

LEARNING ABOUT PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS



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Associate Commissioner for Innovation
Development (Acting)

**United States Patent and Trademark
Office**

MBDA MedWeek Conference
August 1, 2014

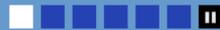


What is Intellectual Property?

- Patents
- Trademarks
- Copyrights
- Trade Secrets

16th Annual Independent Inventors Conference

The USPTO will host its 16th Annual Independent Inventors Conference in Alexandria, Virginia August 15-16. Independent inventors and small business owners will have an opportunity to learn, network, and jump start their endeavors. Experts and senior officials from the USPTO will present information on patents, trademarks, and other intellectual property matters.



The Director's Forum

A blog from USPTO's leadership



Patent Litigation Online Toolkit

>> patents

>> trademarks

>> iplaw&policy

America Invents Act

Your guide to the law



Patent Examiner Guidance

Alice Corp. Examination Instructions



USPTO Track One

Prioritized patent examination



IP Awareness Assessment Tool

Education for business and inventors



POPULAR LINKS

- Patent Search
- Patents: File Online [EFS-Web]
- Patents: Check Application Status [PAIR]
- Patents Online Services
- Patents Ombudsman
- Trademark Search [TESS]
- Trademarks: File Online [TEAS]
- Trademarks: Check Status/Documents [TSDR]
- Trademark Basics
- Official Gazette for Trademarks Forms
- Fees
- Manuals (incl. MPEP and TMPEP)

.GOV RESOURCES

BusinessUSA

USPTO NEWS

- USPTO Adds Additional Schools To Law School Clinic Certification Pilot Program
- USPTO Seeks Nominations for Patent and Trademark Advisory Committees
- USPTO and KIPO Announce KIPO's Expansion of the Cooperative Patent Classification System
- USPTO Announces Denver Satellite Office to Open June 30
- USPTO Announces 2014 National Trademark Expo
- U.S. Department of Commerce Internet Policy Task Force to Host Series of Roundtables on Copyright Internet Policy Topics
- USPTO Creates New Office of International Patent Cooperation

IP Awareness Assessment

The IP Awareness Assessment, developed under the joint efforts of United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and National Institute of Standards and Technology/Manufacturing Extension Partnership (NIST/MEP), allows you to assess your intellectual property awareness. Following the completion of the assessment, you will receive a customized training material. [Learn more](#)

Feedback

Your [feedback](#) and comments are crucial for improving the IP Awareness Assessment.

Inventor Assistance Program

Important Notice

Please note that any information provided here does not constitute legal advice, but is intended to increase your IP awareness. When filing an application for obtaining specific IP rights, it is recommended that you obtain professional legal assistance. The IP Awareness Assessment contains links to external websites. USPTO does not maintain those external sites and is not responsible for the material found therein.

Welcome to the Intellectual Property Awareness Assessment Tool. The IP Assessment includes the below five general categories, that are included in all assessments.

- **IP Strategies & Best Practices**
- **International IP Rights**
- **IP Asset Tracking**
- **Licensing Technology to Others**
- **Using Technology of Others**

There are five additional categories that all can take or, which may be customized through a Pre-assessment. These five categories include:

- **Copyrights**
- **Design Patents**
- **Trademarks**
- **Trade Secrets**
- **Utility Patents**

Not all businesses have all categories of IP Assets so they have an opportunity to opt out of certain categories by using the customizer or Pre-assessment or may opt to take the full assessment of ten categories containing 62 questions.

The full assessment requires about 20-30 minutes to complete. The customizer or Pre-assessment can reduce the required time by 10-15 minutes.

» enter the IP Awareness Assessment

Before starting the assessment, please note:

- Save the link for this page as a favorite/bookmark on your browser.
- In the "Internet Options" of your browser, deselect/uncheck history on exit. This will allow you to return and resume your assessment session in case you cannot finish it in one sitting. This will also allow you to access your training materials and assessment results at your convenience.
- As you are answering the assessment questions, choose the answer that best applies to your business or circumstances as an independent inventor or individual. Where applicable, choose all the responses that apply to your situation.
- Responses or data collected in the assessment are not stored or used by the USPTO or NIST MEP.



- Patent Search
- Patent Process
- Patent Classification
- Patent Forms
- Litigation**
- Statistics
- Electronic Business Center
- Patent Laws, Regulations, Policies & Procedures
- Resources and Guidance
- Office of Data Management
- Announcements
- Initiatives & Events
- International Cooperation
- Employee Locator
- Contact Patents

Been Sued or Gotten a Demand Letter? **Answers To Common Questions About Abusive Patent Litigation**

Received a letter about or been sued over a patent? You're in the right place. See below for answers to common questions:

See the topics below for answers to common questions:



I'VE BEEN SUED...



I GOT A LETTER...



