# Survey Concerning Citation Practices in Intellectual Property Offices

Response ID:168 Data

## 2. Section 1: Identification page

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

EE - Estonia

**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 Estonian Patent 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:**

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

Availability is limited: Search report for patent applications are available only for applicants, search reports for utility models are available for public

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

Preliminary search report
**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)?**

No

**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:**

**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)?**

Yes

**12. Are hyperlinks to the citing document provided?**

Yes
**Please comment if necessary:** No obligations, the hyperlinks could by included for Internet locations if non-patent literature is cited

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

Yes
**Please comment if necessary:**

**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)?**

Yes

## 7. Section 3: Search Report Information

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

No

**Please comment if necessary::**

**18. Are relevance indicators stated?**

No

**19. Do your citation references include online URLs?**

Yes

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

No

**If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?**

## 8. Section 3: Search Report Information

**21. 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

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

No

**23. 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?**

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

Sometimes (please specify the location where the references are searchable e.g., http://www.): inventions databases https://www.epa.ee/en/patents-utility-models/search-databases/inventions-databases

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

## 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

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

Website (if multiple website separate each address with a semi- colon ";"): https://www.epa.ee/en/patents-utility-models/search-databases/inventions-databases

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

Website (if multiple website separate each address with a semi- colon ";"): https://www.epa.ee/en/patents-utility-models/search-databases/inventions-databases
Other (please specify):

**28. 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**

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

No

## 11. Section 6: Availability of location identifiers

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

Page numbers

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

Webpage identifiers (URL with heading/section reference):

## 12. Section 7: Paragraph number details

**32. 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

**33. 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.

**34. 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 Internet address and any instructions helpful to find patent (application) number, e.g., IA=IB2005001265&REF=RSS : https://www.epa.ee/en/patents-utility-models/search-databases/inventions-databases
Specify where in the document the citation references can be found, e.g., page 1, lines 19 and 25, search report at end of document : the last page of the published document regarding registrated utility model

## 17. Section 10: Additional comments about citation practices

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

e.g., users are confused about the part of a document a citation reference was referring to : The detailed rules for citated references are not specified in the regulation