

### 3.4 Record of search strategy

OJ EPO 2017, A106

Since 1 November 2015, all search reports drawn up by the EPO under both the PCT and EP procedures, including partial search reports, have been automatically supplemented with an information sheet entitled "Information on Search Strategy". If the application lacks unity of invention, the data contained in this sheet only concerns the invention(s) for which the search fee(s) has (have) been paid. The information sheet is automatically generated based on the data entered by the examiner when drawing up the search report. It lists the databases in which the examiner conducted the prior-art search, the classification symbols defining the extent of the search, and the keywords selected by the examiner or any other element relating to the invention to be searched and used to retrieve the relevant prior art.

Upon publication of a search report drawn up under the PCT procedure, the information sheet will be made available to the public via file inspection on WIPO's PATENTSCOPE.

### 4. Identification of the patent application and type of search report

Section B-X, 4, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.

### 5. Classification of the patent application

Rule 43.3(a)

GL/ISPE 16.52

The EPO as ISA classifies the application according to the IPC and CPC.

### 6. Areas of technology searched

GL/ISPE 16.53

Section B-X, 6, in the Guidelines for Examination in the EPO applies *mutatis mutandis*.

### 7. Title, abstract and figure(s) to be published with the abstract (as indicated on supplemental sheet A)

Rule 44.2

GL/ISPE 16.33

The international application must contain an abstract and a title (see also GL/PCT-EPO F-II, 2 and 3). If the search report is published together with the application (A1 publication), the examiner indicates on supplemental sheet A:

Rule 8.1,

38

GL/ISPE 16.39-16.47

(i) the approval or amendment of the text of the abstract, which should not exceed 150 words;

Rule 37

GL/ISPE 16.35-16.38

(ii) the approval or amendment of the title of the invention (see also GL/PCT-EPO H-III, 7); and

Rule 8.2

GL/ISPE 16.48-16.51

(iii) the figure which is to accompany the abstract. It is possible to indicate multiple figures from various sheets, but the overall size should not exceed what could fit on an A4 sheet.

GL/ISPE 15.40

If the application is to be published before the international search report is prepared (A2 publication, see GL/EPO B-X, 4), the examiner only needs to