Survey Concerning Citation Practices in Intellectual Property Offices

Response ID:219 Data

2. Section 1: Identification page

1. Please enter the ST.3 code of the member state or inter-governmental organization you represent.

BE - Belgium

2. Please enter the name of the office or organization you represent. For instance, International Bureau of WIPO.
If your organization name is the same as your ST.3 code name, you may put "n/a".

The Belgian Intellectual Property Office

3. Questions about citation references provided by your Office: Sections 2 to 4

Section 2: Citation reference availability

5. Does your Office publish citation references associated with your Office's patent documents?

Yes
Please comment if necessary: Citation references are present in the Belgian search report that is a part of the B1 patent publication document of a granted Belgian patent. The Belgian search reports are drafted by examiners of the European Patent Office (EPO).

6. Select one option describing the availability, to the public, of your Office's citation references.

Available to the public

7. In which of the following location(s) associated with patent documents, published by your Office, can citation references be found?

Substantive search and/or examination report
Patent description
Please comment on any of the above mentioned locations, if appropriate:

8. If citation references are part of the bibliographic front page information, are they included in INID code (56)?

Not applicable

9. Beyond the locations listed as options in question 7 above, select the location(s) outside the patent document where citation references can be found:

Other location (Please provide details): EPO Espacenet

10. Are hyperlinks included for the above Internet locations?

Not applicable
Please comment if necessary:

11. Does your Office give information about a patent document that cites the specific patent document the user is looking at (i.e., a forward citation)?

Not applicable

12. Are hyperlinks to the citing document provided?

No
Please comment if necessary:

13. Does your Office follow the recommendations set out in WIPO Standard ST.14 for the identification of citation references?

Partially (please specify/provide further details):
Please comment if necessary: A Belgian search report is produced by the EPO. The description is provided by the applicant on a case-by-case basis.

14. Does your Office provide indications, to the general public, informing about who suggested or decided on including the citation references?

No

If available, where can indications of who created a citation reference be found by the general public?

Please comment if necessary:

4. Section 3: Search Report Information

15. Does your Office prepare international search reports (ISRs) in the capacity as an International Searching Authority under the PCT?

No

5. Section 3: Search Report Information

Do you have quality control on citation references entered on search reports?

Do your citation references include online URLs?

Are unique document identifiers used, e.g., DOI?

If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

6. Section 3: Search Report Information

16. Does your Office prepare Office-specific national/regional search reports (non PCT)?

No

7. Section 3: Search Report Information

Do you have quality control on citation references entered on search reports?

Are relevance indicators stated?

Do your citation references include online URLs?

Are unique document identifiers used, e.g., DOI?

If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

8. Section 3: Search Report Information

Please comment on any major differences between the provision of ISR and other search report citation references if any

9. Section 4: Centralizing/Tagging Citation References

17. Do you (intend to) add tags to identify citation references?

No

18. Does your Office have a centralized database containing citation reference identification data elements?

No

If possible, please specify any structural elements on which the database is founded, for example:

Is the information in the database technically and legally exchangeable e.g., with other Offices?

19. Are citation references from your Office searchable by the general public?

No

20. Please add any further comments you may have about any of the questions in section 4 above:

No further comments

10. Questions about your Office's published documents that may be cited (within a citation reference): Sections 5 to 7
Section 5: Location of published patent documents which can be considered to be an (or the) authentic source

21. Which mediums represents the (or an) authentic legal rendition (authoritative source) of your Office's published patent application?

Paper
Website (if multiple website separate each address with a semi- colon ";"): https://bpp.economie.fgov.be/fo-eregister-view/

22. Which mediums represents the (or an) authentic legal rendition (authoritative source) of your IPO's published granted patents?

Paper
Website (if multiple website separate each address with a semi- colon ";"): https://bpp.economie.fgov.be/fo-eregister-view/

23. Regarding the medium indicated above, is there one or more (file) formats that should be looked at (in preference to other formats)?

No

If yes, please select all formats that should be considered in preference to other formats

24. Is your Office using commercial providers for publishing patent documents?

No

11. Section 6: Availability of location identifiers

25. Which, if any, text- based identifiers do your published patent documents contain:

Page numbers
Other (Please specify): Claims numbers

26. Which, if any, identifiers of non-textual elements occur within the description part of your published patent document:

Image/figure numbers within the description:

12. Section 7: Paragraph number details

27. Does your published patent documents include paragraph numbers?

No

13. Section 7: Paragraph number details

Paragraph numbers are typically created by:

Paragraph numbers are recreated:

Describe any special treatment you give to long paragraphs:

Describe how you treat numbered paragraphs that are subsequently amended:

If necessary, please provide additional comment on any part of the questions or answers given above in this section.

14. Section 8: Citing documents based on machine translations

28. Does your Office currently allow to cite machine-translated documents in search or examination reports?

No

15. Section 8: Citing documents based on machine translations

When citing a document without paragraph numbering, how does your Office identify the relevant passage in the machine translation?

How does your Office ensure that applicants can access the exact machine translation used by your Office?

Does your Office record or store the machine translation used by the examiner for internal or public reference?

Does your Office have a preferred format for citing machine translations in search or examination reports?

Has your Office encountered cases where an applicant disputed the relevance of a citation based on a machine translation?

Should there be a standardized method for referencing the machine translation engine and date of translation in the international search report?

Should WIPO Standard ST.14 be revised to include recommendation on how references to machine translations should be cited in a patent document?

16. General questions about Citation Practices: Sections 9-10

Section 9: Examples of citation references published by your Office, if this information is available.

29. If possible, please provide a patent (application) number and a publicly available internet address that contains one or more typical examples of patent and non-patent literature citation references.

Specify application number and kind code, e.g., WO 2005/110961 A1 : BE1024024 B1
Specify Internet address and any instructions helpful to find patent (application) number, e.g., IA=IB2005001265&REF=RSS :
https://worldwide.espacenet.com/publicationDetails/biblio?CC=BE&NR=1024024B1&KC=B1&FT=D&ND=&date=20171030&DB=&locale=en_EP

17. Section 10: Additional comments about citation practices

30. If applicable, please make any further comments, e.g., you may wish to comment on difficult aspects of citation practices for your IPO: