Survey Concerning Citation Practices in Intellectual Property Offices

Response ID:196 Data

2. Section 1: Identification page

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

SA - Saudi Arabia

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".

Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property (SAIP)

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 available to applicants through examination reports or authorized system access, but they are not currently available to the general public. We are working on developing it to make it available to the public.

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

Availability is limited: Available for those with system access rights

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

Preliminary search report
Substantive search and/or examination 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:

Separate document

10. Are hyperlinks included for the above Internet locations?

No
Please comment if necessary: Hyperlink functionality is not currently available. We are working on developing it to make it available to the public.

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)?

No

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): Citation references are identified in examination reports using document numbers, country codes, kind codes, and dates. Further alignment with WIPO Standard ST.14 is under development.
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?

Yes

5. Section 3: Search Report Information

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

Yes (Please provide examples in detail):
Please comment if necessary:: Yes. Citation references included in search and examination reports are subject to quality control through report review procedures, including review by report auditors and final supervisory approval authorities.

17. Do your citation references include online URLs?

Yes

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

Yes

If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

Other (please specify): Patent publication numbers, patent application numbers, and international publication numbers.
Digital Object Identifier (DOI)
ISBN and ISSN

6. Section 3: Search Report Information

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

Yes

7. Section 3: Search Report Information

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

Yes (Please provide examples in detail):
Please comment if necessary:: Yes. Citation references entered in search and examination reports are reviewed through internal quality control procedures, including report auditors and supervisory review authorities.

21. Are relevance indicators stated?

Yes

22. Do your citation references include online URLs?

Yes

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

Yes

If applicable, which unique document identifiers are used?

Other (please specify): Patent publication numbers, patent application numbers, and international publication numbers.
Digital Object Identifier (DOI)
ISBN and ISSN

8. Section 3: Search Report Information

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

There are no major differences. Citation references in ISR and other search/examination reports are generally provided using consistent practices, including relevance indicators, online URLs, and document identifiers where applicable.

9. Section 4: Centralizing/Tagging Citation References

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

Not now, but we intend to in the future (Please specify when): Citation references are currently identified in search and examination reports. Further tagging capabilities may be considered as part of future system enhancements.

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

Not now, but we intend to in the future (please specify when): The Office maintains a centralized patent search database; however, citation reference identification data elements are not currently maintained as a centralized searchable dataset. Development of this functionality is planned for future enhancements.

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?

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

No

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

The Office maintains a centralized patent search database. Citation references are currently available within search and examination reports; however, centralized public searchability and tagging functionalities for citation reference data are not yet available. Development of these functionalities is planned as part of future system enhancements.

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

29. 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://ipsearch.saip.gov.sa/ ; https://www.saip.gov.sa/
SFTP Bulk publication: SFTP bulk publication data will be provided later.

30. 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://ipsearch.saip.gov.sa/ ; https://www.saip.gov.sa/

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

Yes

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

.pdf (Adobe)
.html

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

No

11. Section 6: Availability of location identifiers

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

Page numbers
Line numbers

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

Image/figure numbers within the description:
Chemical formula numbers:

12. Section 7: Paragraph number details

35. 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

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

Yes

15. Section 8: Citing documents based on machine translations

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

By referring to the relevant paragraph, section, page number, or quoted text in the machine translation, as appropriate.

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

Other (Please specify): The original cited source document is provided where available, preferably in English. Full machine-translated versions are not typically generated or shared; only relevant excerpts may be translated as needed.

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

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

No

16. General questions about Citation Practices: Sections 9-10
Section 9: Examples of citation references published by your Office, if this information is available.

44. 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.

17. Section 10: Additional comments about citation practices

45. 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 : Ongoing development focuses on improving accessibility, searchability, and consistency of citation references.