EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS – EPAB

USER MANUAL

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REVISION SHEET

Revision n°	Date	Revision Description
2.0	2015/05	Full document rebuild (combination of former EPAB and user interface user manuals, including new functionalities) EPAB database content: searchable full-text of all EP A and B publications from 1978 to present.
1.0	2013/09	Document creation

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

“European patent applications and specifications” (EPAB) is a free database available in the "Patent information services for experts" user interface (UI) accessible at this link.

With EPAB you can carry out enhanced searches in the full text of European patent applications (A documents) and patent specifications (B documents) published from 1978 to the present day.

EPAB is not a legally authoritative publication medium for European A and B documents. It is a complement to the European publication server (EPS), which has been the sole legally authoritative publication medium for European A and B documents since 1 April 2005.

Note: You are reminded of your acceptance of the terms and conditions at this link. It is essential that you read these terms and conditions to use EPAB correctly.

1.1. SECURITY

The use of HTTPS, combining the regular HTTP protocol with the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) protocol, means that all communications between your computer and the EPAB server are encrypted in both directions.

1.2. CONTACT POINT

For assistance on all matters relating to EPAB (including database content, UI features and anomaly reports), please contact our user support team at epal@epo.org.

1.3. WHAT YOU NEED TO USE EPAB

- Basic skills in Boolean language (see the Query syntax section, which contains multiple sample queries).
- HTML5 compatibility. Since version 2.0.0, the user interface is based on HTML5 and no longer uses Adobe Flash Player. If you are using an internet browser which is not HTML5-compatible, you may have to upgrade it.

2. RUN YOUR FIRST SEARCH

❶ Launch "Patent information services for experts", available at this link.

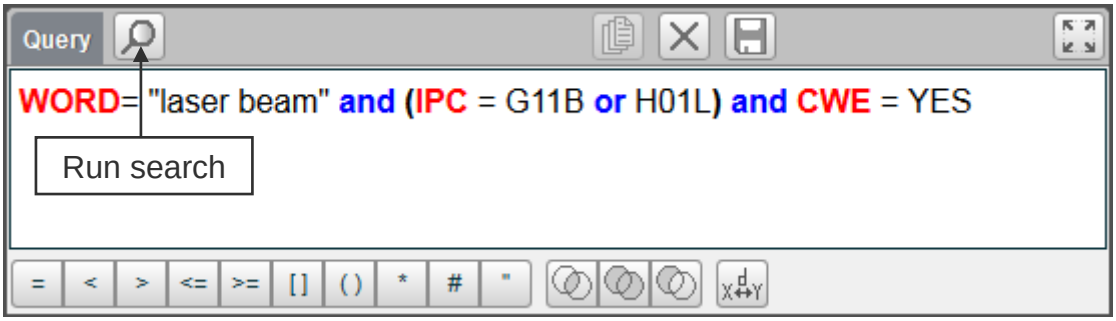
❷ Click “EP patent applications and specifications” in the list of databases in the Welcome window. You do not have to identify yourself (EPAB is free of charge).

❸ The Search window is now displayed. In the Query box, you can manually type in a query or copy and paste it, e.g.

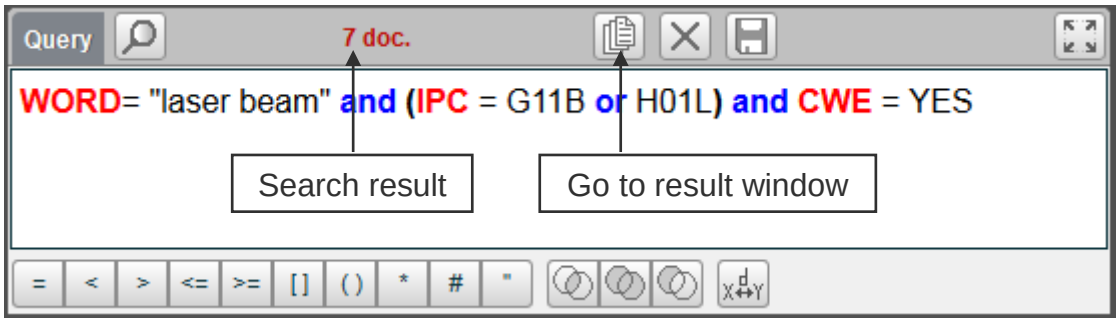
WORD= "laser beam" and (IPC = G11B or H01L) and CWE = YES

to search for all documents (patent publications) having the expression "laser beam" in their title, abstract, description or claims (criterion WORD), limited to IPC classes G11B or H01L (criterion IPC – all editions), and published in the current week (criterion CWE – Current week, with value “YES”).

Then click the Search button to run your first search:



❹ Once the search result is displayed you can click the Result button to go to the Result window:



❺ The result list and documents are now displayed and ready for browsing, running statistics and downloading in multiple formats.

Note: You can customise the result list and document content.

3. WELCOME WINDOW

In the Welcome window you can:

- Select the UI language in the top right-hand corner.
- Select (click) the EPAB database:

	Database name		Database edition	
	European patent applications and specifications	EPAB	2015/17	info
🔒	European patent bulletin	BULL	2015/17	info
🔒	Global patent index	GPI	2015/17	info
🔒	Patent statistics	PATSTAT	2014 Autumn	info
🔒	Patent statistics	PATSTAT	2014 Spring	info

In the “Database edition” column, the latest available edition is numerically displayed in YYYY/MM form, signifying the year (four digits) and calendar week (two digits), e.g. 2015/17.

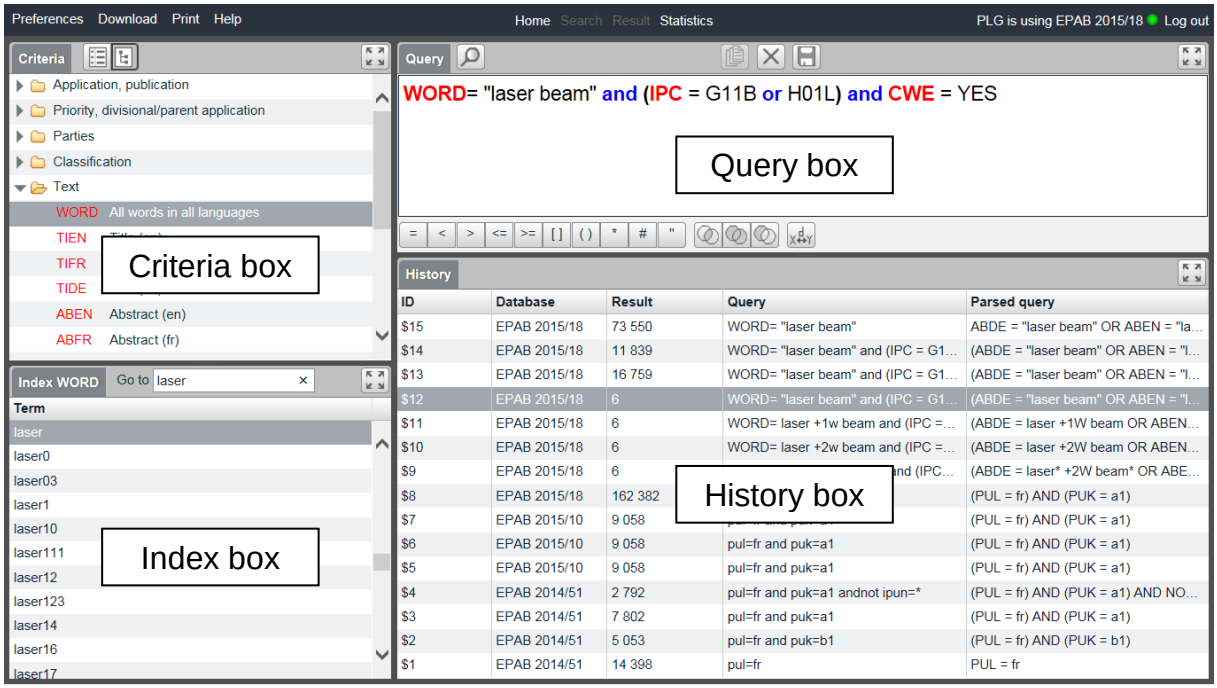
Note: The database is updated every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET, which means that in EPAB the week starts on Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET.

When you click on the EPAB database, the Search window appears.

4. SEARCH WINDOW

Once you have logged in and have selected the EPAB database in the Welcome window, the Search window is displayed. Its four boxes enable you to carry out the actions shown.

- Criteria box: Navigate the list of search criteria to identify and select the criteria you need for your searches.
- Index box: Browse the contents of the database for a search criterion selected in the Criteria box, e.g. for identifying possible variations of an applicant's name or a keyword.
- Query box: Create queries, run searches, save/load queries.
- History box: Browse your search history and re-use history entries in your queries. The history content is also used for saving queries.



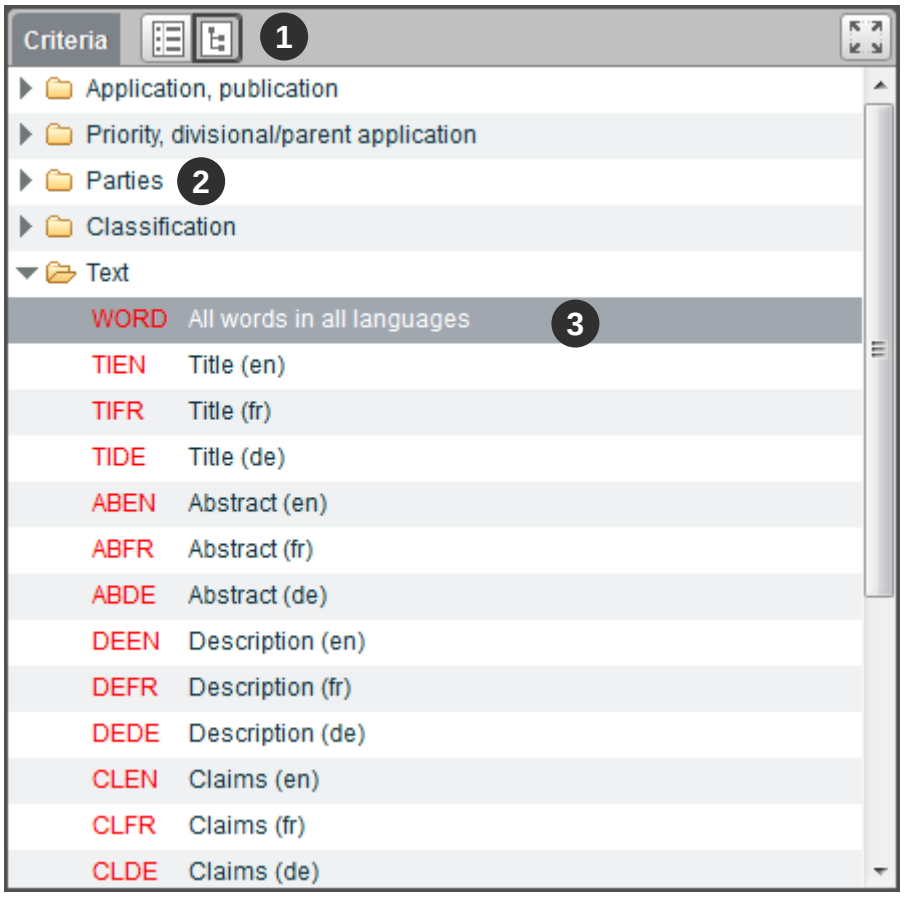
You can adjust the proportions of the boxes by dragging the horizontal and vertical dividers. Dividers are the dark lines between boxes. For example, there is a vertical divider between the Query and History boxes which can be dragged up and down to resize them.

Boxes can also be minimised and maximised by clicking the minimise/maximise button  (located in the top right-hand corner of each box) or by double-clicking the box top toolbar.

4.1. CRITERIA BOX

The criteria used in EPAB are described in detail in Annex 1.

A criterion is identified by a code and a name. For example, the code "WORD" stands for "all title, abstract, description and claim words in all languages".



❶ Buttons to display the criteria list in alphabetical order or by pre-defined categories, e.g. "Parties".

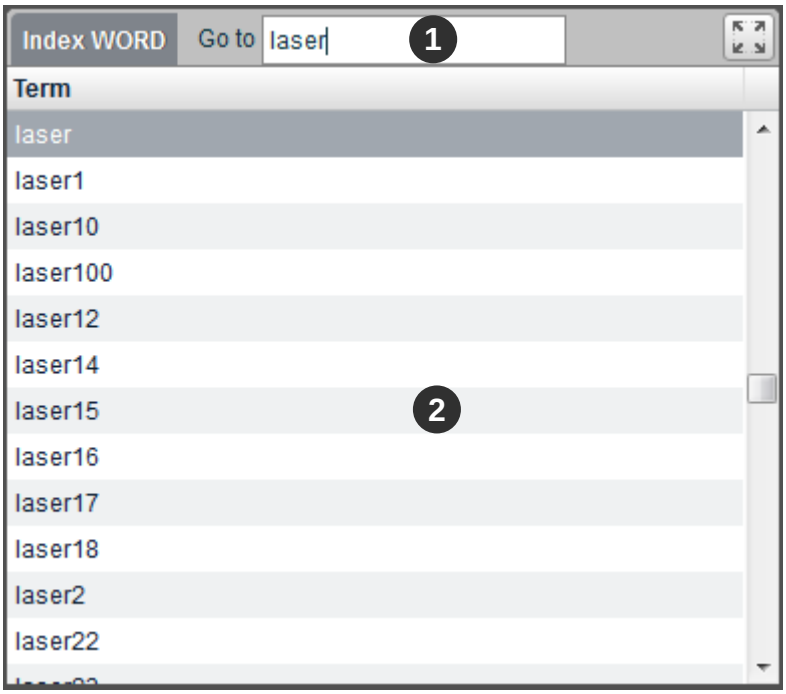
❷ Open/close a category by clicking the arrow or double-clicking the category name.

❸ Select (one click) a criterion to see the contents of its corresponding index.

❸ Move the selected search criterion to the Query box by drag & drop or double-clicking (criteria can also be manually entered in the Query box).

4.2. INDEX BOX

An index reflects the database content for the data corresponding to a search criterion. It does not reflect the database content limited to the current search. For example, the WORD index contains all the words in all the indexed titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims of all the patent documents stored in the EPAB database.



❶ The "Go to" box lets you scroll quickly and easily. The index content helps you to check the availability, spellings and formats of the data you want to search for, e.g.:

- To identify possible variations of an applicant name or a keyword.
- To check the indexing format of classification symbols and dates.

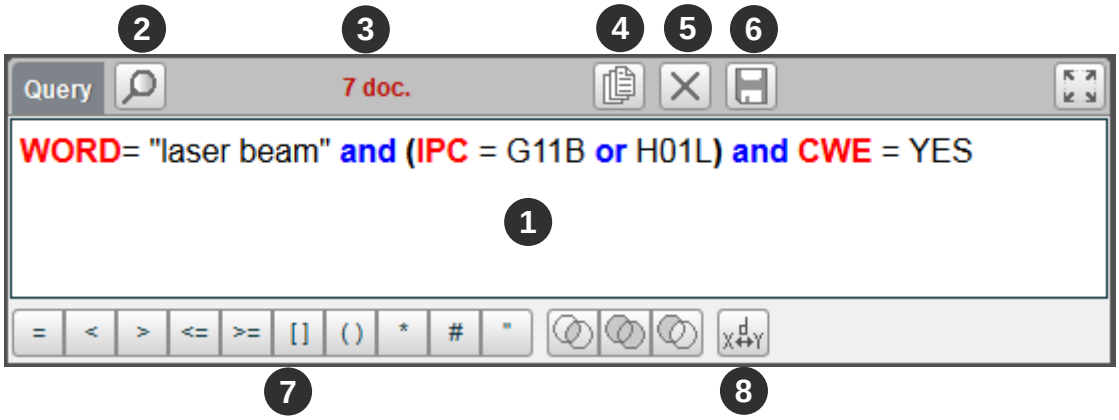
❷ You can move selected index terms to the Query box by:

- Dragging and dropping one or more selected terms.
- Double-clicking.

Note: As shown in the above screenshot, white space is often missing between words. For accurate results, use right truncation for all the terms of your query.

4.3. QUERY BOX

The Query box enables you to create queries, run searches and save/load queries. See the Query syntax and Search features sections, which contain multiple sample queries.



❶ **Query edit zone**. The text of a query can be:

- Entered manually.
- Dragged from the list of search criteria and dropped.
- Dragged from an index and dropped.
- Dragged from the search history and dropped.
- Loaded from a user query file.
- Pasted from an external application.

❷ **Search** button.

❸ **Search results**: Number of publications matching your search.

❹ **Go to result list** button: Opens the Result window.

❺ **Delete current query** button.

❻ **Save/load queries** button: Queries listed in the History box can be saved locally (with or without comments) for future use (see section Save/load queries).

❼ **Operator** toolbar: All the arithmetic and Boolean operators and wildcards that you need for your queries are displayed in this bar.

❽ **Proximity search** button: Searches for titles, abstracts, descriptions, claims, inventors, applicants, representatives and references to NPL (non-patent literature) citations are possible with proximity operators, e.g. *search word1 up to a maximum of x word(s) apart from word2 in that order / whatever the order.*

A proximity operator can also be entered manually between two words as follows:

WORD = laser +2w beam

This query construction means: "laser" up to a maximum of one word apart from "beam", in that order, to retrieve laser beam, laser light beam, laser welding beam, etc.

See also the Query syntax and Search features sections, which contain multiple sample queries.

4.4. HISTORY BOX

A query is added to the History box only if the associated search is successful, in other words if there is no syntax error in the query.

The 100 most recent queries are stored locally in the search history. Stored queries are usually used for:

- Combining queries in the query edit zone, e.g.:

  IPC = A61K and $10

  $3 andnot $2

- Saving queries: History queries can be saved for future use (see Save/load queries section).

If the search returns zero documents, or an unexpectedly high number of documents, then the parsed query (i.e. the user query transformed into a query that is used by the search engine - see item ❺ below) may help you understand if there is an error in the logic of the query.

