

PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION FILING CHECKLIST

Docket Number: RUTHERFORD-012-PROV

Inventor: Brian Rutherford

Filing Method: EFS-Web (Electronic Filing System)

PRE-FILING CHECKLIST

Documents Required for Provisional Patent Application

☐ 1. Provisional Application Cover Sheet

- Status: ☒ Complete
- Pages: 1
- Notes: Includes micro entity declaration checkbox

☐ 2. Application Data Sheet (ADS)

- Status: ☒ Complete
- Pages: 1
- Form: Per 37 CFR 1.76
- Includes: Inventor info, correspondence address, citizenship

☐ 3. Specification Document

- Status: ☒ Complete
- Pages: 45
- Includes: Title, Field, Background, Summary, Detailed Description, Claims (optional for provisional)

☐ 4. Abstract

- Status: ☒ Complete
- Pages: 1
- Word Count: 236 (within 250-word limit)

☐ 5. Drawing Sheets (if applicable)

- Status: ☐ ⚠ To be prepared
- Sheets: 7
- Format: PDF for provisional (informal drawings acceptable)

☐ 6. Drawing Descriptions

- Status: ☒ Complete
- Pages: 2
- Describes: All 7 figures referenced in specification

☐ 7. Micro Entity Certification

- Status: ☒ Complete
- Pages: 1
- Type: Gross Income Basis (37 CFR 1.29(a))

☐ 8. Transmittal Letter

- Status: ☒ Complete
 - Pages: 1
 - Purpose: Cover letter for USPTO
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FILING FEES

☐ Calculate Fees

- Basic Filing Fee (Micro Entity): \$75
- Search Fee: \$0 (not required for provisional)
- Examination Fee: \$0 (not required for provisional)
- **TOTAL: \$75**

☐ Payment Method

- ☒ Credit Card via EFS-Web
 - ☐ Deposit Account
 - ☐ Check/Money Order
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EFS-WEB FILING STEPS

Step 1: Access EFS-Web

- ☐ Go to: <https://www.uspto.gov/patents/apply>
- ☐ Select: EFS-Web Registered eFilers

- ☐ Log in with USPTO.gov account

Step 2: Create New Application

- ☐ Select: "New Application"
- ☐ Choose: "Provisional"
- ☐ Confirm: "Continue"

Step 3: Application Data

- ☐ Enter Docket Number: RUTHERFORD-012-PROV
- ☐ Enter Title (max 500 characters)
- ☐ Select: "No" for foreign filing license
- ☐ Confirm inventor is applicant

Step 4: Upload Documents

- ☐ Upload Specification as PDF
- ☐ Upload Abstract as PDF
- ☐ Upload Drawing Descriptions as PDF
- ☐ Upload Drawings (if ready) as PDF
- ☐ Upload ADS as PDF
- ☐ Upload Micro Entity Certification as PDF
- ☐ Upload Cover Sheet as PDF

Step 5: Review and Validate

- ☐ Review all uploaded documents
- ☐ Validate no errors shown
- ☐ Confirm page counts match

Step 6: Calculate Fees

- ☐ System should show: \$75 for micro entity
- ☐ Select payment method
- ☐ Enter payment information

Step 7: Submit Application

- ☐ Review submission summary
 - ☐ Click "Submit"
 - ☐ Save acknowledgment receipt
-

POST-FILING ACTIONS

☐ Save Confirmation Number

- Application Number: _____
- Confirmation Number: _____
- Filing Date: _____

☐ Download Filing Receipt

- Save PDF copy
- Print hard copy for records

☐ Calendar Important Dates

- 12-month deadline to file non-provisional
- Mark date: [Filing Date + 12 months]

☐ Save All Documents

- Create folder: "RUTHERFORD-012-PROV Filed Documents"
 - Save all PDFs submitted
 - Save filing receipt
 - Save acknowledgment receipt
-

OPTIONAL FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

☐ Foreign Filing Considerations

- Deadline: Within 12 months for priority claim
- Consider PCT application if international protection needed

☐ Development Activities

- Continue development and testing
- Document improvements for non-provisional
- Maintain invention notebook

☐ Prior Art Monitoring

- Set up alerts for related patents

- Monitor NVIDIA cuPQC developments
- Track PQC standardization updates

☐ **Commercialization Planning**

- Identify potential licensees
 - Develop prototype demonstrations
 - Prepare investor materials
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NOTES AND REMINDERS

Important Reminders:

1. **Provisional patents do NOT require formal claims** (though we included them for strength)
2. **Provisional patents do NOT require formal drawings** (informal sketches acceptable)
3. **Provisional patents are NOT examined** (no office actions)
4. **Provisional patents are NOT published** (remain confidential)
5. **Provisional patents expire after 12 months** (must file non-provisional to continue)

Benefits Secured by This Filing:

- ☒ Establishes priority date
- ☒ Allows "Patent Pending" status
- ☒ Provides 12 months to refine invention
- ☒ Enables early commercialization
- ☒ Lower initial cost (\$75 micro entity)

Contact Information:

Brian Rutherford

Phone: (512) 648-0219

Email: Actual@ScrappinR.com

Address: 6 Country Place Drive, Wimberley, TX 78676-3114

SIGNATURE

I confirm that all documents are prepared and ready for filing:

/s/ Brian Rutherford/

Brian Rutherford

Date: [Current Date]

End of Checklist

Docket: RUTHERFORD-012-PROV