RELATED LAWSUITS



ABOUT PATENT
INFRINGEMENT



ABOUT PATENTS



RESOURCES
and GLOSSARY

In June 2013, President Obama ordered the creation of this website to empower those who have received a demand letter or may be threatened with a patent lawsuit with information about their options. In response, the USPTO has created this site.

The information presented on this site does not constitute legal advice. It should not be considered to replace advice from an attorney. Reference to any specific organizations, attorneys, law firms, corporations, or websites does not constitute endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by the USPTO.

We welcome your comments and suggestions in the box below.

Related Links:

[Glossary of Patent Terms](#)

[White House Fact Sheet](#)

[National Economic Council and the Council of Economic Advisers report "PATENT ASSERTION AND U.S. INNOVATION"](#)

Comments, or suggestions, including about the resources you'd like to see? Please let us know.

* Required

Submit



[Home Page](#) » INVENTORS

Patents for Inventors

Trademarks for Inventors

Inventors Assistance

Education and Information

Scam Prevention

Pro Se and Pro Bono

Current Events

State Resources

InventorsEye Newsletter



Inventors Resources

The USPTO assists independent inventors, small business concerns and university affiliated inventors through its Office of Innovation Development. The office also works closely with other officials and agencies throughout the government in support of the administration's efforts to promote small business, entrepreneurship, and job creation. The Office of Innovation Development designs and implements outreach programs intended to reach a wide range of groups, including independent inventors, women, small business concerns, minorities, and other underserved communities.



