providing access to information that stimulates innovation and discovery. Public Law 102-245, Section 108 American Technology Preeminence Act of 1991

NTIS Statutory Authorities

NTIS' basic authority to operate a permanent clearinghouse of scientific and technical information is codified as chapter 23 of Title 15 of the United States Code (15 U.S.C. 1151-1157). This chapter also established NTIS' authority to charge fees for its products and services and to recover all costs through such fees "to the extent feasible."

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