

**CERTIFICATION AND REQUEST  
FOR RELIEF DUE TO EVENTS OF MARCH 11, 2011, IN JAPAN (Page 1 of 2)**

Nonprovisional Application Number or Control Number (if applicable):	Patent Number (if applicable):
First Named Inventor:	Title of Invention:

**APPLICANT/PATENTEE/REEXAMINATION PARTY HEREBY CERTIFIES AND REQUESTS THE FOLLOWING FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED APPLICATION/PATENT/REEXAMINATION PROCEEDING.**

1. FOR PATENT APPLICATIONS AND REEXAMINATION PROCEEDINGS PENDING IN THE USPTO AS OF MARCH 11, 2011, IN WHICH A COMMUNICATION FROM THE USPTO IS SOUGHT TO BE REMAILED:
  - a. One or more inventors, an assignee, or a correspondence address (for the application/proceeding) is in an area of Japan affected by the earthquake and/or tsunami of March 11, 2011.
  - b. A reply or response to an Office action (final, non-final, or other), a notice of allowance, or other Office notice (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Office communication") is outstanding on March 11, 2011.
  - c. The statutory or non-statutory time period set for response has not yet expired.
  - d. Withdrawal and reissuance of the Office communication is requested.
  - e. It is acknowledged that if this request is not made within sufficient time so that withdrawal and reissuance of the Office communication occur prior to expiration of the statutory or non-statutory time period (as permitted to be extended under 37 CFR 1.136(a), or as extended under 37 CFR 1.550(c) or 1.956), this request may not be granted.
  - f. The need for the reissuance of the Office communication was due to the effects of the earthquake and/or tsunami of March 11, 2011.
  - g. This request is being sent via EFS-Web or by mail directed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
2. FOR PATENTEES WHO WERE UNABLE TO TIMELY PAY A PATENT MAINTENANCE FEE DURING THE SIX-MONTH GRACE PERIOD FOLLOWING THE WINDOW TO PAY THE MAINTENANCE FEE:
  - a. The original window of time to pay the maintenance fee without the surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(h) expired on or after March 11, 2011.
  - b. The delay in paying the fee was due to the effects of the earthquake and/or tsunami of March 11, 2011.
  - c. The USPTO is requested to *sua sponte* waive the surcharge in 37 CFR 1.20(h) for paying a maintenance fee during the six-month grace period following the window to pay the maintenance fee.
  - d. This request and payment of the maintenance fee during the six-month grace period following the window to pay the maintenance fee is being mailed to: Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Attn: Maintenance Fee, 2051 Jamieson Avenue, Suite 300, Alexandria, VA 22314; or being transmitted via facsimile to: 571-273-6500.

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3. FOR PATENTEES WHO NEED TO FILE A PETITION TO ACCEPT A DELAYED MAINTENANCE FEE PAYMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.378(c):
- a. The maintenance fee payment was required to have been paid after March 10, 2011.
  - b. A petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c) (using USPTO form PTO/SB/66 – Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee in an Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(c))) is being promptly filed accompanied by the applicable maintenance fee payment (but not the surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i)).
  - c. The delay in payment of the maintenance fee was due to the effects of the earthquake and/or tsunami of March 11, 2011.
  - d. The USPTO is requested to *sua sponte* waive the surcharge in 37 CFR 1.20(i) for accepting a delayed maintenance fee payment.
  - e. It is acknowledged that the petition to accept a delayed maintenance fee payment under 37 CFR 1.378(c) must be filed by March 11, 2012, in order to be entitled to a waiver of the surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i).
  - f. It is acknowledged that the petition to accept a delayed maintenance fee payment under 37 CFR 1.378(c) must be filed within twenty-four months from the expiration date of the patent. See 35 U.S.C 41(c).
  - g. This request and the petition to accept a delayed maintenance fee payment under 37 CFR 1.378(c) is being submitted via EFS-Web or by mail directed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
4. FOR NONPROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATIONS FILED WITHOUT AN EXECUTED OATH OR DECLARATION OR PAYMENT OF THE BASIC FILING FEE, SEARCH FEE, AND/OR EXAMINATION FEE:
- a. The nonprovisional patent application was filed on or after March 11, 2011, and prior to April 12, 2011.
  - b. The late filing of the oath or declaration or the basic filing fee, search fee, or examination fee was due to the effects of the earthquake and/or tsunami of March 11, 2011.
  - c. The USPTO is requested to *sua sponte* waive the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(f) for the late filing of the oath or declaration or basic filing fee, search fee, and/or examination fee.
  - d. This request, together with the executed oath or declaration or the basic filing fee, search fee, or examination fee, as well as the reply to the Notice to File Missing Parts, is being submitted via EFS-Web or by mail directed to Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature	Date
Name (Print/Typed)	Practitioner Registration Number
<b>Note:</b> Signatures of all the inventors, § 1.41(b) applicants, or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s), or reexamination requesters at the appeal stage are required in accordance with 37 CFR 1.33 and 11.18. Please see 37 CFR 1.4(d) for the form of the signature. If necessary, submit multiple forms for more than one signature, see below*.	
<input type="checkbox"/> *Total of _____ forms are submitted.	

## Privacy Act Statement

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (*i.e.*, GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.