Patents for Inventors
Tools, FAQs, Downloads



Trademarks for Inventors
Tools, FAQs



Inventors Assistance
Local Assistance, Customer Service



Education and Information
Online Chat Transcripts, Inventor News



Scam Prevention
Published Complaints



Pro Se - Pro Bono



Current Events
Conferences, Conventions



State Resources
State Contact Info



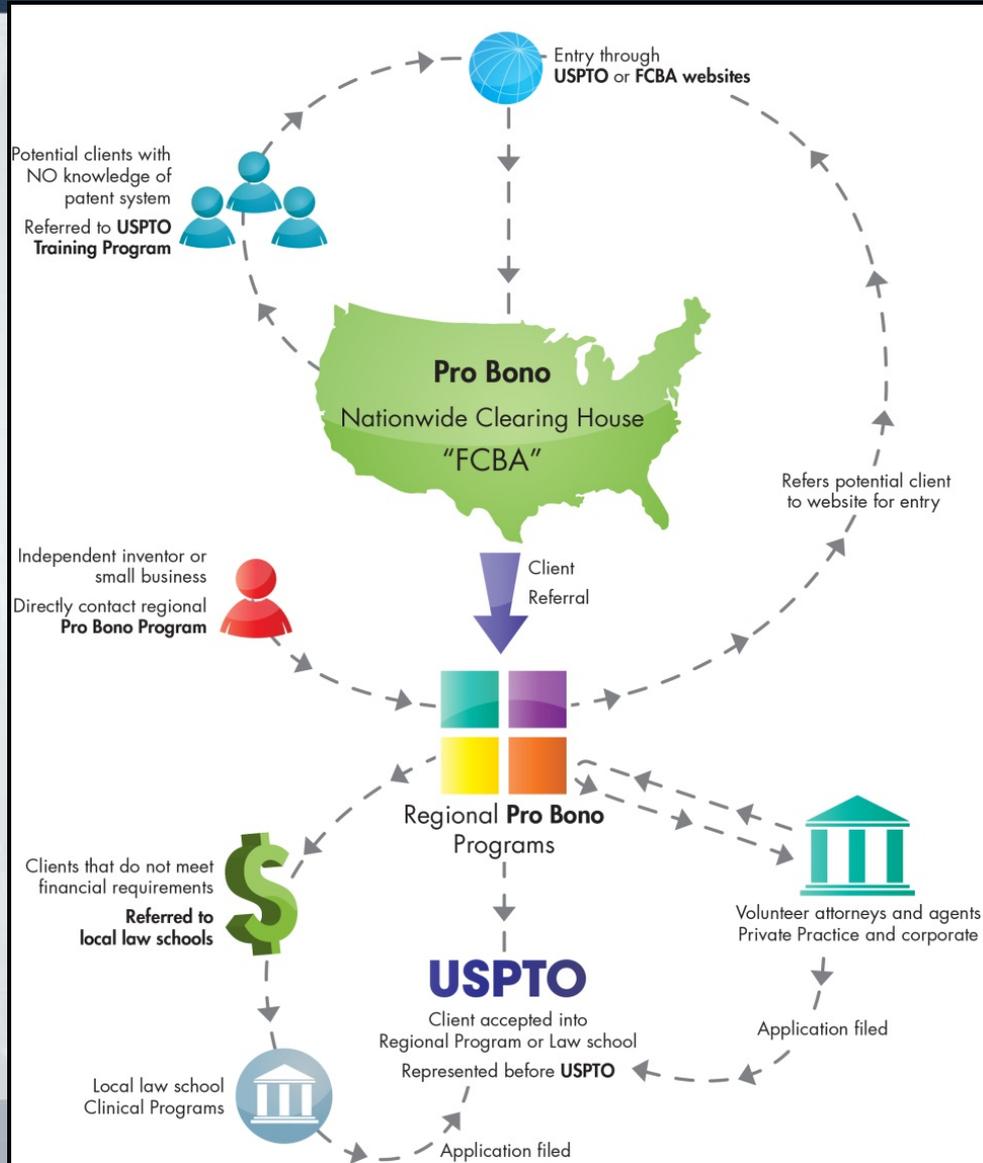
Inventors Eye
Bi-monthly newsletter

Is the inventor site for me

Complaints



Pro Bono



▶ Start a Business

Are you thinking about starting a business of your own? This wizard will guide you through aspects of starting a business and finding information you need to succeed.

Launch the Wizard ▶

💰 Access Financing

In a few quick steps, this wizard will guide you to government resources to access financing for your business.

Launch the Wizard ▶

- Explore Exporting
- Grow Your Business
- Find Opportunities
- Learn About New Health Care Changes
- Browse Resources For Veterans
- Learn About Taxes and Credits
- Help with Hiring Employees

BUSINESS NEWS



Should You Look At Pet Franchise Ownership?

Presidential Proclamation -- Minority Enterprise Development Week, 2014

Making the Most of International Trade Shows

Supporting the Best Environment for U.S. Exporters

LOCATE CLOSEST RESOURCES & EVENTS



22320

GO

Local Events

- ✓ Orientation to MWBC and Small Business Resources - Montgomery County
Aug 6th 10:00am to 11:00am
Rockville, Maryland
- ✓ Simple Steps for Starting Your Business
Aug 6th 5:30pm to 8:30pm
Towson, Maryland

Other Resources

- ✓ Libraries of Virginia
- ✓ Virginia Employment Commission
- ✓ Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at University of Virginia

Resource Centers

- ✓ U.S. Commercial Service - Alexandria
American Center, Alexandria,
- ✓ Alexandria SBDC
Alexandria, Virginia
- ✓ Northern Virginia U.S. Export Assistance Center
2800 S. Randolph Street,
Arlington, Virginia

View All

Success Stories

South Carolina Company Uses New Express Insurance Financing to Increase Presence in Foreign Markets

[Previous](#) [Pause](#) [Next](#)





Satellite Offices

Dallas-
Fort Worth



Denver



Detroit



Silicon Valley





Inventor Conferences

- Small Business
- Independent Inventors
- Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights, Business Planning, Business Development, Marketing, Finance, Exporting
- One-On-One conferences



16th Annual Independent Inventor Conference

- Two day conference devoted to intellectual property and small business
- USPTO Headquarters in Alexandria VA
- August 15 and 16, 2014
- Register online at www.uspto.gov



Intellectual Property Webinars

- Second of three part webinar series hosted by Minority Business Development Agency
- “Electronic filing of patent, trademark and copyright applications”
- August 12, 13, and 14 at 1:00 PM
- Register at MBDA.gov





Inventors Eye – Easy to Subscribe!

DEC 2012
Vol. 10, Issue 12

The USPTO's bimonthly publication for the independent inventor community

TOYING WITH SUCCESS

Toying with Success

In this issue's Spark of Genius article, meet Richard Levy, co-inventor of the Furby.

also in this issue

- Getting Into the Game: Q&A with the Experts
- Pushing Ahead with Pro Se Assistance
- PIRCI—the Cure for Information Overload
- Announcements: December and January
- **Advice Column:** Using the USPTO Data Visualization Center—Your Window into the USPTO

OCT 2012
Vol. 10, Issue 10

The USPTO's bimonthly publication for the independent inventor community

The Evolution of Adaptation

also in this issue

- Keeping the Road Clear: The Patent Ombudsman Program
- Spark of Genius: Inventor Lifts Up Toddler, Culture, and Ingenuity
- Announcements: October and November
- **Advice Column:** Resources for Understanding Third-Party Reexamination Submissions

FEB 2013
Vol. 11, Issue 2

The USPTO's bimonthly publication for the independent inventor community

Don't Sit and Wait: Stopping Trademark Squatters

Zero-fault trademark filings hurt U.S. businesses abroad. The best course of action is prevention.

[Read More](#)

Tracking Innovation: Windshield Wipers

March is Women's History Month. In observance, this article celebrates the creation of the windshield wiper blade.

