

4.5.2 Definition of essential features

Section F-IV, 4.5.2, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.

4.5.3 Generalisation of essential features

Section F-IV, 4.5.3, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.

4.5.4 Implicit features

See ISPE Guidelines 5.33.

4.5.5 Examples

Examples illustrating essential features can be found in the Annex to section F-IV in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO.

4.6 Relative terms

GL/ISPE 5.34

Section F-IV, 4.6, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.

4.7 Terms like "about", "approximately" and "substantially"

GL/ISPE 5.38

Section F-IV, 4.7, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.

4.8 Trademarks

See ISPE Guidelines 5.39.

See also GL/PCT-EPO F-II, 4.13, with regard to the need to acknowledge trademarks as such in the description. With regard to the effect of references to trademarks on sufficiency of disclosure (Art. 5), see GL/PCT-EPO F-III, 7.

4.9 Optional features

GL/ISPE 5.40

Section F-IV, 4.7, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.

4.10 Result to be achieved

GL/ISPE 5.35

Section F-IV, 4.10, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.

It should be noted that the requirements for allowing a definition of subject-matter in terms of a result to be achieved differ from those for allowing a definition of subject-matter in terms of functional features (see GL/PCT-EPO F-IV, 4.22 and 6.5).

Moreover, claims pertaining to a result to be achieved may likewise pose problems in the sense that essential features are missing (see GL/PCT-EPO F-IV, 4.5).

4.11 Parameters

GL/ISPE 5.36

Section F-IV, 4.11, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.