

**UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



International Cooperation

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USPTO's Mission & Strategic Plan

- **Mission:** Fostering **innovation, competitiveness and economic growth**, domestically and abroad to deliver high quality and timely **examination** of patent and trademark applications, guiding domestic and international intellectual property **policy**, and delivering intellectual property **information and education** worldwide, with a highly skilled, diverse workforce.

IP Attaché Program

Where are IP Attaches Assigned?

China

- Beijing
- Guangzhou
- Shanghai

Other Asia

- India: New Delhi (covering South Asia)
- Thailand: Bangkok (covering Southeast Asia)

Latin America

- **Brazil: Rio de Janeiro (covering Argentina, Brazil, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela)**
- Mexico: Mexico City (covering Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean)
- Peru: Lima (covering Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru)

Europe

- Belgium: Brussels (covering the EU)
- Switzerland: Geneva (covering the WTO and WIPO)

Russia, Commonwealth of Independent States

- Russia: Moscow
- Ukraine: Kyiv

Middle East and North Africa

- Kuwait: Kuwait City

IP ATTACHÉ PROGRAM

USPTO IP EXPERTS
WORKING FOR THE BENEFIT
OF U.S. STAKEHOLDERS



Selected USPTO Activities in Brazil

- **General**

- INPI-USPTO MOU
 - Regular information exchange on a wide variety of office-to-office technical topics, e.g. regional offices, telework, etc.
- Commercial Dialogue (CD) IP Working Group
- INPI ENAPID Event in Rio with JPO
- Bilateral Meeting during WIPO General Assembly

- **Trademarks**

- Madrid Protocol and Advanced TM Training Programs at USPTO with INPI participation
- Geographical Indication Workshop with INPI-SC in Joinville
- Trademark Examination Workshop at INPI
- ASPI Congress, discussing “Improving the Accuracy of the Trademark Register”

Selected USPTO Activities in Brazil

- **Patents**

- INPI-USPTO Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program
- Patent Quality Workshop at USPTO with INPI participation
- Interpat Forum: “Responding to the challenge of evolving biopharmaceutical innovation”
- PPH Events with Amchams in Rio and São Paulo
- Industrial Designs Workshop hosted by WIPO, INPI, and SEBRAE with JPO & INPI France
- CPC Workshop at INPI (this week)

- **Enforcement**

- IP Enforcement Workshop in Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais
- RioMarket Digital Piracy Panel during Rio Film Festival
- Regional Workshop on Measures Against Illicit Trade in Counterfeit Agricultural Chemicals
- LatAm Regional Judicial Workshop on IP Enforcement at USPTO with Brazil’s participation (this week)

What is PPH?

- PPH is a system of **work sharing** that improves examination efficiency by **reducing duplication of effort** among patent offices.
- PPH enables an applicant who has received a determination of allowable claims from one office to **obtain fast track processing** of corresponding claims in other offices.

Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program

Bringing PPH into Fruition

- **Implementation:**
 - Both Offices made official publications announcing the program
 - INPI: Revista da Propriedade Industrial
 - USPTO: Official Gazette
 - Dedicated websites go live for both offices
- **Launch:** January 11, 2016

The USPTO-INPI PPH

Aspects of Pilot Program

- PPH at INPI:
 - Limited to **oil, gas, and petrochemical** technologies
 - INPI “should accept all applications containing claims directed to oil, gas, or petrochemical inventions...”
 - Limited to applications filed at INPI as of **January 1, 2013**
- PPH at USPTO:
 - Technology **neutral**
 - USPTO “should accept all applications containing claims of any classification.”
 - No limitations on **filing dates**

Current Status of INPI-USPTO PPH at USPTO

- In the process of being extended;
- PPH requests made after January 10, 2018 based on INPI work product will continue to be accepted.

Patent Prosecution Highway Between USPTO and INPI (Pilot)

The Patent Prosecution Highway in Conjunction with the Brazilian National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI)

Under this pilot program of the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH), an applicant who receives a positive ruling on a patent claim(s) from either the Brazilian National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) or the USPTO may request accelerated prosecution of corresponding claim(s) in the other office. The PPH allows the applicant to obtain a patentability decision in the office of later examination (OLE) more quickly. Furthermore, the PPH promotes patent application processing efficiency by allowing the examiner in the OLE to reuse the search and examination results from the office of earlier examination, thereby reducing workload and duplication of effort.

As of May 25, 2010, the USPTO has eliminated the fee for the petition to make special under the PPH programs.

The trial period for this PPH pilot program between the USPTO and the INPI, which commenced on January 11, 2016, and was scheduled to end on January 10, 2018, is **in the process of being extended**. A formal announcement regarding the extension will be issued later this year. PPH requests made after January 10, 2018, based on INPI work product will continue to be accepted unless a notice of termination is published in the *Official Gazette*.





Thank You!

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