[Read more](#)

Spark of Genius: The Rx for Entrepreneurial Success

Meet Geneva Granger, an attorney and Texas native who realized that sitting behind a desk and practicing personal-injury law was not the future she desired.

[Read More](#)

Announcements: February and March

Saturday Seminar in Detroit Part Two

Independent Inventors Conference Heads to Kansas

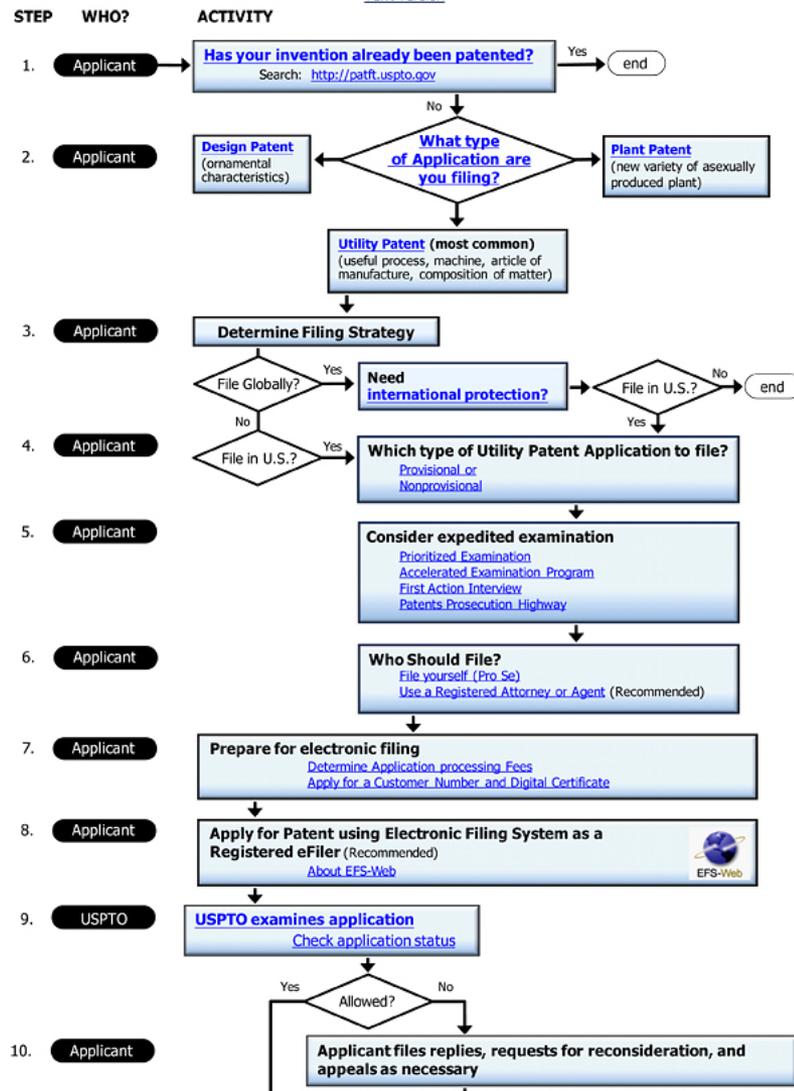
[Read More](#)



- Patent Search
- Patent Process**
 - Search for Patents
 - View Fee Schedule
 - File Online
 - Check Status
 - Maintain/Pay Fees
 - Appeal (PTAB)
 - Change Ownership
- Patent Classification
- Patent Forms
- Statistics
- Electronic Business Center
- Patent Laws, Regulations, Policies & Procedures
- Resources and Guidance
- Office of Data Management
- Announcements
- Initiatives & Events
- International Protection
- Employee Locator
- Contact Patents

Process for Obtaining a Utility Patent

[Text Version](#)





The STOPFakes.gov Website

STOPfakes.gov

Your resource for IPR information and assistance

A A A 100%

HOME

ABOUT STOPFAKES

RESOURCES

FAQS

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Consumer Tools

Learn how to spot a fake and where you can report counterfeit and pirated goods.

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1

2

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4



Business Tools

Find resources to protect your innovations, spur creativity, and market products safely at home and abroad. [Read more](#)

Consumer Tools

Learn how to spot a fake and where you can report counterfeit and pirated goods. [Read more](#)

U.S. Government Initiatives

Learn how we are working to improve intellectual property protection and enforcement for our companies in markets around the globe. [Read more](#)

Global Partners

Discover information and tools developed by partner governments, private sector groups, and international organizations. [Read more](#)

Intellectual Property

Learn about intellectual property. What is it? How do I protect it?

Find Help

Information about U.S. Government offices that can help my business.

Discussion Board

Discuss, share strategies, and get industry insights about business issues, including intellectual property rights.

Find the best office to help you.

I am a...

- Choose -



China IPR Webinar Series



IPR Training Module





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Questions?