For example, we want to retrieve publications on the purification ("Reinigung" in German) of argon. If we enter:

WORD = argon and purification or reinigung

the corresponding (simplified) parsed query would be:

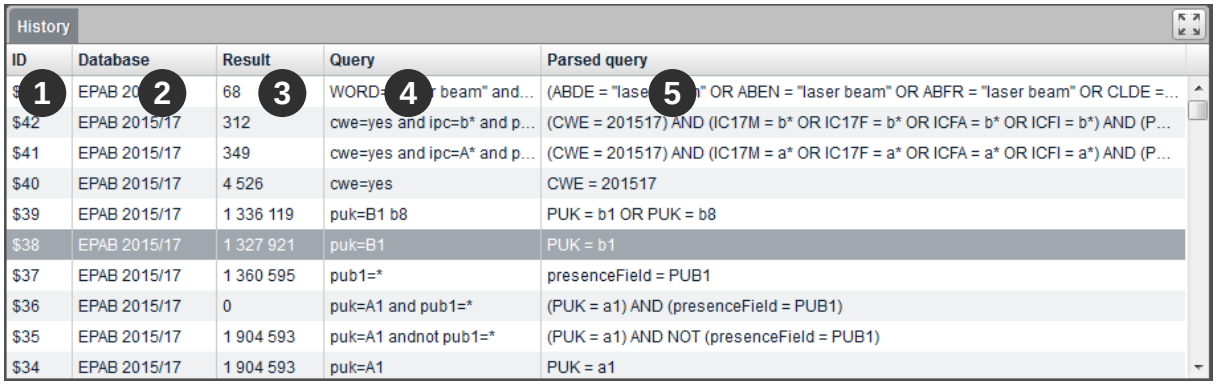
WORD = (argon and purification) or reinigung

In the above example, EPAB would return a surprisingly high number of results due to the omission of brackets. Many documents would contain the word "Reinigung" but not in conjunction with argon. Correct queries would be:

WORD = argon and (purification or reinigung)

or

WORD = purification or reinigung and argon



❶ **ID** column: This is the history query number. As 100 of the most recent queries are stored, once the history box contains 100 queries, the next new query stored is given the ID number $1 and the previous query number $1 is deleted.

❷ **Database** column: Database identifier (current year and week number - an EPAB week starts with the day/hour of the database update, which is Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET).

❸ **Result** column: The number of documents matching the search.

❹ **Query** column: The query as built by you in the query edit zone.

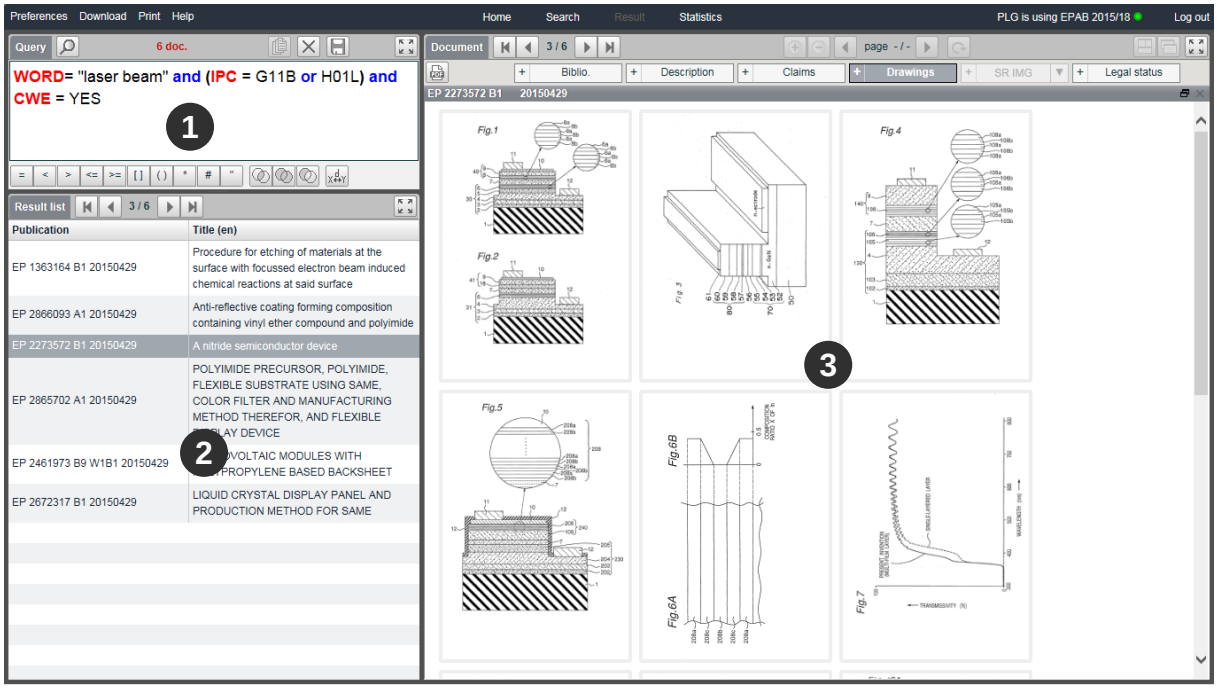
❺ **Parsed query** column: Your query as transformed by the parser for the search engine.

Context menu (right-click):

- "Append selected queries": Add to the current query displayed in the query edit zone. The two queries are connected with a default Boolean operator defined in User preferences/General.
- "Replace selected queries": Replace the current query displayed in the query edit zone with the selected query.
- "Delete selected queries".
- "Print selected queries".
- "Download selected queries": Download the selected queries to a PDF file (see also Download and print section).

5. RESULT WINDOW

Result lists and documents are available for browsing and downloading in multiple formats.



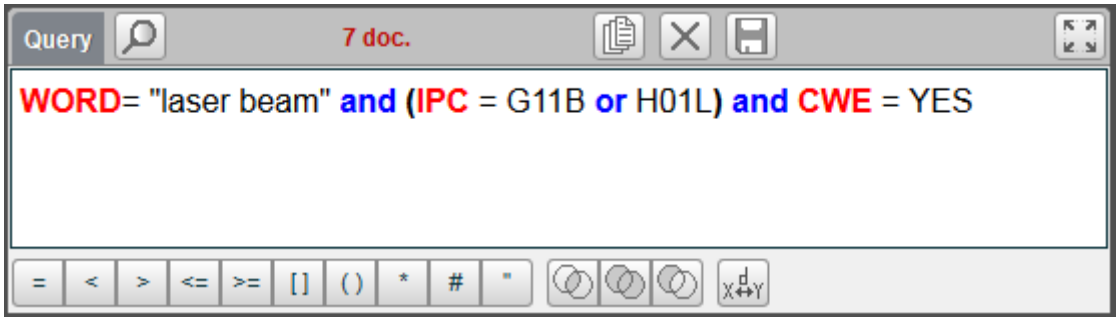
❶ Query box: identical to the Query box of the Search window.

❷ Result list box: content can be customised to focus on relevant data.

❸ Document box: content can also be customised.

5.1. QUERY BOX

All features are identical to those detailed in the Query box of the Search window. The query box allows you to refine the current search without going back to the Search window.

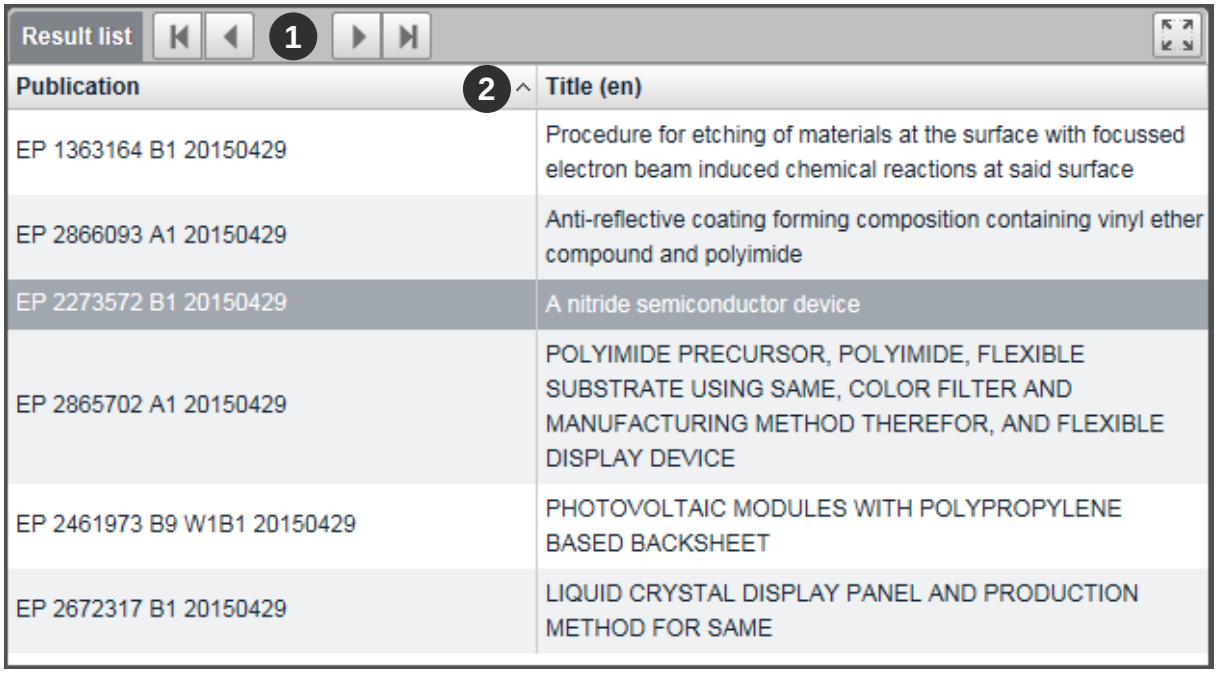


5.2. RESULT LIST BOX

Browse the list of documents matching your search, and customise the content to suit your needs by adding new columns.

By default the result list has one column only (Publication column).

All result list columns are described in Annex 2.



❶ **Navigation** buttons: If a search returns more than 10 000 documents, only the first 10 000 will be included in the scrollable part of the result list.

❷ **Column headers**: Click the arrow in a column header to trigger the sort feature (ascending/descending).

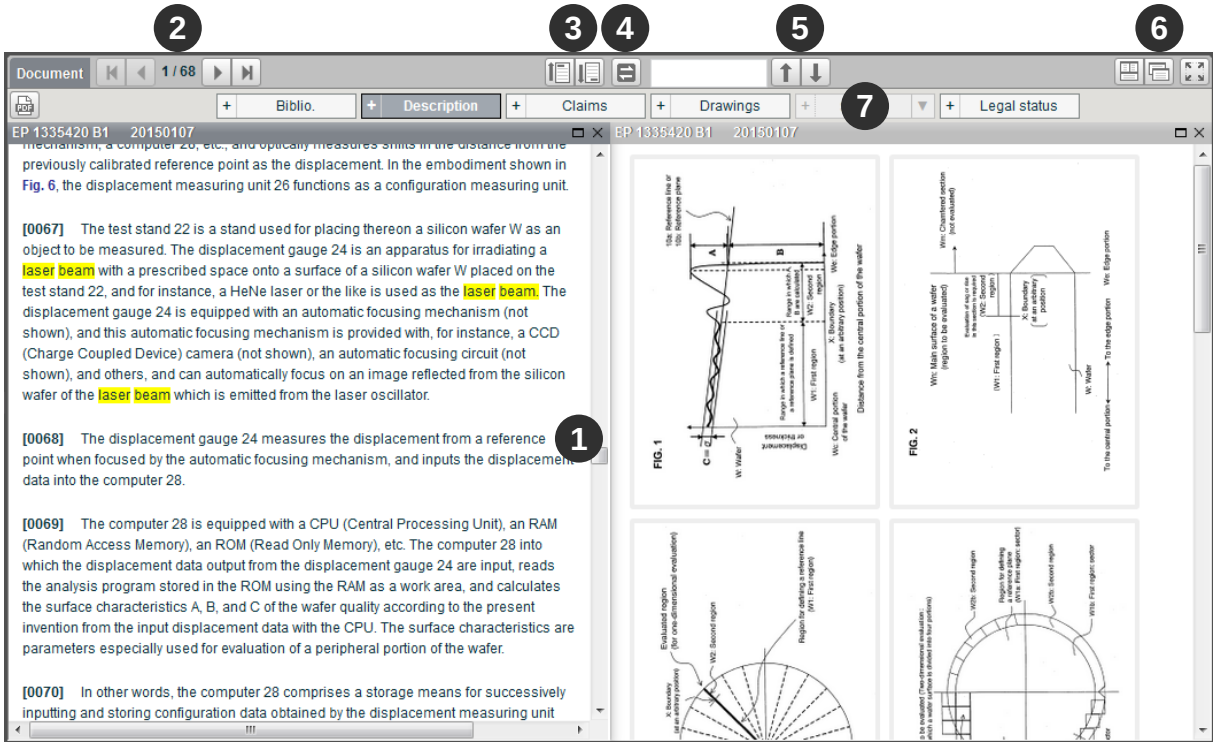
Documents can be selected and displayed in the Document box:

- With the navigation buttons.
- With a simple mouse-click in the list.
- By drag and drop - the documents displayed in the Document box are tiled.

5.3. DOCUMENT BOX

View the contents of a document and customise them to suit your needs (remove unnecessary data, and re-order relevant data).

All document fields are described in Annex 3.



❶ **Document** content: An EPAB document displayed in the UI is a set of data linked to the life of a patent. It includes:

- Text (searchable per se):
    - Bibliographic data
    - Descriptions
    - Claims
    - European search reports

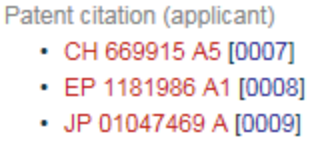
Note: Searchable data are rendered in HTML view that is in all cases for users' convenience only. It cannot be guaranteed that this view accurately reflects the underlying XML data. Only the PDF is an accurate replication of the original publication.

- Images (not searchable per se):
    - Abstract image(s)
    - Description-embedded images
    - Drawings and mosaics of drawings
    - International and European search reports

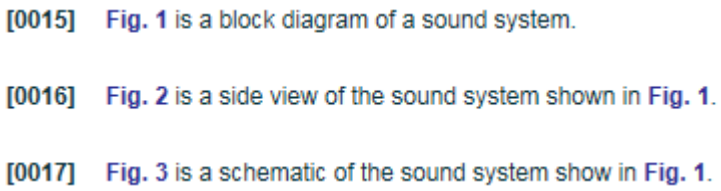
- Data fetched on the fly (EPO web service OPS, i.e. not searchable per se):
    - CPC (Cooperative Patent Classification)
    - EPO simple family
    - INPADOC family
    - Legal status

The links available in a document are as follows:

- **Red links**
    - Publication field: link to the full document in the EPS
    - Application field: link to the EPR
    - Links to classification schemes (Espacenet for CPC and WIPO for IPC)
    - Links to Espacenet for patent citations and family members
- **Blue links**
    - In bibliographic data, links to description paragraphs including citations:



    - In a description, links to figures (drawings):



❷ **Navigation** buttons: If the search returns more than 10 000 documents, only the first 10 000 will be included in the scrollable part of the result list.

❸ **Hit navigation** buttons: Go to next/previous term searched.

❹ **Translation** button: Activates the translation feature for titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims.

❺ **Find** feature: Enter a term to be found in the document currently displayed.

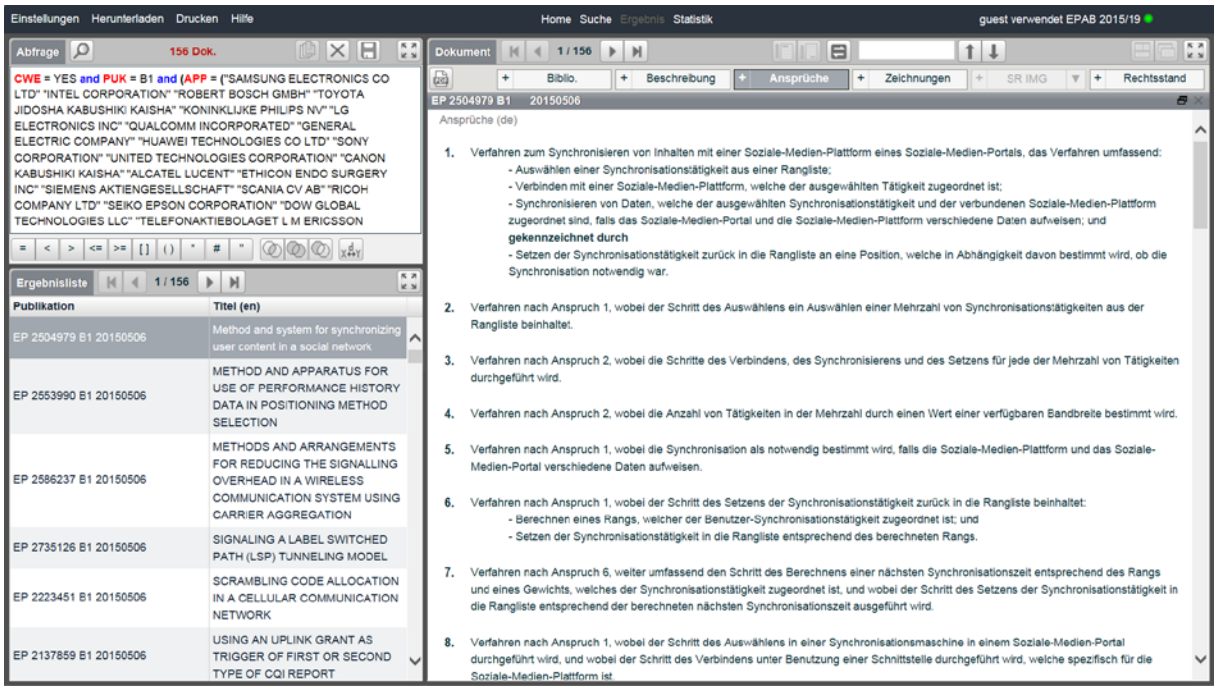
❻ **Arrange window** buttons (tile, cascade, minimise/maximise): A maximum of four windows can be opened simultaneously.

❼ Document data navigation toolbar:

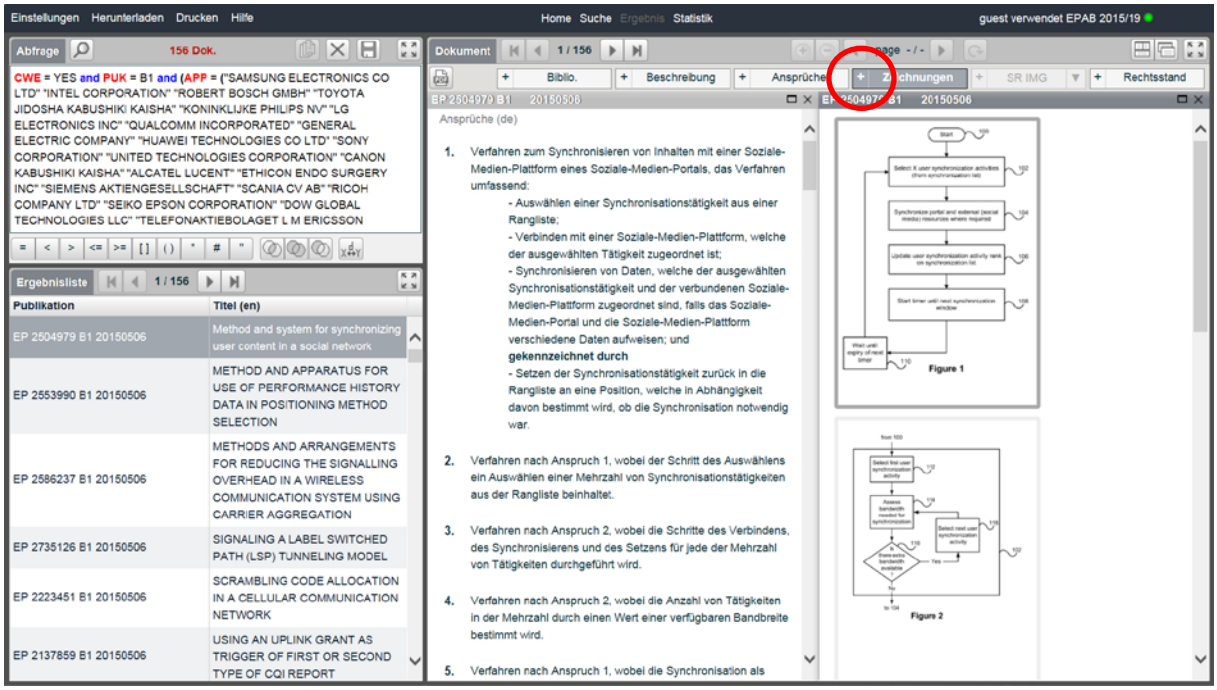
- : Displays the official publication also available in the EPS.
- More: Enables access to additional data such as sequence listings - visible with the following query: PSL = YES (PSL stands for “presence of sequence listings”).
- “Biblio.” to “Legal status” buttons:
  - Click the item you want to see in the current document window, or
  - Click “+” to show it in a new document window.
  - European search reports (SR) are available in image format (SR IMG) and text format (SR TXT – as of 2012 week 27).

Examples of result window content (UI language is German)

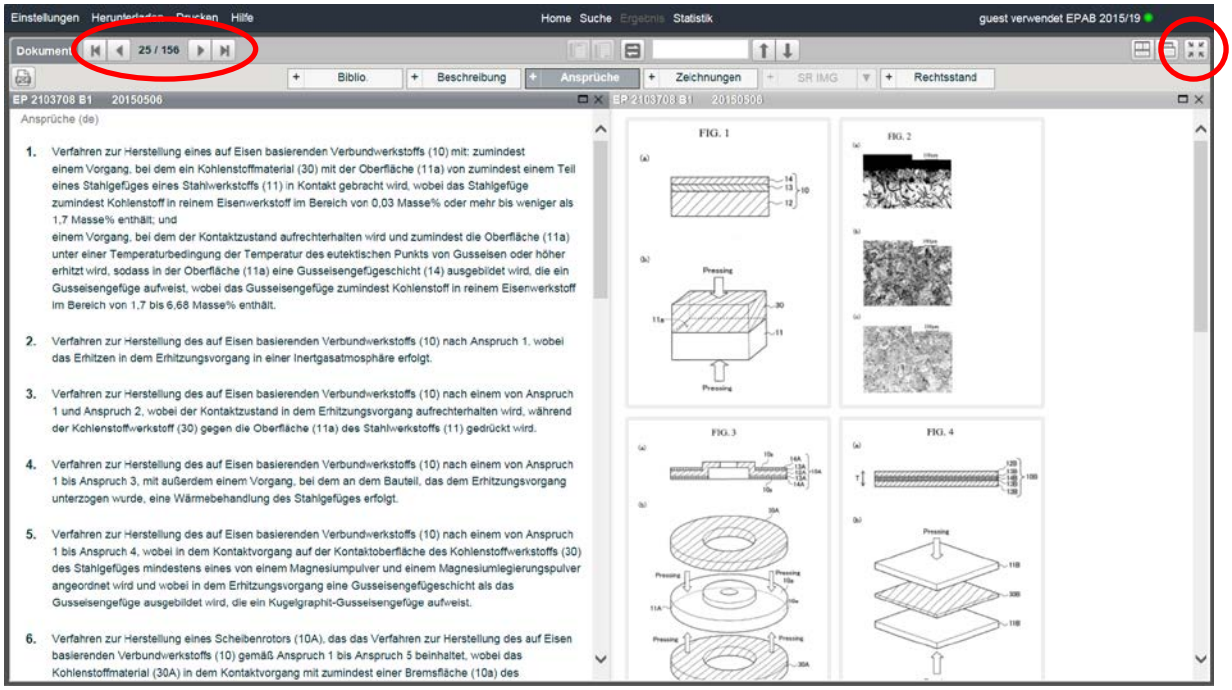
“Claims” (Ansprüche) are selected. By default the English claims appear first. In this example we have re-ordered the data to view the German claims first (go to Preferences → Document content, then go to the end of the list, where you can re-order the claims).



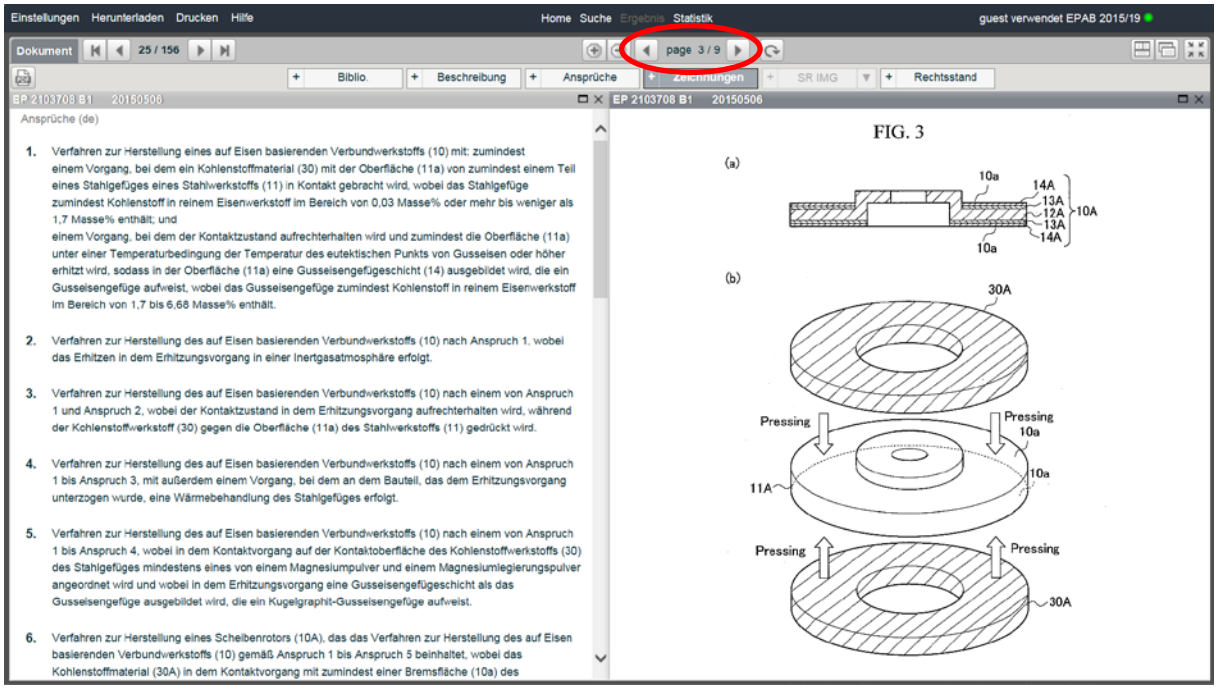
Click “+” beside “Drawings” (Zeichnungen) to view the claims and a mosaic of the drawings:



Click  (top right) to minimise/maximise the document box. Claims and mosaic windows are updated when you browse the search result list using the navigation buttons (top left):



Click an image in the mosaic to enlarge it. Navigate the list of drawings using the navigation buttons (top middle):



6. STATISTICS WINDOW

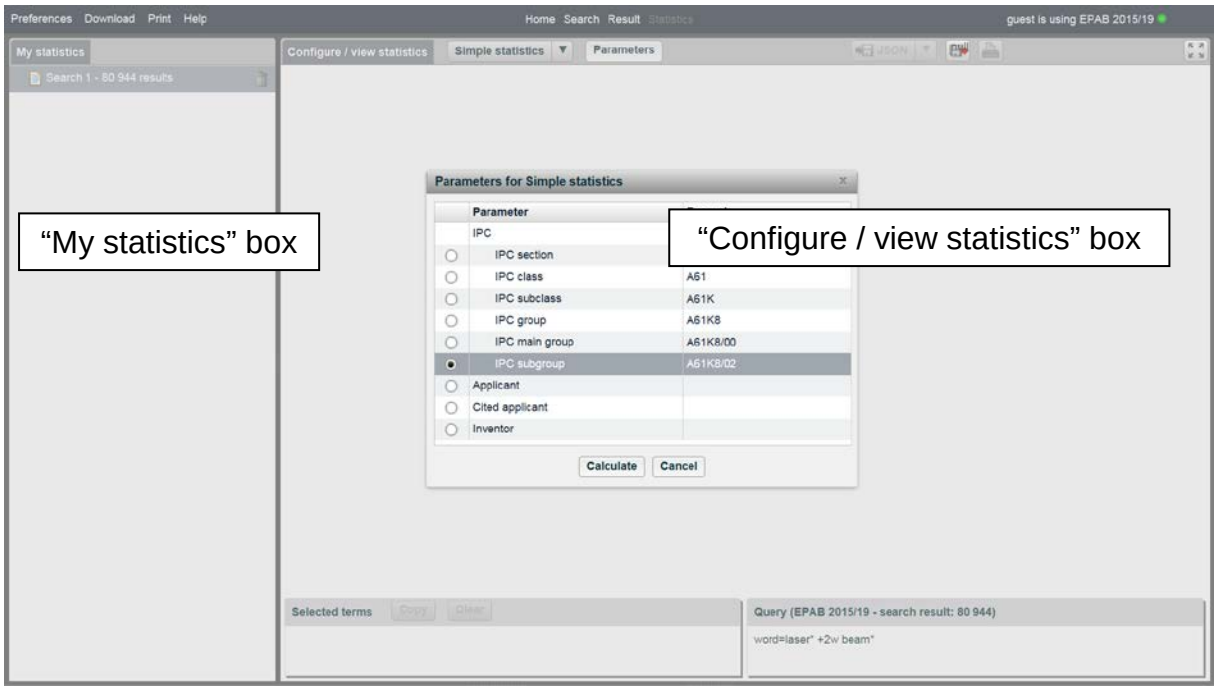
The statistics window appears when you click “Statistics” on the UI top toolbar. Its two boxes enable you to do the following:

- “My statistics” box: Navigate the list of searches and associated statistics that you have created. Statistics are kept server-side for 72 hours and can be accessed from any computer.
- "Configure/view statistics" box: Create and visualise new statistics for the search selected in the “My statistics” box. Two types of statistics are available:
    - Simple statistics: The outcome is a simple table of the top 50 ranked items corresponding to the parameter that you have selected, e.g. “IPC”, “Applicant”.
    - Cross-reference: The outcome is a bubble chart for your selected parameters for the X and Y axis, e.g. “IPC” and “Applicant”.

More specifically, the content of the statistics window depends on whether you have already run a search in the current session (case ❶) or not (case ❷).

CASE ❶: If you go to the statistics window after running a search in the current session, its content is as shown in the following screenshot (in this example the current active statistics type is “Simple statistics”):

- The “My statistics” box includes your searches (most recent at the top).
- The list of parameters (for “Simple statistics” in this example) is automatically displayed in the "Configure/view statistics" box:



CASE ❷: If you go to the statistics window without having run a search, its content is as follows:

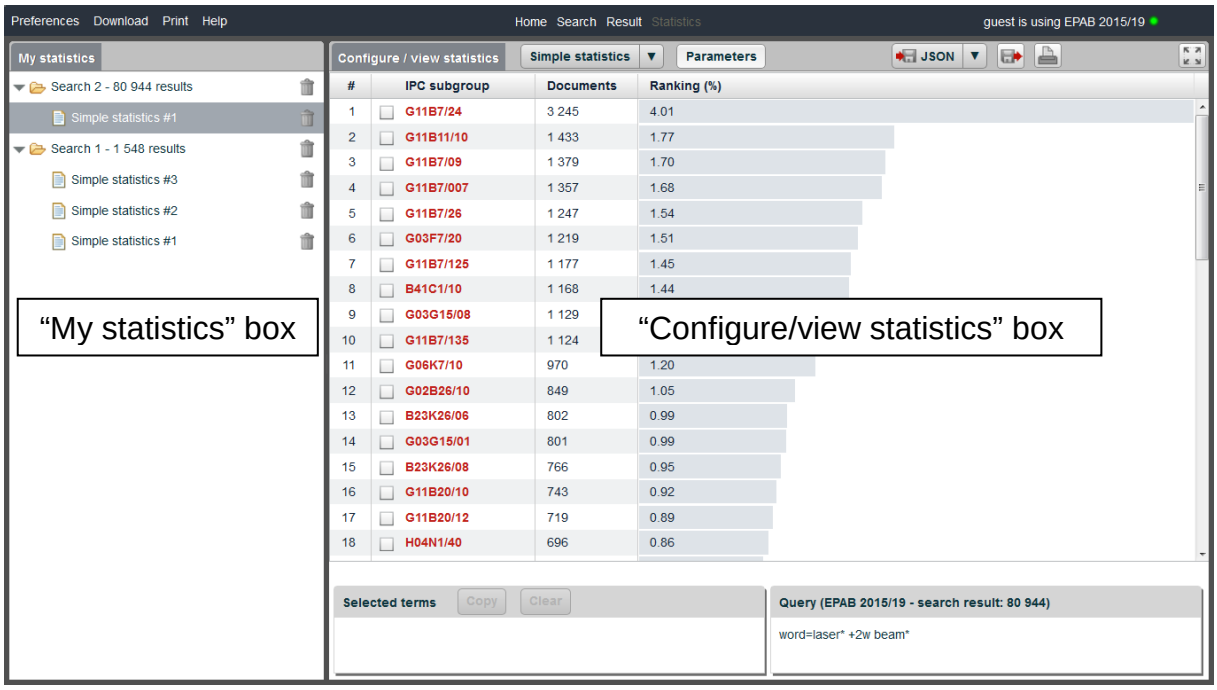
- The “My statistics” box includes searches and calculated statistics of previous sessions, or nothing if you have never run any statistics or if your previously calculated statistics have been deleted (they are kept server-side for up to 72 hours and then deleted).

- The "Configure/view statistics" box is empty. You may select a search in the “My statistics” box, select a type of statistics in the drop-down list, e.g. “Simple statistics”, and click the Parameters button.

At this stage, in either case, a list of parameters is displayed. After selecting a parameter (“IPC subgroup” in the example) and clicking the Calculate button, the statistics window shows the following content:

- The “My statistics” box includes your search with its new statistics at the top.

- The “Configure/view statistics” box includes a list of the top 50 ranked IPC subgroups extracted from the documents matching your search.



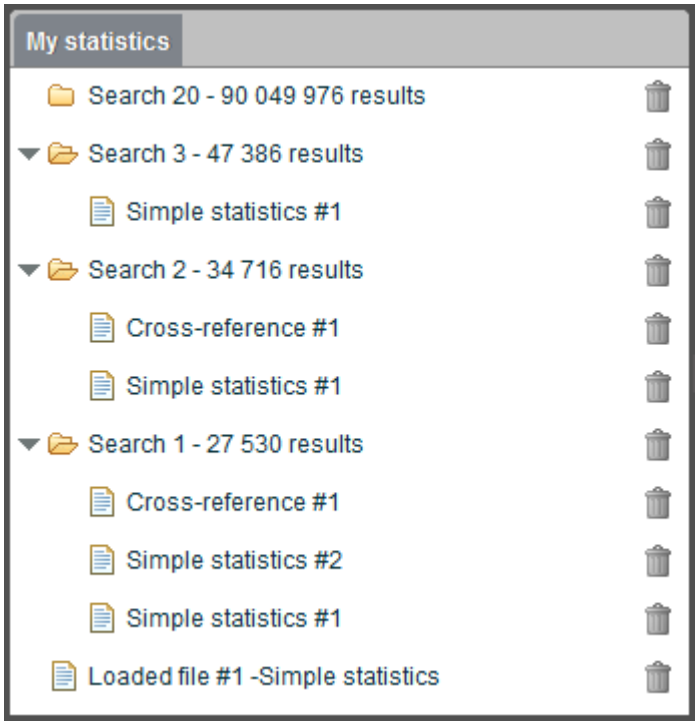
You can adjust the proportions of the two boxes by dragging the horizontal divider (the dark line between the two boxes which can be dragged left and right to resize them).

The “Configure/view statistics” box can also be minimised and maximised by clicking the minimise/maximise button  (located in the top right-hand corner) or by double-clicking the “Configure/view statistics” box top toolbar.

6.1. MY STATISTICS BOX

The content of this box is a list which may include the following items:

- Searches with result sets which have been or will be used to create and visualise statistics (most recent search at the top).
- For a given search, a list of statistics that you have created (most recent statistics at the top). EPAB currently offers two types of statistics: “Simple statistics” and “Cross-reference”.
- Loaded files (statistics can be saved locally manually and then loaded later on), which always appear at the bottom of the list as shown below:



See Configure/view statistics for creating, visualising, saving and loading statistics.

Searches, statistics and loaded files can be deleted from the list by clicking the Delete icon .

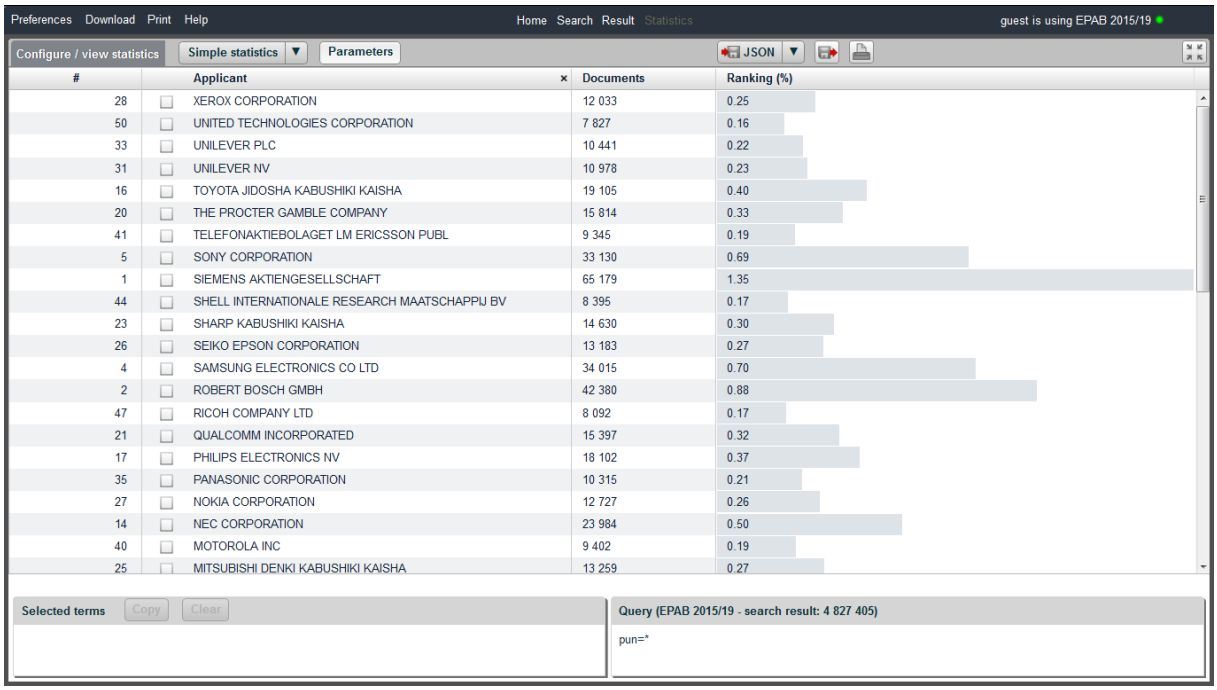
Statistics are automatically saved server-side and are therefore accessible from different computers.

Statistics are kept server-side for 72 hours before being automatically deleted.

6.2. CONFIGURE/VIEW STATISTICS BOX

This box enables you to create “Simple statistics” or “Cross-reference” charts, visualise and save/load them.

Example for Simple statistics: top 50 applicants of your search result set:



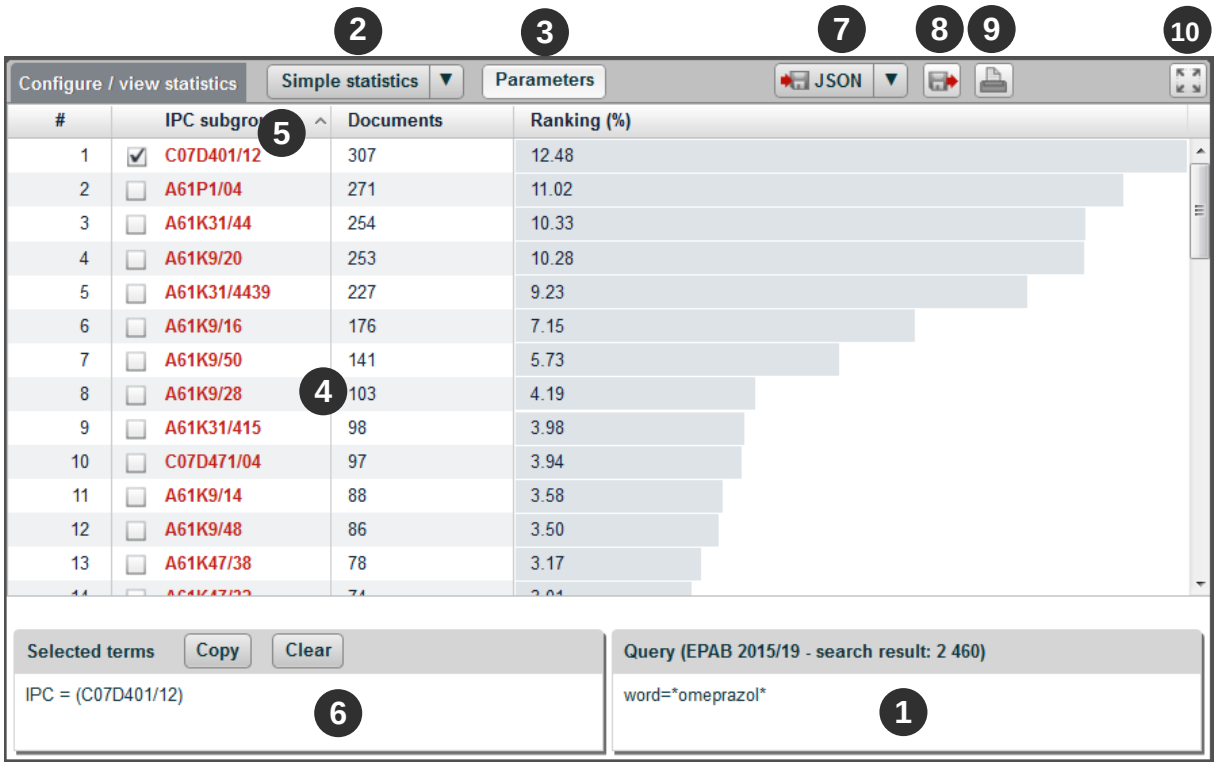
Example for Cross-reference: top 20 applicants and top 20 IPC of your search result set:

6.3. SIMPLE STATISTICS

You can use “Simple statistics” for the following purposes:

- To identify the most frequent IPC symbols in your result set corresponding to a preliminary query based on keywords. You can then select possible relevant symbols and append them automatically to your current query.

- To identify the most frequent applicants or inventors in your result set.

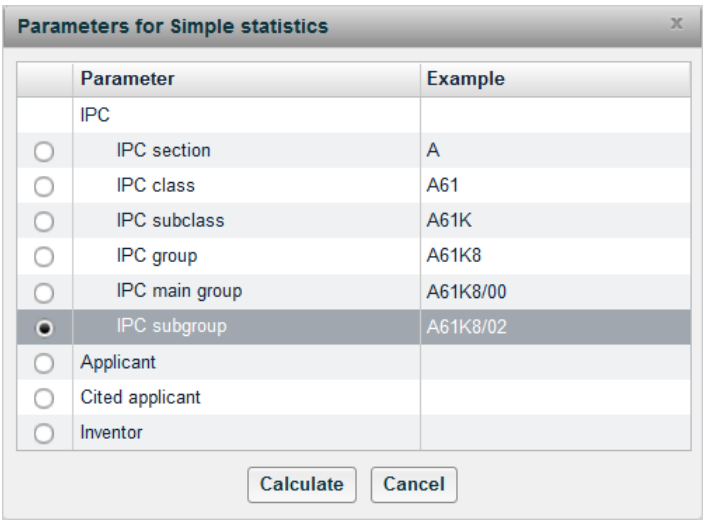


❶ **Query** area: Shows the query and search result used to compute the statistics.

❷ **Statistics** button list: May be used as follows:

- Click the button to run the selected statistics (the parameter used for the previous statistics calculation will then be re-used), or
- Open the list to change the type of statistics, e.g. use “Simple statistics” instead of “Cross-reference”, and then click the Parameters button ❸ to select the parameter(s) which will apply to the selected statistics.

❸ **Parameters** button: Each type of statistics (“Simple statistics” or “Cross-reference”) has its own set of parameters. When you click this button the following parameters show up for “Simple statistics”: IPC, (all levels of the hierarchy), applicants, cited applicants (i.e. applicants of cited patent documents) and inventors.



Select (click) the parameter you want to use (“IPC subgroup” in the example) and press the Calculate button to run your simple statistics.

❹ **Simple statistics** outcome visualisation: Includes the top 50 items of the parameter you selected in ❸. This list is calculated on the result set corresponding to the search selected in the “My statistics” box (it could be your most recent search or an older one – the selected search shows up in ❶). Note that you can select each item of the list by clicking its checkbox and re-use it in your current query (see point ❻ below). Also note that if you run statistics using the IPC, each classification symbol is a link to its description in WIPO IPC.

❺ **Sort** button: The content of a column can be sorted in ascending or descending order by clicking the arrow located in the column header.

❻ **Selected terms** area: Each item included in the top 50 can be selected by clicking its checkbox. To re-use the selected items in your current query click the Copy button. Clicking the Clear button empties this area and unchecks all checkboxes.

❼ **Save** button list: The following formats are available:

- JSON: format frequently used in and between HTML applications. You can use this format for example to archive statistics output which can be loaded and visualised later.
- HTML
- CSV

❽ **Load** button: Use to load statistics (“Simple statistics” or “Cross-reference”) previously saved in JSON format.

Note that statistics are kept server-side for 72 hours. Should you want to keep statistics for more than 72 hours, you can save them in one of the proposed formats, e.g. JSON for visualising your statistics in the UI.

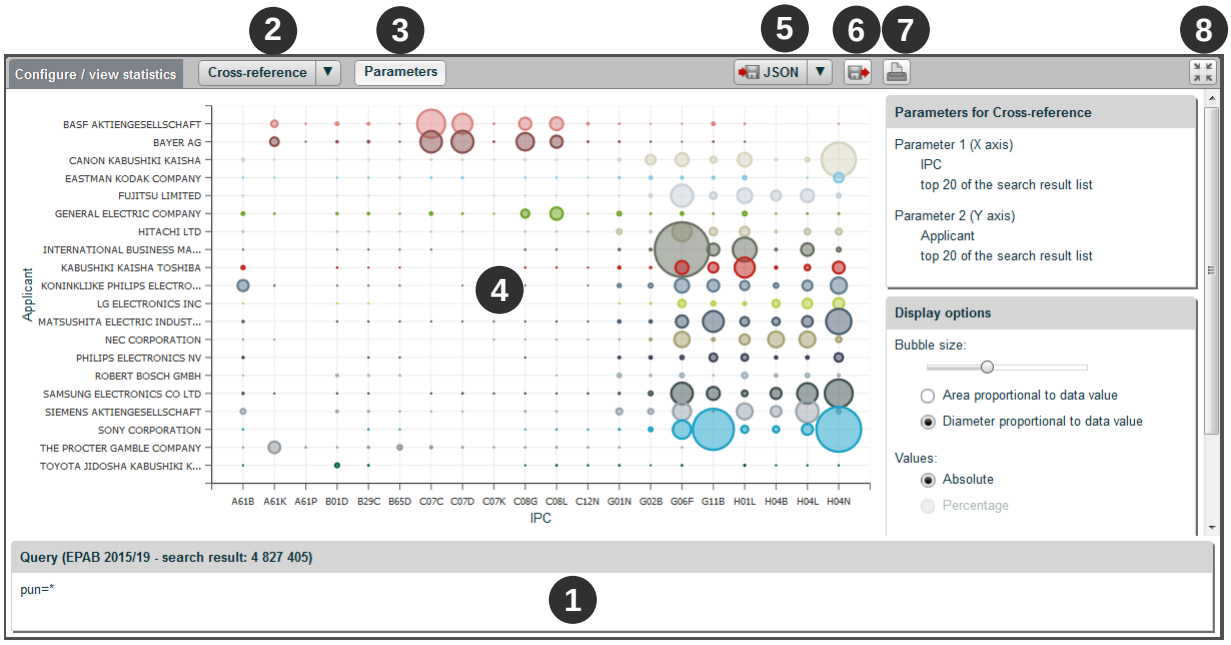
❾ **Print** button.

❿ **Maximise/minimise**: Click this button to maximise or minimise your “Configure/view statistics” box. You can also maximise or minimise the box by double-clicking its toolbar.

6.1. CROSS-REFERENCE

You can use “Cross-reference” for the following purposes:

- To visualise technology trends over the years for the top 20 IPC subclasses.
- To visualise the activities of the top 20 applicants over the years or in the top 20 IPC subclasses.

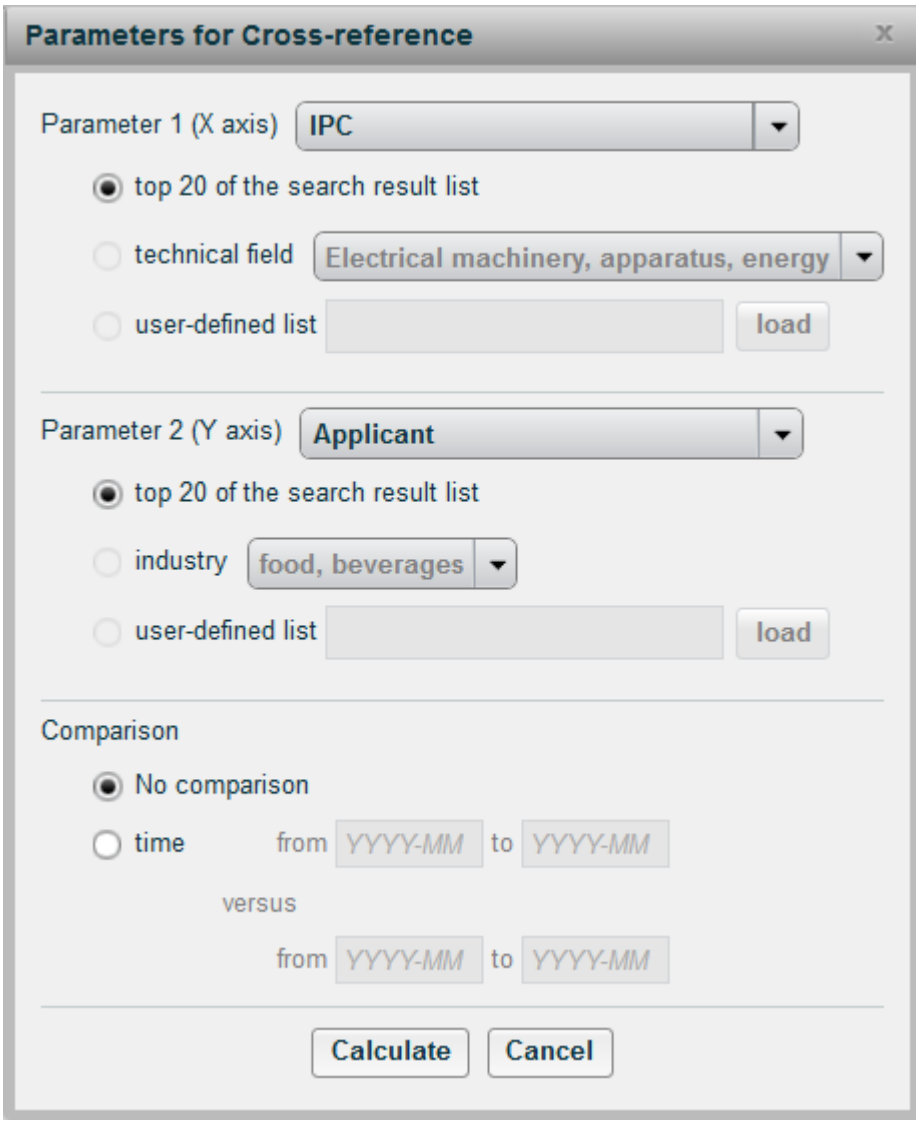


❶ **Query** area: Shows the query and search result used to compute the statistics.

❷ **Statistics** button list: May be used as follows:

- Click the button to run the selected statistics (the parameter used for the previous statistics calculation will then be re-used), or
- Open the list to change the type of statistics, e.g. use “Cross-reference” instead of “Simple statistics”, and then click the Parameters button ❸ to select the parameter(s) which will apply to the selected statistics.

❸ **Parameters** button: Once clicked, the following parameters are shown:



Parameter 1 (X axis) and parameter 2 (Y axis) can be one of the following items:

- Date of priority
- Date of filing
- Date of publication
- IPC
- Applicant
- Inventor

After selecting parameter 1 and 2 (“IPC” and “Applicant” in this example), press the Calculate button to run your cross-reference.

Note that parameters 1 (X axis) and 2 (Y axis) can be identical, e.g. IPC and IPC to spot associations of technical fields, or applicant and applicant to spot collaborations.

❹ **Cross-reference** outcome visualisation: This is a bubble chart showing the top 20 items corresponding to the parameters you selected for the X and Y axes. You can modify the style of your chart using the display options located on the right-hand side of the bubble chart.

❺ **Save** button list: The following formats are available:

- JSON: format frequently used in and between HTML applications. You can use this format for example to archive statistics output which can be loaded and visualised later.
- PDF
- CSV

❻ **Load** button: Load statistics (“Simple statistics” or “Cross-reference”) previously saved in JSON format.

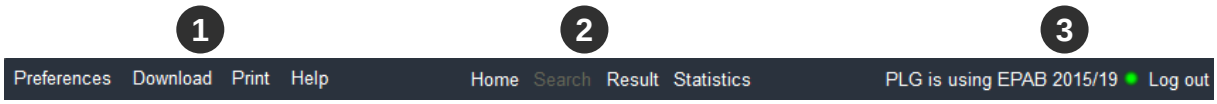
Note that statistics are kept server-side for 72 hours. Should you want to keep statistics for more than 72 hours, you can save them in one of the proposed formats, e.g. JSON for visualising your statistics in the UI.

❼ **Print** button.

❽ **Maximise/minimise**: Click this button to maximise or minimise your “Configure/view statistics” box. You can also maximise or minimise the box by double-clicking its toolbar.

7. UI TOP TOOLBAR

The top toolbar is visible in the Search, Result and Statistics windows. It provides access to the download, print and user preference functionalities, and navigation between the Welcome, Search, Result and Statistics windows:



❶ Menu:

- **Preferences**: Set your user preferences, e.g. for customising the result list content and document content.
- **Download**: Download e.g. your current result list or documents.
- **Print**: Print e.g. your current result list or document.
- **Help**: Access to this user manual. Click About to see the current version of the "Patent information services for experts".

❷ Navigate between the Welcome, Search, Result and Statistics windows.

❸ Username, EPAB database edition number, and log out.

8. QUERY SYNTAX

An EPAB query is usually a combination of the following:

- Search criteria codes, e.g. WORD for title, abstract, description and claim words in all languages.

- Terms to be searched for, e.g. description/claim keywords, IPC symbols, applicant/inventor names, kind codes, publication/filing dates, etc.

- Boolean operators to connect criteria and terms for a given criterion

    - **AND** Example:
      Documents with "argon" and "purification" in their title or abstract (whatever the language):
      WORD = argon and purification

    - **OR** Examples:
      Documents with "laser" and "beam" in their English title or abstract:
      TIEN or ABEN = laser and beam
      Documents with "E coli" or "Escherichia coli" in their title, abstract, description or claims (whatever the language):
      WORD = "E coli" or "Escherichia coli"

    - **NOT**, **ANDNOT** Examples:
      Documents without applicant:
      not (APP = *)
      Documents with IPC A01B13/08 but not A01B13/12:
      IPC = A01B13/08 andnot A01B13/12 - identical to:
      IPC = A01B13/08 and not (IPC = A01B13/12)
      Note the use of brackets when not used alone.

- Arithmetic operators

    - **= equal to** Example:
      Documents with "laser" in their title, abstract, description or claims:
      WORD = laser

    - **> greater than**, **>= greater than or equal to** Example:
      Documents filed as of 2010/01/01:
      APD >= 2010/01/01 (identical to APD >= 2010)

    - **< less than**, **<= less than or equal to** Example:
      Documents published before 1900/01/01:
      PUD < 1900/01/01 (identical to PUD < 1900, PUD < 01011900)

- **[ ] date range** Example:
  Documents published in the first half of 2010:
  PUD [2010/01/01, 2010/06/30]
  Documents published between 1900 and 1920:
  PUD [1900, 1920] - note that PUD=[1900, 1920] is not correct syntax due to the presence of “=”.

- **( ) brackets** to force the order of operations Example:
  Documents about the "purification" ("Reinigung" in German) of "argon":
  WORD = argon and (purification or reinigung)

- Proximity operators Examples:
  To retrieve documents where "argon" is up to a maximum of two words apart from "purification", whatever the order (e.g. "argon purification", "purification of argon"):
  WORD = argon /2w purification

  To retrieve documents where "nano" is one word apart from "particle" or "particles", in the same order:
  WORD = nano +1w particle*

- Wildcards

  - *** (asterisk)** stands for zero or more characters Examples:
    Documents containing the words "particle", "particles":
    WORD = particle*
    Documents containing the words "dihydroxyphenyl", "trihydroxyphenyl":
    WORD = *hydroxyphenyl
    Documents containing the words "disaccharide", "disaccharides", "monosaccharide", "monosaccharides":
    WORD = *saccharid*
    Documents containing the words "hydroxydiphenyl", "hydroxycarbophenyl":
    WORD = hydroxy*phenyl

  - # **(hash)** stands for one mandatory character Example:
    Documents containing the words "paralyse", "paralyze":
    WORD = paraly#e

- String delimiters **" "** (double quotes)

  Double quotes cannot be used in combination with wildcards.

  Examples: If an IPC symbol is copied from the first page of a patent document and pasted into the Query box, the symbol may be composed of two terms separated by white space, e.g. A61K 49/00.

  In this case the query

  IPC = A61K 49/00

  will be interpreted as

  IPC = A61K OR IPC = 49/00

  The above query does not return the expected result. This is due

  (i) to the presence of white space between A61K and 49/00, and
  (ii) to the use of the default operator OR between terms - see User preferences / General on setting the value of default operators.

  The correct syntax should be

  IPC = "A61K 49/00"

  which is equivalent to

  IPC = A61K49/00

  In other words, use string delimiters to search for expressions.

  Examples

  WORD = hydrophobic nano particles

  may be an incorrect query, whereas

  WORD = **"**hydrophobic nano particles**"**

  would retrieve a more accurate result.

  INV = FROMONT GAELLE

  may be an incorrect query, whereas

  INV = "FROMONT GAELLE"

  would retrieve a more accurate result.

Notes - Hints for syntax queries in EPAB

- The search for an expression is automatically transformed into a proximity search. Example:

  WORD = **"**hydrophobic nano particles**"**

  is transformed into

  WORD = hydrophobic +1w nano +1w particles

- Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters. Example:

  WORD = "laser beam*"

  does not return the expected result (documents containing "laser beam" or "laser beams").
  The correct query is

  WORD = laser +1w beam*

- The question mark "?" is not an EPAB wildcard. Example:

  WORD = particle?

  does not return the expected result (particle, particles).
  An example of a recommended query is

  WORD = particle*

Queries are evaluated from left to right, and brackets must sometimes be used to force the order of operations. Example: You want to retrieve documents on the purification ("Reinigung" in German) of argon. If you enter:

WORD = argon and purification or reinigung

the real query used by the search engine would be (evaluation from left to right):

WORD = (argon and purification) or reinigung

EPAB would return a surprisingly high number of results due to missing brackets, and many documents would contain "Reinigung" but not in association with "argon". A correct query would be:

WORD = argon and (purification or reinigung)

Due to left-to-right evaluation, the following query would also be correct:

WORD = purification or reinigung and argon

9. SEARCH FEATURES

9.1. SEARCHING WITH NUMBERS AND KIND CODES

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practices and more search examples.

Most common search criteria

PUN PUK IPUN: Publication number, publication kind code, international publication number
APN IAPN: Application number, international application number
PRN: Priority number
CPAT: Patent citation (all types)

Data indexing rules

Patent identifiers are usually composed of the following:

- Country code CC
- Number NB
- Kind code KC

At indexing time a patent identifier CCNBKC is split as follows:

NB
CC
CCNB
CCNBKC

Each individual term can be used in a query without right truncation.

Example: In the case of EP1000000A1, the PUN index contains 1000000, EP, EP1000000, EP1000000A1, and each term can be used in a query without right truncation. The same rule applies to APN, PRN and CPAT.

Query examples

PUN = EP1000000
Retrieves the EP1000000 A1 and B1 publications

APN = EP99974258 EP99974259 EP99974260 EP99974261 EP99974262
Retrieves publications of the listed applications

PRN = ES9000186 ES9000088 ES9000111 ES9000126 ES9000130 ES9000175
Retrieves publications of the listed priorities

CPAT = AT327449 US2461348 US1905990 WO9718892
Retrieves publications citing the listed documents

Note that, in the three examples above, white space can be used between numbers, assuming that the default operator between terms is set to "OR" in your User preferences/General.

PUK = B1 B2 B3 and CWE = YES
Retrieves all B1 B2 and B3 publications published in the current week (the EPAB week starts Wednesday at 14.00 hrs)

9.2. SEARCHING WITH DATES

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practices and more search examples.

Most common search criteria

PUD: Publication date
APD: Application date
PRD: Priority date

Data indexing rules

Dates are usually formatted as follows: YYYYMMDD (Y=year M=month D=day). For the publication date 20150506, the following terms appear in the PUD index (same principle for APD and PRD):

2015
201505
20150506

Each individual term can be used in a query without right truncation.

Search filter

A filter enables you to enter a date in multiple formats:

- YYYYMMDD or DDMMYYYY or YYYYMM or MMYYYY
- YYYY/MM/DD or DD/MM/YYYY or YYYY/MM or MM/YYYY
- YYYY-MM-DD or DD-MM-YYYY or YYYY-MM or MM-YYYY
- YYYY.MM.DD or DD.MM.YYYY or YYYY.MM or MM.YYYY

Query examples

The following queries are equivalent:

PUD = 2008
PUD = 2008*
PUD >= 2008/01/01 and PUD <= 2008/31/12
PUD [01-01-2008, 31-12-2008]

PUD [2000, 2010] and IPC = C01B23
Retrieves publications published in the range 2000-2010 in IPC technical field C01B23

(PRD or APD) [2000, 2010] and APP = ABCD
Retrieves publications filed in the range 2000-2010 for applicant ABCD.

9.3. SEARCHING WITH CLASSIFICATIONS

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practices and more search examples.

There are multiple criteria available for detailed searches with international and national classifications.

Most common search criteria

IPC: Cumulates all IPC editions
IC8: Cumulates the main group and full levels of IPC8

Data indexing rules

For the IPC B66D 5/14 the following terms appear in the IPC index:

B66	(sections are not indexed individually)
B66D	
B66D0005	(main group on four digits)
B66D000514	

Each individual term can be used in a query without right truncation.

Search filter

A filter enables you to enter classification symbols in multiple formats. For example, the following queries are equivalent:

IPC = A01B1/10
IPC = "A01B 1/10"
IPC = A01B000110

Query examples

IPC = A*
Retrieves all publications under IPC section A; identical to IPC = A##

IPC = B66D1
Retrieves all publications of the IPC group B66D1, meaning the main group B66B1/00 and all underlying subgroups

IPC = A
Returns 0 documents because sections are not indexed individually

IPC = B01D 1/26
Does not retrieve the expected result due to the presence of white space between class and group, which is interpreted as a logical "or", assuming that the default operator between terms is set to "or" in your User preferences/General.

The correct query is IPC = B01D1/26.
Also correct: IPC = " B01D 1/26".

Note:

The IPC hierarchy is not known in EPAB. You cannot, for example, indicate that you want to search for IPC A01B13/08 (one dot) and automatically include sub-levels A01B13/10 (2 dots) and A01B13/12 (three dots).

9.4. SEARCHING WITH KEYWORDS

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practices and more search examples.

Most common search criteria

TIEN ABEN DEEN CLEN	Titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in English
TIDE ABDE DEDE CLDE	Titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in German
TIFR ABFR DEFR CLFR	Titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in French
WORD	Titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in all available languages

Data indexing rules

All words of all titles, abstracts, descriptions and claims in all languages are indexed.

The WORD index may help you identify possible variants of a term.

Query examples

WORD = argon and (reinigung or purification)
Retrieves documents related to the purification (or "Reinigung" in German) of argon, when these words are included in titles, abstracts, descriptions or claims.

WORD = "nano particles"
Retrieves documents containing this expression. Note that the search for an expression is transformed into a proximity search with the following operator:
WORD = nano +1w particles - meaning "nano" up to a maximum of one word apart from "particles", in the same order.
The query WORD = nano +1w particle* would be more appropriate to retrieve the words "particle" and "particles".

WORD = argon /2w purification
Retrieves documents where "argon" is up to a maximum of two words apart from "purification", whatever the order (e.g. "argon purification", "purification of argon").

WORD = particle?
Does not retrieve the expected result (particle, particles). The question mark "?" is not a wildcard in EPAB.

Notes:

- Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters (quotes). For example, WORD = "laser beam*" does not return the expected result (documents containing "laser beam" or "laser beams").The correct query would be WORD = laser +1w beam*.

- A significant number of documents include text where white space is missing between words. You might therefore decide to make more frequent use of right truncation in your terms. See also Index box.

9.5. SEARCHING WITH NAMES

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practices.

Most common search criteria

INV: Inventor name
APP: Applicant/proprietor name
REP: Representative name
CAPP: Applicant name of cited patent

Data indexing rules

Names are indexed by terms and expressions.

For example, the inventor "Fromont Gaëlle" appears in the INV index as follows:

fromont
fromont gaelle
gaelle

The CAPP, INV, REP and APP index may help you to identify possible variants of a name.

Query examples

INV = smith and john
Retrieves documents where the applicant names are for example “Kelly John” and “Smith Stephen”.

INV = "john smith"
Retrieves documents where applicant names include the expression "john smith". It does not retrieve "smith john".

Note that the search for an expression is transformed into a proximity search with the following proximity operator:
INV = john +1w smith - meaning "john" one word apart from "smith", in that order.

INV = john /1w smith
Retrieves documents where applicant names include "john" up to a maximum of one word apart from "smith", whatever the order, i.e. it does retrieve "john smith" and "smith john".

Note:

Wildcards cannot be placed between quotes.

9.6. SEARCHING WITH PATENT/NPL CITATIONS

If you identify any criteria relevant for your searches that are not described in this section, see the description of all EPAB criteria in Annex 1.

See Query syntax for information on essential query-building practices.

Most common search criteria

CCAT: Search categories of search reports, e.g. X, Y
CPAT: Patent citations whatever their origin
CNPL: Non-patent literature (NPL) citations whatever their origin

See also CAPP in Search with names to search for applicants of cited patents.

CPAT and CNPL include more accurate search criteria for searching the following patent/NPL citation types:

- applicant
- search report
- examination phase

Data indexing rules

Patent citations: same rules applied to all patent identifiers.
See Search with numbers.

NPL citations: same rules applied to text.

Query examples

CCAT = X Y
Retrieves documents containing the categories Y or X in their search reports.

CNPL = "GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY"
Retrieves documents containing the searched expression in at least one of their NPL citation fields, e.g. "EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF GYNAECOLOGICAL ONCOLOGY" in a search report. This query is automatically converted into a query containing proximity operators: CNPL = GYNAECOLOGICAL +1w ONCOLOGY.

CPAT = EP1000000 AT327449
Retrieves documents containing one or more of the listed citations in at least one of their patent citation fields, e.g. search report and/or applicant citation fields.

Note:

Wildcards cannot be placed between string delimiters (quotes).

9.7. REGULAR MONITORING SEARCHES

EPAB is a cumulative database updated every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET.

For regular monitoring searches you may use the following criteria:

- CWE, current week: Focuses your search on the documents of the current publication week. Example (assuming we are in 2015 week 17):
  CWE = YES and IPC = ... and APP = ...

  At search time, “CWE = YES” will be automatically transformed into “CWE = 201517”. CWE is particularly interesting as you can save a query and reuse it as is a week later.

- PUD (publication date) or PUW (publication week). Example with PUW (with four-week monitoring, assuming we are in 2015 week 17):
  PUW = 201514 201515 201516 201517 and IPC = ... and APP = ...

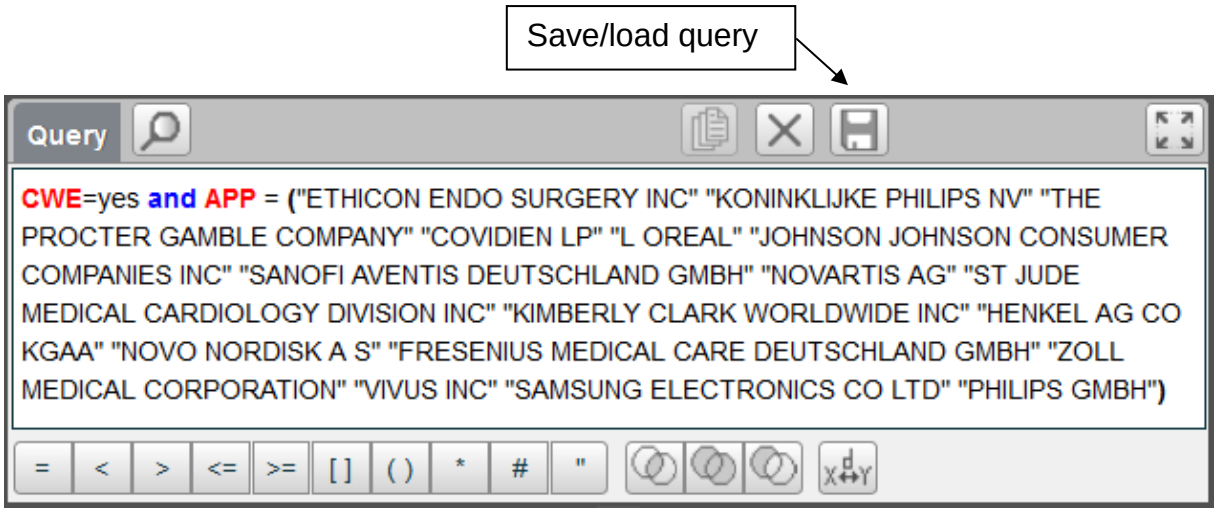
  In this case, a query cannot be re-used as is, i.e. the week numbers must be changed manually every time the query is re-used.

See also Database content and update.

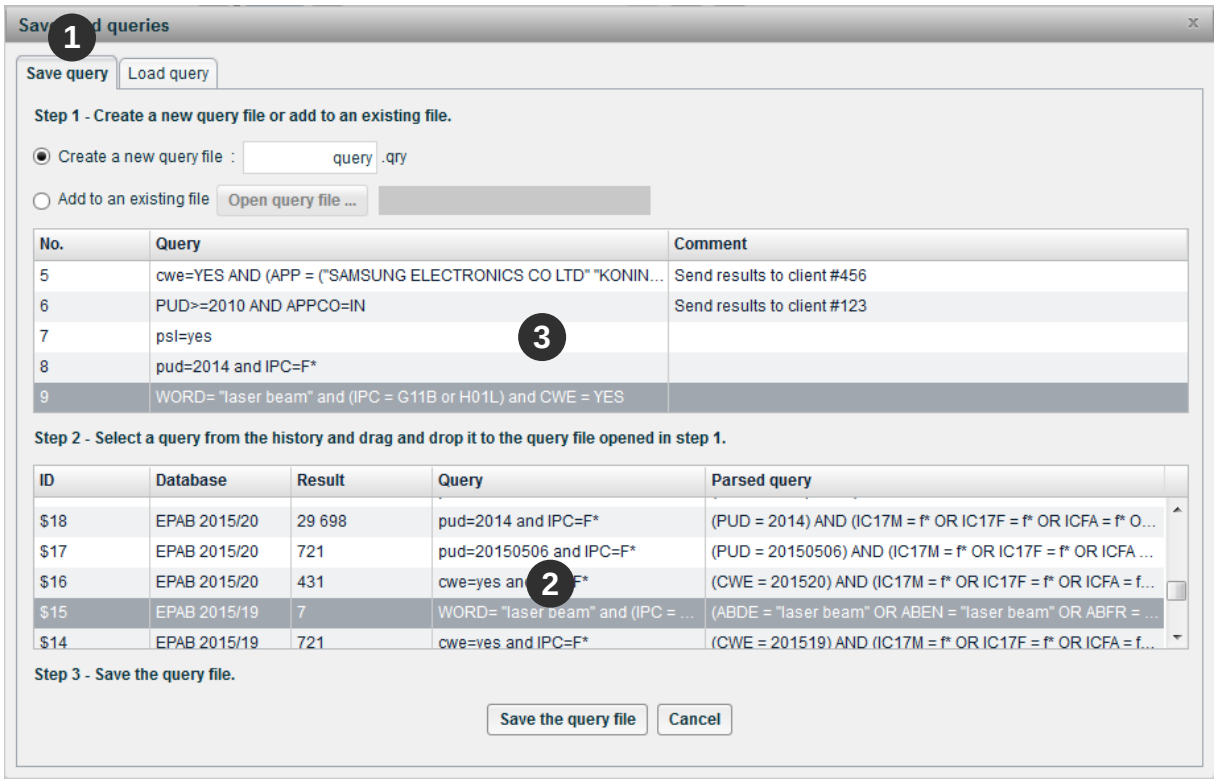
10. SAVE/LOAD QUERIES

If you have a complex query that you may wish to re-use frequently, we recommend saving it locally and loading it as required. For more information, see Regular monitoring searches.

Queries can be saved/loaded using the save/load queries button in the Query box of the Search window and the Result window:



10.1. SAVE QUERIES

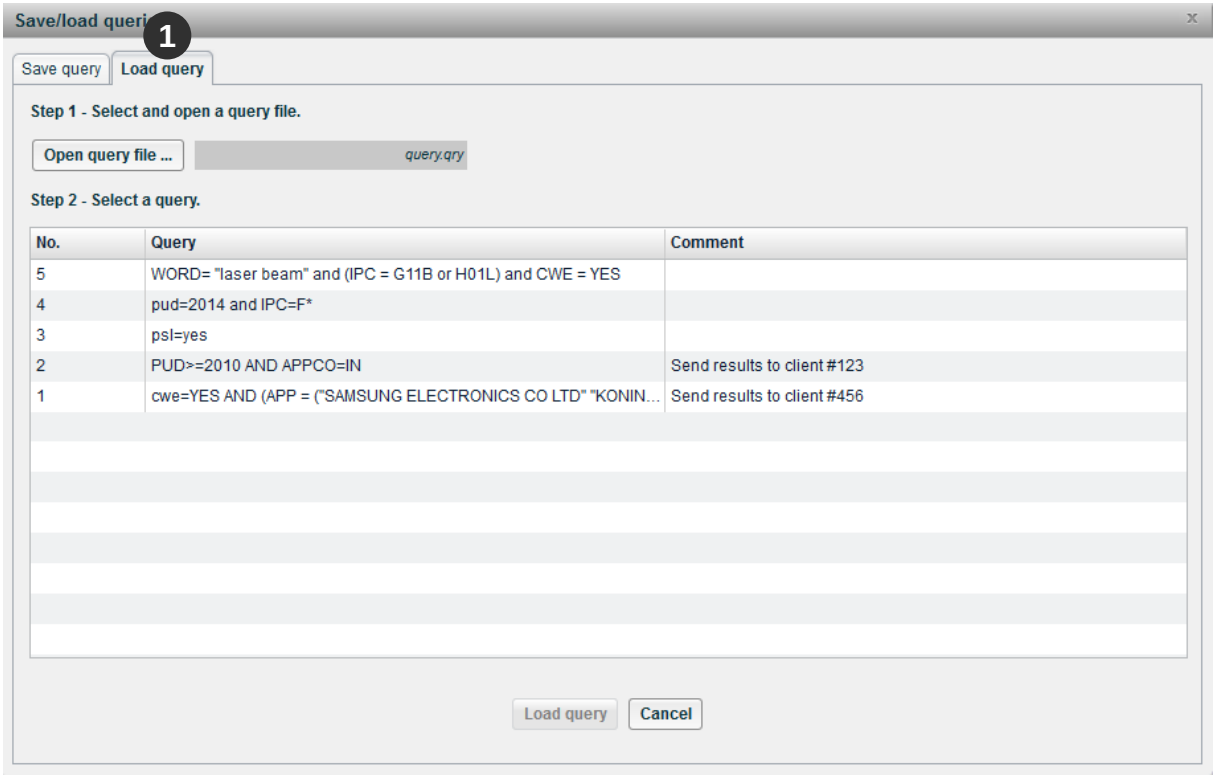


❶ The **Save query** tab lets you save history queries in a local file named query.QRY by default.

❷ Search history (same content as the History box of the Search window).

❸ Content of your query file showing queries that have been dragged and dropped from the search history. Saved queries may contain comments (see the context menu displayed when you right-click a query).

10.2. LOAD QUERIES



❶ The **Load query** tab lets you open your query file and select the query to be loaded. When you click the “Load query” button, you can choose whether the selected query should overwrite the current one or whether it should be appended to the query in the query edit zone.

If it is appended, the default Boolean operator used for this function is the one you defined in User preferences/General.

11. USER PREFERENCES

The user preferences feature allows for several different kinds of settings that will be stored locally for your convenience:

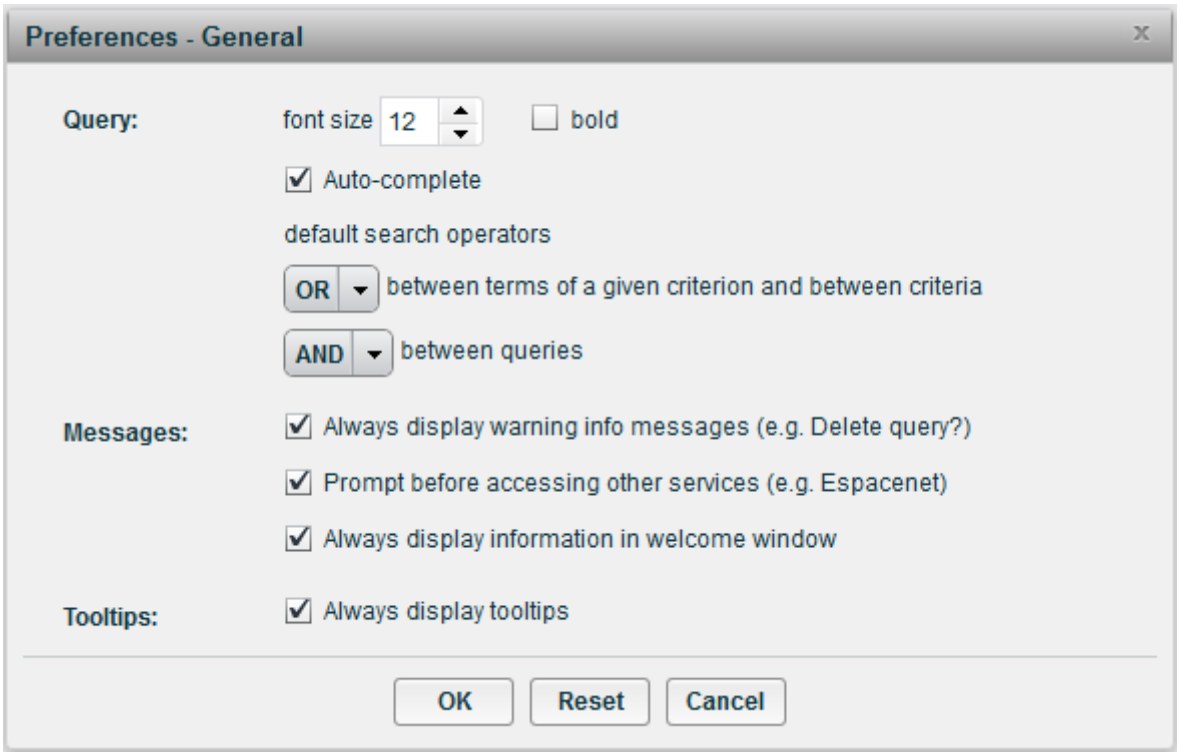
1. Layout of the user interface, e.g. width/height of the Criteria, Index, Query, History, Result list and Document boxes in the Search and Result windows.

2. Options selected when a function is executed, e.g. selected format for downloads, query file name used when saving/loading queries.

3. Settings defined in the user preferences available in the Preferences menu located in the UI top toolbar, e.g. for customising the result list and document contents – these settings are covered in the following sections.

11.1. GENERAL PREFERENCES

Located in the UI top toolbar, on the Preferences menu under General:



Auto-complete: As you gradually enter characters in the Query box, the UI displays a list of suggested terms for the search criterion you have entered. This list is built on the index content of the search criterion entered in your query.

A default operator between terms (set to "OR" by default) is used when terms of a query are separated by white space. If the query you enter in the Query box is for example:

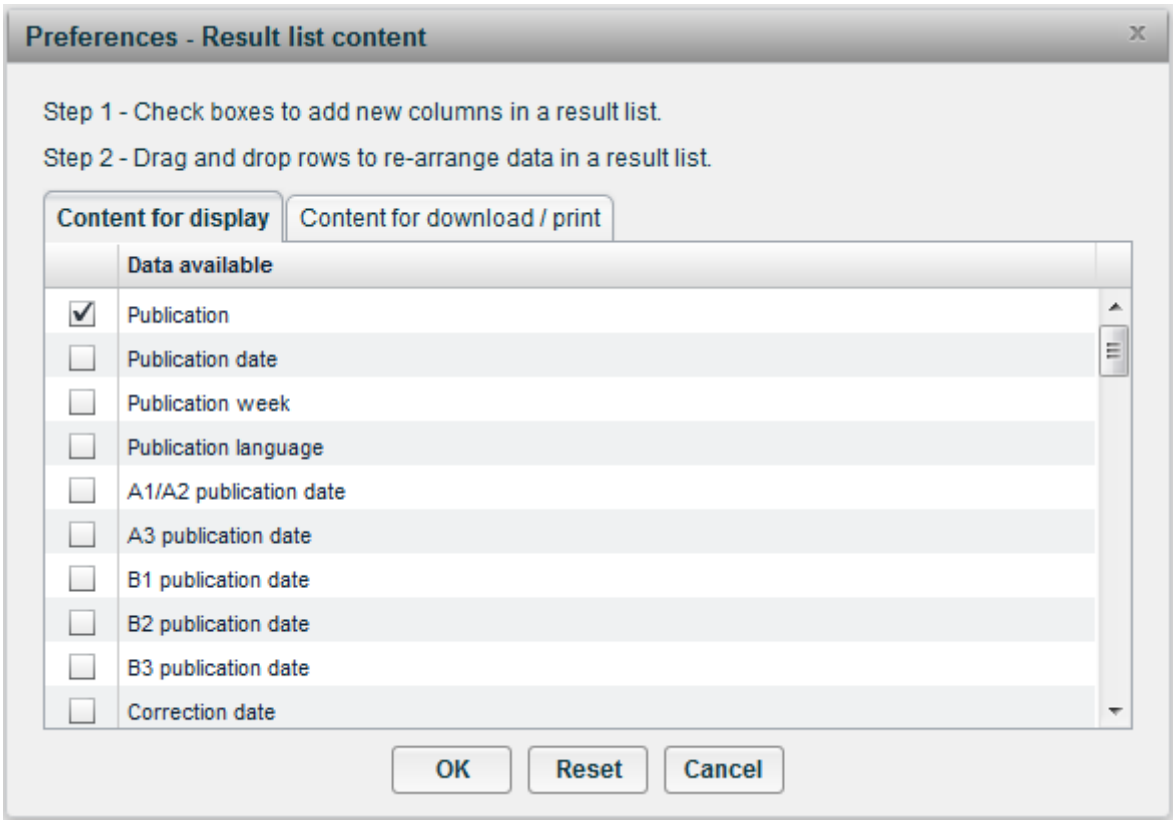
WORD = argon purification

assuming that you changed the default value "OR" to "AND", the query will automatically be parsed at search time into

WORD = argon and purification

11.2. RESULT LIST CONTENT CUSTOMISATION

Located in the UI top toolbar, on the Preferences menu under “Result list content”:

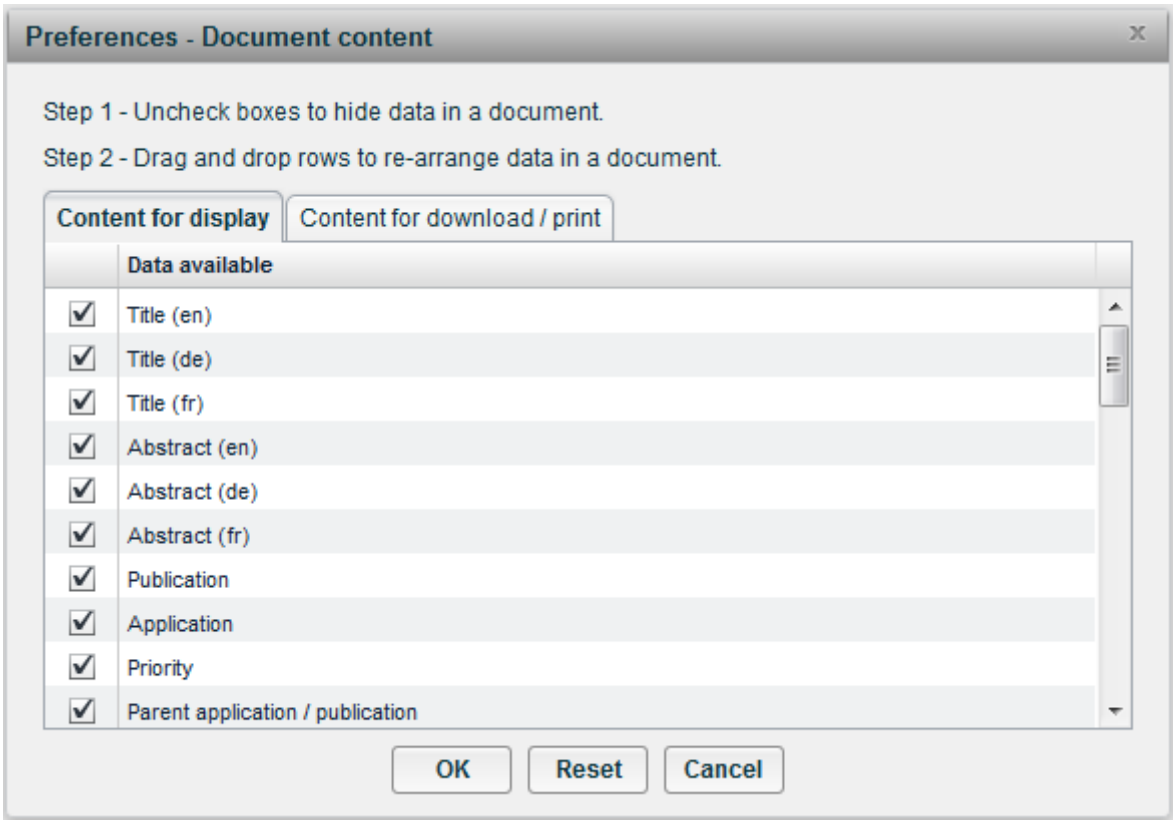


By default the result list contains a single Publication column. You may decide to add and re-order additional relevant columns.

Note: You can define one customised layout for displaying the result list and another one for downloads (see above, "Content for display" and "Content for download/print" tabs).

11.3. DOCUMENT CONTENT CUSTOMISATION

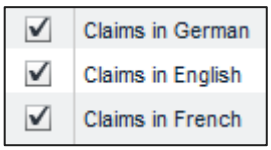
Located in the UI top toolbar, on the Preferences menu under “Document content”:



By default a document contains all the bibliographic data, but you may decide to remove non-relevant data and re-order the relevant items.

Notes:

- You can define one customised layout for document display and another one for downloads (see above, "Content for display" and "Content for download/print" tabs).
- Most of the listed data are bibliographic data, except claims at the end of the list. Claims can be re-ordered, e.g. to show German claims first:



12. DOWNLOAD AND PRINT

12.1. OVERVIEW

The download feature is accessible in the UI top toolbar. The current limit is set at 1 500 documents/result list entries.

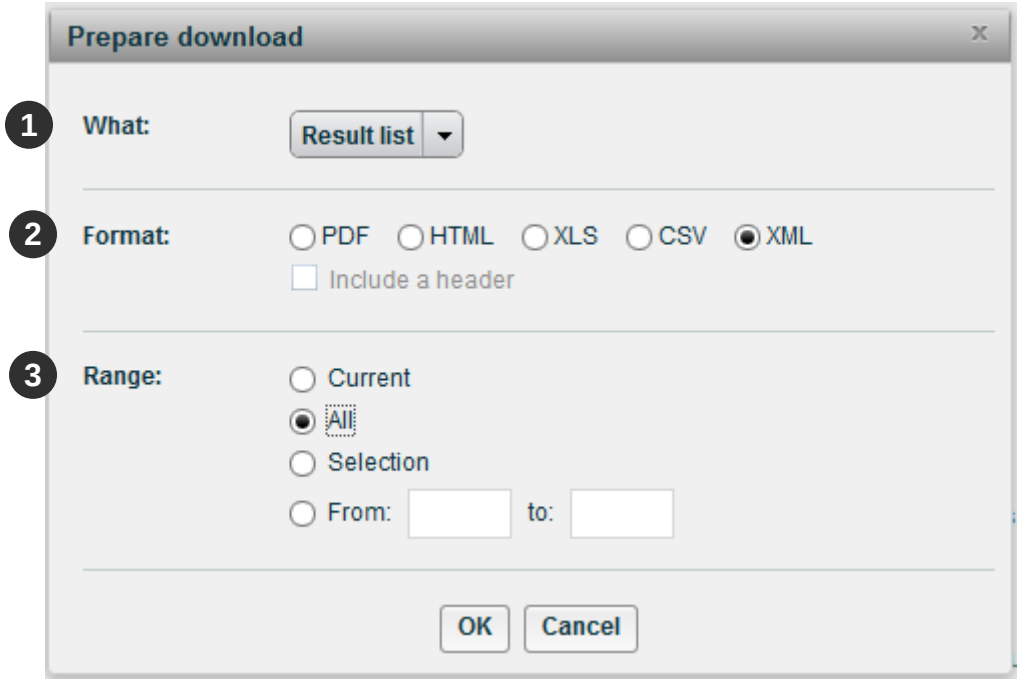
The download procedure starts with a data preparation process carried out on the server side. This process includes wrapping the data into a single zip file.

Once prepared, the data is available for a two-hour download procedure.

The Download menu contains two options:

- Prepare download: Opens a pop-up window where you define the data, data format and data range used by the preparation process.
- Download manager: Opens a pop-up window which includes the list of prepared data ready for the download process, or data being prepared.

12.2. PREPARATION PROCESS



❶ Downloadable data

- History queries
- Result list
- Document
- Chart

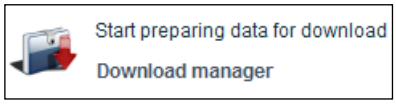
❷ Download formats

	PDF	RTF	XML	CSV	XLS	HTML
Search history	✓			✓		
Result list	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
Document	✓	✓	✓			
Charts	✓		✓	✓		✓

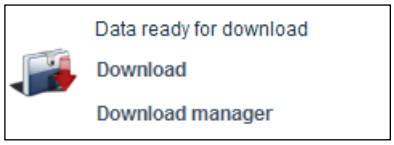
❸ Download range definition

12.3. DOWNLOAD PROCESS

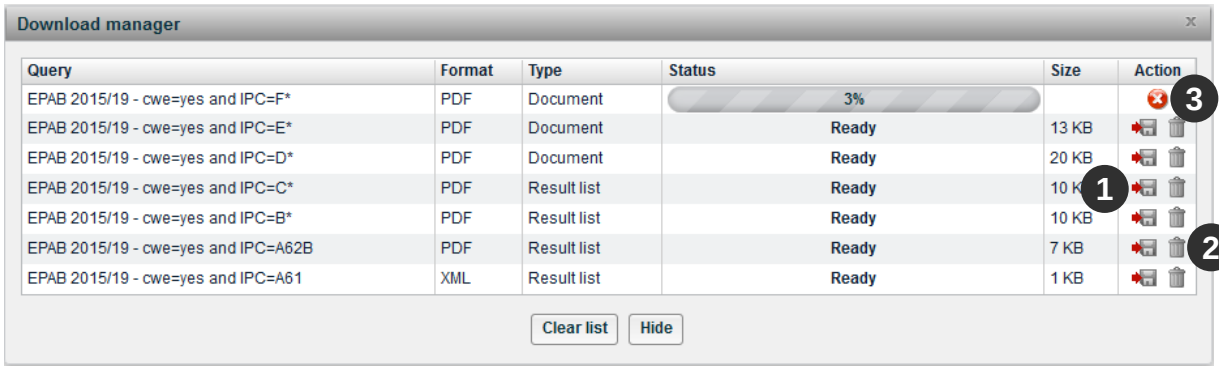
During the preparation process, the following window pops up in the bottom right-hand corner of the UI:



Once the preparation process terminates, the data is ready for download and the following window pops up (items in bold grey are links):



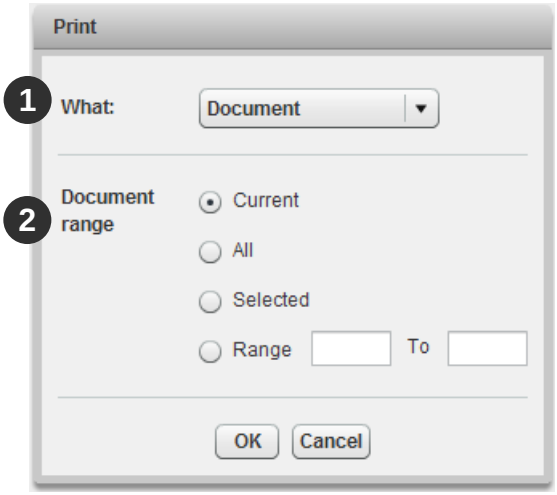
Note: You can run multiple preparation processes first, and then download the corresponding files via the Download manager:



❶ Click to start the download process.
❷ Click to delete an item from the list.
❸ Click to stop the preparation process.

12.4. PRINT PROCESS

EPAB allows you to print up to fifty documents/result list entries.



❶ Printable data

- History queries
- Result list
- Document

❷ Print range definition

13. DATABASE CONTENT AND UPDATE

EPAB is a cumulative database updated every Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET. This means that an “EPAB week” starts/finishes on Wednesday at 14.00 hrs CET.

For all European patent applications (A documents) and patent specifications (B documents) published from 1978 to the present day, starting at EP 0000001 A1, it includes all data also available in the EPS, more specifically:

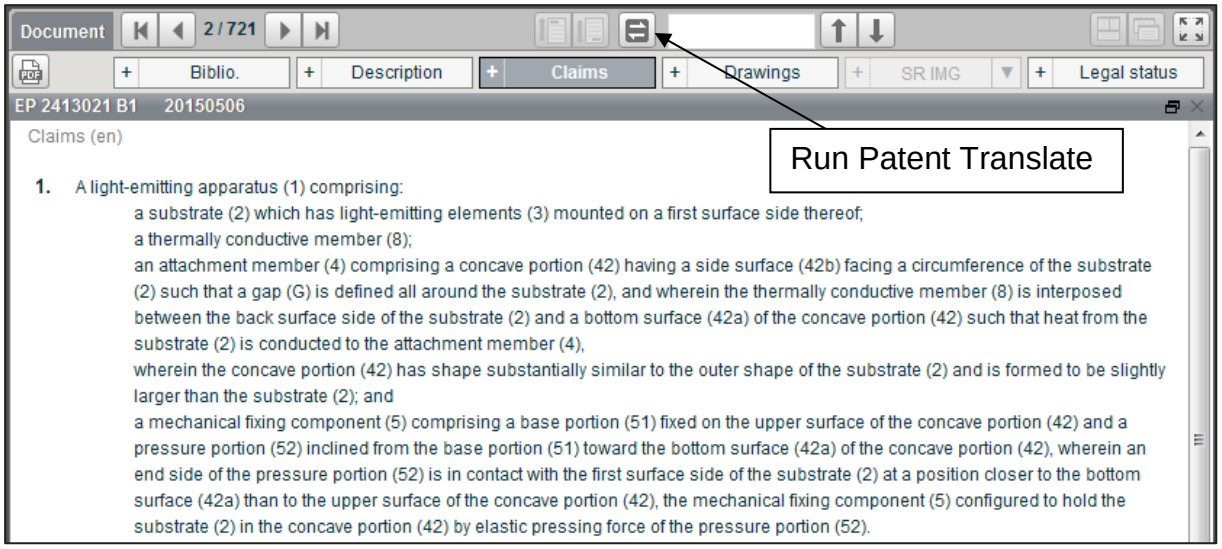
- Character-coded PDF/A
- XML ST.36
- Drawings in image format (TIFF)
- International search reports in image format (TIFF) for Euro-PCTs republished by the EPO
- European search reports in image format (TIFF) and, as of 2012 week 27, in XML ST.36 format
- Sequence listings as filed by the applicant (PDF or TXT files)

The XML ST.36 includes all the necessary data (bibliographic data, description, claims and search report) that are indexed at processing time before every Wednesday, 14.00 hrs CET.

To date, the full text of Euro-PCT documents not republished by the EPO is not included in EPAB.

14. TRANSLATING TEXT

You can use patenttranslate to translate the title(s), abstract, description and claims of any EPAB document**.** Developed by the EPO and Google, patenttranslate generates on-the-fly-translations. It is also used in Espacenet and the EPS.

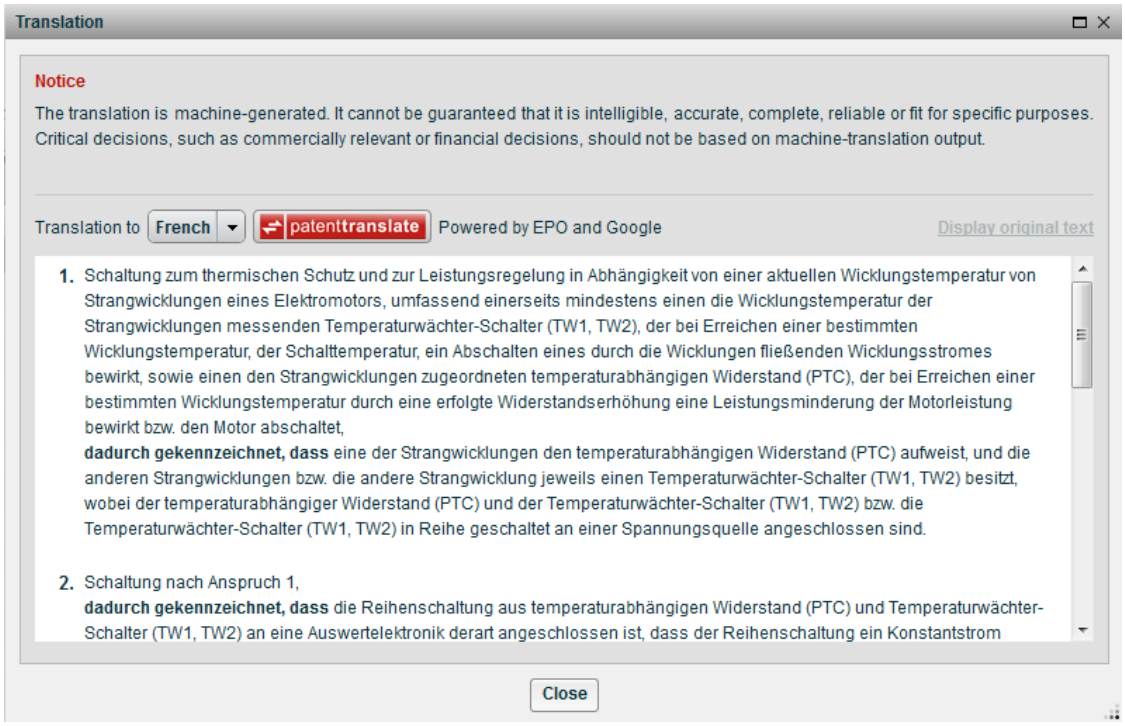


When you click the Translation button, the data (one title and/or one abstract) is relayed to Patent Translate.

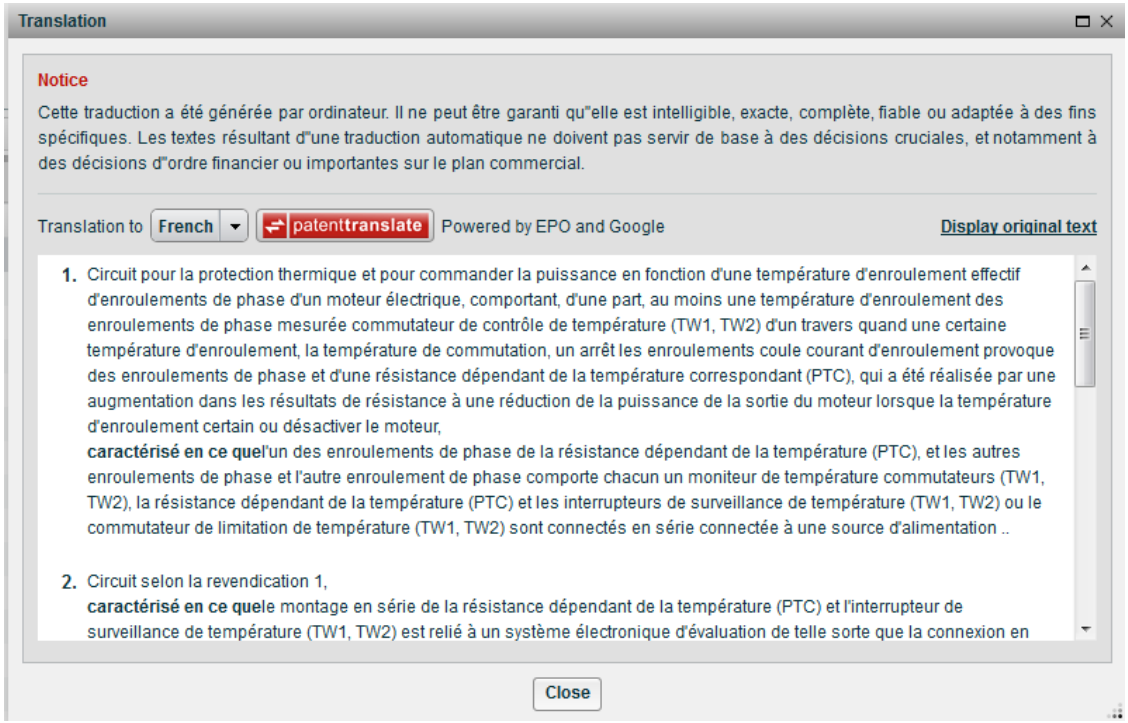
In the example above, the English claims will be relayed to Patent Translate.

Before translation

Select your target language from the list, and click the patenttranslate button:



After translation

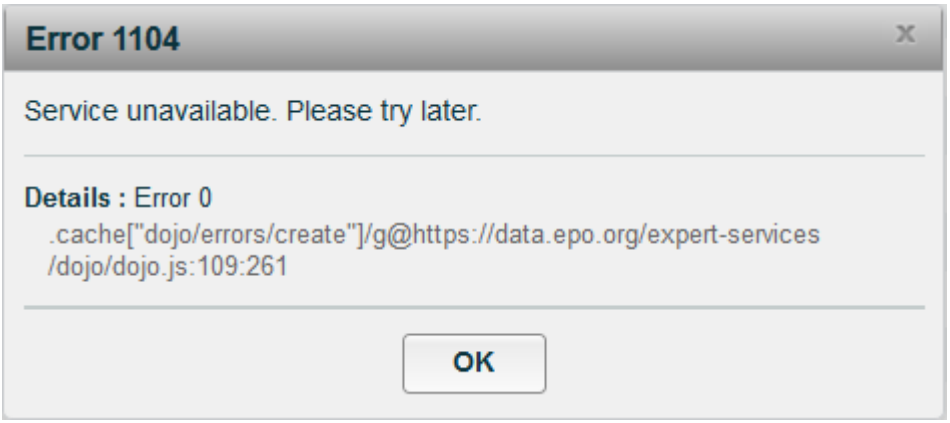


The original text shows up if you hover over the translated text.

15. TROUBLESHOOTING

In some circumstances, e.g. when running searches or browsing your search results, you may see an error message. This may be due, for example, to issues related to the EPAB server or to low or no connectivity.

A typical error message:



If you get an error message, or if the UI does not operate as expected, we recommend the following:

1. Run your search again. If EPAB still does not operate properly, follow up with Step 2.

2. Go to the Welcome window and re-select the EPAB database. If EPAB still does not operate properly, follow up with Step 3.

3. Reload the UI, e.g. by pressing simultaneously Ctrl and F5 on your keyboard. If EPAB still does not operate properly, contact our support team at epal@epo.org.

Note: You may have to repeat the login procedure if you are running searches or browsing results:

- During the EPAB database update on Wednesday at 12.00 hrs CET.

- During the update of other databases available in the UI on Friday at 12.00 hrs CET.

If you think some data are possibly incorrect, if you experience unexpected UI performance or if you wish to suggest any enhancements, please contact our support team at epal@epo.org.

16. GLOSSARY

Criterion (plural = criteria): Represents searchable data. A criterion is identified by a code used in a Boolean query and a name. For example, CCAT is the code for "Citation category (search report)". See Criteria box and Query box sections.

Document: An EPAB document displayed in the UI is a set of data linked to the life of a patent. It includes:

- Text (searchable per se)
  - Bibliographic data
  - Descriptions
  - Claims
  - European search reports
- Images (not searchable per se)
  - Abstract image(s)
  - Description embedded images
  - Drawings and mosaics of drawings
  - International and European search reports
- Data fetched on the fly (EPO web service OPS, i.e. not searchable per se)
  - CPC (Cooperative Patent Classification)
  - EPO simple family
  - INPADOC family
  - Legal status

EPAB (European patent applications and specifications): One of the databases available in "Patent information services for experts".

EPS (European publication server): The sole legally authoritative publication medium for European A and B documents (since 1 April 2005), available at this link.

EPR (European Patent Register): The place to find procedural and legal status data on patent applications handled by the EPO, available at this link.

INPADOC/Extended family: See definition at this link.

Index: Underlying data structure used at search time. There is one index per criterion. Index content can be displayed to check the presence, spelling and format of data. See Index box section.

OPS (Open Patent Service): One of the EPO's web services designed for automated access to raw data extracted from the EPO's databases. For more information follow this link.

Patent information services for experts: Web application offering access to EPAB and several other databases, with search and download functionalities via its UI, accessible at this link.

Simple patent family: Also known as an Espacenet patent family. Groups publications of similar technical content together on the basis of identical priority pictures. For more information follow this link.

UI: User interface of "Patent information services for experts", accessible at this link.

ANNEX 1

EPAB SEARCH CRITERIA DESCRIPTION

Criterion code	Criterion name	Meaning / example
CATEGORY "APPLICATION AND PUBLICATION"		
APN	Application number	The application number counts 8 digits (no check digit at the end). Example: APN = 10000265
APD	Application date	The application date corresponds to the filing date. Accepted date entry formats are YYYYMMDD and DDMMYYYY, with or without separator "/" or "-". Also accepted: YYYY, YYYYMM. Examples (different syntaxes having the same result): APD = 20120502 APD = 02-05-2012 APD = 02/05/2012
FFD	First filing date	The first filing date corresponds to the oldest priority date or in case of US priority to the filing date. Accepted date entry formats are YYYYMMDD and DDMMYYYY, with or without separator "/" or "-". Also accepted: YYYY, YYYYMM. Example: FFD = 19951129
PUN	Publication number	European publication number. Examples: PUN = 2525642 PUN = EP2525640 PUN = EP2525640B1

PUD	Publication date	The EPO publishes every Wednesday at 14:00 CET. Euro-PCT published under art. 158 EPC are published by WIPO on Thursday. Accepted date entry formats are YYYYMMDD and DDMMYYYY, with or without separator "/" or "-". Also accepted: YYYY, YYYYMM. Examples: PUD = 20110831 PUD = 201108 PUD = 2011 PUD >= 20120101 PUD [2000, 2010]
PUW	Publication week	Example: PUW = 201452
PUK	Publication kind	Example: PUK = B1 B2 B3
PUL	Publication language	Example: PUL = fr
IPUN	International publication number	The Euro-PCT number corresponds to the PCT publication number (format: WOYYYYnnnnnn and YYYYnnnnnn) Examples: IPUN = WO2010066545 IPUN = 2010066545
IAPN	International application number	The international application number is the number accorded by the receiving Office at the international date of filling. Examples: IAPN = US2002039990 IAPN = 2002039990

IAPD	International application date	The international filing date of an application is the date on which the application is received at the receiving Office. Examples: IAPD = 20030708 IAPD = 200307 IAPD = 2003
IAPL	International application language	The language in which the application was published. Example: IAPL = nl
PUA12	A1/A2 publication date	Examples: PUA12 = 19981111 PUA12 = 199811 PUA12 = 1998
PUA3	A3 publication date	Examples: PUA3 = 20120912 PUA3 = 201209 PUA3 = 2012
PUB1	B1 publication date	Examples: PUB1 = 20110817 PUB1 = 201108 PUB1 = 2011
PUB2	B2 publication date	Examples: PUB2 = 20110810 PUB2 = 201108 PUB2 = 2011
PUB3	B3 publication date	Examples: PUB3 = 20110831 PUB3 = 201108 PUB3 = 2011

COD	Correction date	The correction date corresponds to the publication date of the corresponding A8, A9, B8 or B9. Examples: COD = 20110817 COD = 201108 COD = 2011
DCS	Designated contracting state	Example: DCS = ES and BE and IT
DXS	Designated extension state	Example: DXS = BA
DVS	Designated validation state	Example: DVS = MA

CATEGORY “PRIORITY DIVISIONAL/PARENT APPLICATION”		
PRN	Priority number	Priority number consists of the following information: • Filing office/state code: Paris Convention State or WTO member state where the priority application was filed • File number/priority number Priority numbers can be indexed in different ways. We therefore recommend to check them against the entries in the PRN index and to use the same format. Examples: PRN = "AT1072006 U" PRN = ZA201003605
PRD	Priority date	The priority date is the date when the priority application was filed in a Paris convention state or WTO member state. Examples: PRD = 20111123 PRD = 201111 PRD = 2011
PAAP	Parent application	The application and the publication number can both be searched. Examples: PAAP = 00107789 PAAP = 2135385
DIAP	Divisional application	The application and the publication number can both be searched. Examples: DIAP = 02000790 DIAP = 2243433

CATEGORY “PARTIES”		
INV	Inventor	Inventor's name Example: INV = veverka INV = "veverka karen"
INVCI	Inventor (city)	Inventor 's city Example: INVCI = wien
INVCO	Inventor (country)	Inventor's country Example: INVCO = AE AM AN
APP	Applicant/Proprietor	Applicant's name Example: APP = 3m APP = "3m innovative"
APPCI	Applicant/Proprietor city	City of the applicant/proprietor Example: APPCI = montreal
APPCO	Applicant/Proprietor (country)	Country of the applicant/proprietor Example: APPCO = AR AT AU BB

REP	Representative	Representative’s name Examples: REP = vossius REP = "vossius partner"
REPCI	Representative (city)	Representative's city Example: REPCI = istanbul
REPCO	Representative (country)	Representative's country Example: REPCO = TR SK SI SE RO

CATEGORY “CLASSIFICATION”		
IPC	IPC (all)	IPC symbols for all editions (1 to current) Example of queries having the same meaning: IPC=C08K3/00 or C08L101/00 IPC="C08K 3/00" or "C08L 101/00" IPC=C08K000300 or C08L010100
IC8	IPC8	IPC 8 symbols Example of queries having the same meaning: IC8=C08K3/00 or C08L101/00 IC8="C08K 3/00" or "C08L 101/00" IC8=C08K000300 or C08L010100
ICFA	IPC full level (additional information)	IPC 8 symbols (full level – additional information) Example of queries having the same meaning: ICFA=C08K3/00 or C08L101/00 ICFA="C08K 3/00" or "C08L 101/00" ICFA=C08K000300 or C08L010100
ICFI	IPC full level (invention information)	IPC 8 symbols (full level – invention information) Example of queries having the same meaning: ICFI=C08K3/00 or C08L101/00 ICFI="C08K 3/00" or "C08L 101/00" ICFI=C08K000300 or C08L010100

CATEGORY “TEXT”		
WORD	All words in all languages	The WORD index cumulates words of all titles, abstracts, descriptions, and claims. Examples: WORD = laser* +2w beam* WORD = argon* /2w purif*
TIEN	Title (en)	Title in English language Example: TIEN= car and electro*
TIFR	Title (fr)	Title in French language Example: TIFR = baguette
TIDE	Title (de)	Title in German language Example: TIDE =auto*
ABEN	Abstract (en)	Abstract in English language Example: ABEN = solar* +2w cell*
ABFR	Abstract (fr)	Abstract in French language Example: ABFR = cellule* +2w solaire*
ABDE	Abstract (de)	Abstract in German language Example: ABDE = solarzelle*

DEEN	Description (en)	Description in English language Example: See above
DEFR	Description (fr)	Description in French language Example: See above
DEDE	Description (de)	Description in German language Example: See above
CLEN	Claims (en)	Claims in English language Example: See above
CLFR	Claims (fr)	Claims in French language Example: See above
CLDE	Claims (de)	Claims in German language Example: See above

CATEGORY “CITATION, SEARCH REPORT”		
CIT	Citation (patent and NPL)	Includes patent and NPL citations Example: CIT = zwiebel **and** us4376110
CPAT	Patent citation (all types)	Example: CPAT = JP9018997A
CNPL	NPL citation (all types)	Example: CNPL = "Molecular Cloning"
CPAP	Patent citation (applicant)	Example: CPAP = WOU200101805
CNAP	NPL citation (applicant)	Example: CNAP = "Organischen Chemie"
CPEP	Patent citation (examination phase)	Example: CPEP = US4779979A
CNEP	NPL citation (examination phase)	Example: CNEP = phytopathogenic **+1w** fungi
CPSR	Patent citation (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: CPSR = US2010183862A1
CPPD	Publication date of cited patent (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: CPPD = 1900
CAPP	Applicant of cited patent (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: CAPP = “WATANABE KAZUO”

CNSR	NPL citation (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: CNSR = "World patent index" **or** WPI
CCAT	Citation category (search report)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: CAPP = X Y
COSE	Date of completion of search	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: COSE = 201501
TSF	Technical search field	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27) Example: TSF = F02C
LUI	Lack of unity of invention (sheet B)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27). Boolean criterion to search European search report where a lack of unity of invention is detected. Example: LUI = YES
DNOS	Declaration of no search	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27). Boolean criterion to search European search report where there is a declaration of no search. Example: DNOS = YES
PSR	Partial search report (Sheet C)	Only for European search report in text format (available as of 2012 week 27). Boolean criterion to search partial European search report. Example: PSR = YES

CATEGORY “OTHER”		
EPO	Publication by the EPO	Boolean criterion to search EP publications and Euro-PCT republished by the EPO Example: EPO = YES
CWE	Current week	Boolean criterion to search only the documents of the current publication week, which starts every Wednesday at 14:00 Example: CWE = YES
PSL	Presence of sequence listing	Boolean criterion to search documents with sequence listings (in PDF or TXT format) Example: PSL = YES
PAD	Presence of additional data	Boolean criterion to search documents with additional data (e.g. reference tables in PDF, description in PDF), including sequence listings Example: PAD = YES

ANNEX 2

EPAB RESULT LIST CONTENT DESCRIPTION

Note: Searchable data are rendered in HTML view that is in all cases for users' convenience only. It cannot be guaranteed that this view accurately reflects the underlying XML data. Only the original PDF is an accurate replication of the original publication.

Most of the data that can be included in the result list are also displayed in EPAB documents, and already described in annex 3 "Document content description".

Column name	Column content
Publication	Corresponding search criteria: PUN, PUK, PUD
Publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUD
Publication week	Corresponding search criterion: PUW
Publication language	Corresponding search criterion: PUL
A1/A2 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUA12
A3 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUA3
B1 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB1
B2 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB2
B3 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB3
Correction date	Corresponding search criterion: COD
Application	Corresponding search criteria: APN, APD
Application date	Corresponding search criterion: APD
Parent application/Publication	Corresponding search criterion: PAAP
Divisional Application/Publication	Corresponding search criterion: DIAP
Priority	Corresponding search criteria: PRN and PRD
Priority date	Corresponding search criterion: PRD
First filing date	Corresponding search criterion: FFD

International publication	Corresponding search criterion: IPUN
International application	Corresponding search criteria: IAPN, IAPD, IAPL
International application date	Corresponding search criterion: IAPD
International application language	Corresponding search criterion: IAPL
Designated contracting state	Corresponding search criterion: DCS
Designated extension state	Corresponding search criterion: DXS
Designated validation state	Corresponding search criterion: DVS
IPC1-7 further and additional	Corresponding search criterion: IC17F
IPC1-7 main	Corresponding search criterion: IC17M
IPC full level (additional information)	Corresponding search criterion: ICFA
IPC full level (invention information)	Corresponding search criterion: ICFI
Inventor	Corresponding search criterion: INV
Inventor (city)	Corresponding search criterion: INVCI
Inventor (country)	Corresponding search criterion: INVCO
Applicant/Proprietor	Corresponding search criterion: APP
Applicant/Proprietor (city)	Corresponding search criterion: APPCI
Applicant/Proprietor (country)	Corresponding search criterion: APPCO
Representative	Corresponding search criterion: REP
Representative (city)	Corresponding search criterion: REPCI

Representative (country)	Corresponding search criterion: REPCO
Title (en)	Corresponding search criterion: TIEN
Title (fr)	Corresponding search criterion: TIFR
Title (de)	Corresponding search criterion: TIDE
Abstract (en)	Corresponding search criterion: ABEN
Abstract (fr)	Corresponding search criterion: ABFR
Abstract (de)	Corresponding search criterion: ABDE
Patent citation (applicant)	Corresponding search criterion: CPAP
NPL citation (applicant)	Corresponding search criterion: CNAP
Patent citation (examination phase)	Corresponding search criterion: CPEP
NPL citation (examination phase)	Corresponding search criterion: CNEP
Patent citation (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CPSR
Publication date of cited patent (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CPPD
Applicant of cited patent (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CAPP
NPL citation (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CNSR
Citation category (search report)	Corresponding search criterion: CCAT
Date of completion of search	Corresponding search criterion: COSE
Technical search field	Corresponding search criterion: TSF
Lack of unity of invention (sheet B)	Corresponding search criterion: LUI

Declaration of no search	Corresponding search criterion: DNOS
Partial search report (Sheet C)	Corresponding search criterion: PSR

ANNEX 3

EPAB DOCUMENT CONTENT DESCRIPTION

Note: Searchable data are rendered in HTML view that is in all cases for users' convenience only. It cannot be guaranteed that this view accurately reflects the underlying XML data. Only the original PDF is an accurate replication of the original publication.

Field name	Field content
Title (en)	Title in English language. Corresponding search criterion: TIEN. Available as column for the search result list.
Title (de)	Title in German language. Corresponding search criterion: TIDE. Available as column for the search result list.
Title (fr)	Title in French language. Corresponding search criterion: TIFR. Available as column for the search result list.
Abstract (en)	Abstract in English language. Corresponding search criterion: ABEN. Available as column for the search result list.
Abstract (de)	Abstract in German language Corresponding search criterion: ABDE. Available as column for the search result list.

Abstract (fr)	Abstract in French language. Corresponding search criterion: ABFR. Available as column for the search result list.
Publication	Publication identifier. Corresponding search criteria: PUN (publication number), PUK (publication kind) and PUD (publication date). Link to the European publication Server. Example: **EP 0466919 B1 19961120 [1996-47]** Publication number and publication date are available as individual columns for the search result list.
Application	Application identifier. Corresponding search criteria: APN (application number), APD (application date) The application number consists of nine digits. The first two digits indicate the year of filing. The last digit is a check digit. The six digits in between are used to number consecutively the applications in the order in which they are received at the place of filing, starting from the lowest number within a specific range of six-digit numbers. Link to the European patent register. Example: **EP 14174881.4 20140630** Application number and date are available as individual columns for the search result list.

Priority	Corresponding search criteria: PRN (priority number) and PRD (priority date) Priority number consists of the following information: • Filing office/state code: Paris Convention State or WTO member state where the priority application was filed • File number/priority number The priority date is the date when the priority application was filed in Paris Convention State or WTO member state. Example: AT 10462007 20070706 Priority number and date are available as individual columns for the search result list.
Parent Application/Publication	Corresponding search criteria: PAAP Parent application/publication data consists of the application number/publication number. From the publication number you have a link to the EPO Publication Server. Example: 07812491 / 2035572 Available as column for the search result list.
Divisional Application/Publication	Corresponding search criteria: DIAP Divisional Application/Publication data consists of the application number and the publication number if available. Example: 10012752 / 2324839 11190844 Available as column for the search result list.

Designated contracting state	Corresponding search criteria: DCS Available as column for the search result list.
Designated extension state	Corresponding search criteria: DXS Available as column for the search result list.
Designated validation state	Corresponding search criteria: DVS Available as column for the search result list.
IPC 1-7 (main, further and additional classification))	Corresponding search criteria: IC17M IC17F IC17 IPC Link to WIPO IPC Example: C07D 307/12; C07D 407/12; C07D 307/42; A01N 43/08 Available as column for the search result list
IPC full level (additional information)	Corresponding search criteria: ICFA IC8 IPC Link to WIPO IPC Example: A01N 25/32 (2006.01); A01N 37/46 (2006.01); A01N 39/02 (2006.01); A01N 43/18 (2006.01) Available as column for the search result list

IPC full level (invention information)	Corresponding search criteria: ICFI IC8 IPC Link to WIPO IPC Example: **A01N 43/52** (2006.01); **A01N 37/18** (2006.01); **A01N 37/24** (2006.01); **A01N 37/46** (2006.01) Available as column for the search result list
Applicant/Proprietor	Corresponding search criteria: APP (applicant/proprietor's name), APPCI (applicant/proprietor's city) and APPCO (applicant/proprietor's country) Example: Universidade de Aveiro Campus Universitário de Santiago 3810-193 Aveiro PT Applicant/proprietor's name, city and country are available as individual columns for the search result list
Inventor	Corresponding search criteria: INV (inventor's name), INVCI (inventor's city) and INVCO (inventor's country) In the case that the inventor requested “not to be made known as inventor” or in the case designation of inventor has not been received before the publication of European Patent application, it is possible that inventor's data will not be present. Example: EGGENWEILER, Hans-Michael Kafkastrasse 4 64291 Darmstadt DE Inventor's name, city and country are available as individual columns for the search result list

Representative	Corresponding search criteria: REP (representative Name), REPCI (representative City) and REPCO (representative Country) In the case there are multiple representatives in addition to the main appointed representatives "et al." is appended next to the representative's name Example: Pearson, James Ginn, et al Abel & Imray 20 Red Lion Street, London WC1R 4PQ GB Representative name, city and country are available as individual columns for the search result list
International publication	Corresponding search criterion: IPUN (international publication number) Date of the publication of the international application by the IB (normally takes place after expiry of 18 months from the earliest priority date) Link to WIPO Patentscope Example: **WO2015003739 20150115** [2015-02] Available as column for the search result list
International application	Corresponding search criteria: IAPN (international application number), IAPD (international application date) and IAPL (international application language). Number accorded by the receiving Office at the international date of filling Example: RU2007000438 20070809 (ru) Available as column for the search result list.

Patent citation (applicant)	Corresponding search criterion: CPAP Link to Espacenet, and to the citation in the description (paragraph number) Example: US 6146421 A [0018] Available as column for the search result list
NPL citation (applicant)	Corresponding search criterion: CNAP Link to the citation in the description (paragraph number) Example: LEHNINGER, A. L. Biochemistry Worth Publishers 19750000 71 77 [0030] Available as column for the search result list
Patent citation (examination phase)	Corresponding search criterion: CPEP Link to Espacenet Example: US 6177151 B1 Available as column for the search result list
NPL citation (examination phase)	Corresponding search criterion: CNEP Example: HITCHOCK AND GLASBERRY: "Binary image restoration at subpixel resolution", BIOMETRICS, no. 53, 31 December 1997 (1997-12-31), pages 1040-1053 Available as column for the search result list

Correction date	Corresponding search criterion: COD Content consists of the correction date and the date on which the publication is mentioned in the EP Bulletin. Example: 20121107 [2012-45] Available as column for the search result list.
A1/A2 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUA12 Content consists of the publication date and the date on which the application is mentioned in the EP bulletin. Example: 19981111 [1998-46] Available as column for the search result list.
A3 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUA3 Content consists of the publication date and the date on which the application is mentioned in the EP Bulletin. Example: 19970611 [1997-24] Available as column for the search result list.

B1 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB1 Content consists of publication date and the date on which the publication is mentioned in the EP Bulletin. Example: 20010919 [2001-38] Available as column for the search result list.
B2 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB2 Content consists of publication date and the date on which the publication is mentioned in the EP bulletin. Example: 20121031 [2012-44] Available as column for the search result list.
B3 publication date	Corresponding search criterion: PUB3 Content consists of publication date and the date on which the publication is mentioned in the EP Bulletin. Example: 20121017 [2012-42] Available as column for the search result list.
Cooperative patent classification	Data retrieved from OPS. Link to EPO CPC browser. Example: **G06T 7/0081**; G06F 19/20; G06T 2207/30072

EPO simple family	Data retrieved from OPS. Link to Espacenet. Example: US2007116376; US2010142848; EP1788523
Inpadoc family	Data retrieved from OPS. Link to Espacenet. Example: EP 1788523 A1; EP 1788523 B1; EP 1788523 B8; US 2010142848 A1; US 8249381 B2

Text of the description in the proceeding language.

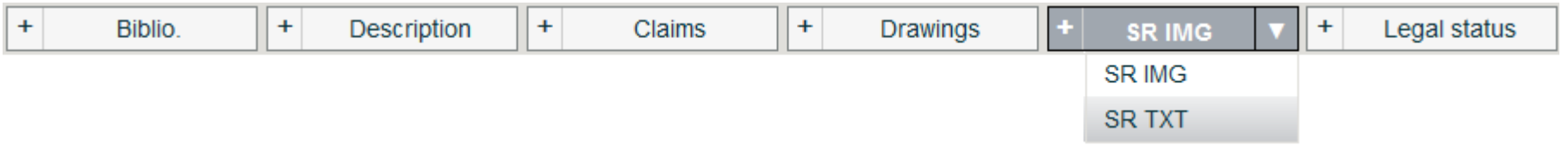
Corresponding search criteria: DEEN, DEDE, DEFR, WORD.

Text of the claims in the proceeding language for A publications, and in French, English and German for B publications.

Claims order is by default English / German / French and can be modified in the menu User preferences, option Document content.

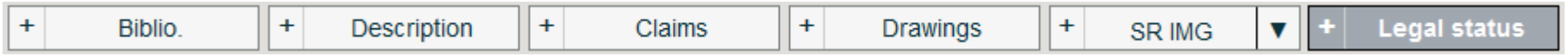
Corresponding search criteria: CLEN, CLDE, CLFR, WORD.

Drawing or mosaic of drawings. Click an image in the mosaic to enlarge it, and re-click “Drawings” to see the mosaic again.



International or European search report in image format (SR IMG), or in text format (SR TXT) for a European search report published after 2012 week 26.

Corresponding search criteria: CPSR, CNSR, CPPD, CAPP, CCAT, COSE, TSF, PSR, LUI, DNOS.



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