

T_EX MACROS FOR WRITING A
UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION

by

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INTRODUCTION

[0001] The file `uspatent.tex` provides T_EX macros for writing United States utility patent applications. Among its features are automatic paragraph numbering, automatic claim numbering, docket number and time watermarks, predefined section headings, and macros for referencing parts and claim numbers.

[0002] To demonstrate how to write a patent application using the macros described below, the file `example.tex` is provided. To generate the example application execute the command, `pdftex example.tex`. It is also highly recommended that you inspect the USPTO Public PAIR data of the patent used in the example for comparison purposes. PAIR data is accessible from the USPTO's website as well as from the patent's Google Patents search overview page.

WRITING YOUR PATENT APPLICATION

[0003] First load the T_EX macros at the beginning of your file. Do this by

typing:

[0004] `\input uspatent.tex`

[0005] A current time watermark can be placed at the bottom of the page by invoking the macro:

[0006] `\timestamp`

[0007] A docket number also can be watermarked at the bottom of every page. This is done with the macro:

[0008] `\docketnumber{yourdocketnumber}`

[0009] The first part of the patent application is the title. It is created with the macro:

[0010] `\title{yourtitle}`

[0011] You can include the names of the inventors with the title as well. There are four macros to choose from depending on the number of inventors. Invoke one of the inventor macros after running the title macro above.

[0012] `\inventor{inventor}`

 `\twoinventors{firstinventor}{secondinventor}`

 `\threeinventors{firstinventor}{secondinventor}{thirdinventor}`

 `\fourinventors{firstinventor}{secondinventor}{thirdinventor}`
 `{fourthinventor}`

[0013] After the title comes the section headings. The specification of the patent application is divided into sections. The section heading macro is:

[0014] `\heading{yoursectionheading}`

[0015] As a convenience the following macros, each with their own predefined section heading, are included (see MPEP §608.01(a) for the text of the predefined headings):

[0016] `\crossreference`
`\federalresearch`
`\jointresearch`
`\compactdisc`
`\background`
`\summary`
`\drawings`
`\description`

[0017] Each paragraph in the specification, except in the claims and abstract sections, is given a paragraph number. This macro package will automatically turn on paragraph numbering at the first section heading.

[0018] In addition, the macro, `\nl`, can be used in the text of your sections to force a new line. The macro, `\ff`, is also available to force a new page should, for example, a section heading cross pages.

THE CLAIMS AND ABSTRACT SECTIONS

[0019] To start the claims section you invoke the claims macro:

[0020] `\claims`

[0021] This macro turns off the previous paragraph numbering style of the specification and replaces that style with claim numbering. Claim numbering counts each new paragraph as a new claim and numbers them sequentially. Claims also start on a new page so a page eject is performed as well.

[0022] To set off each element of a claim and to prevent the start of a new paragraph, which would upset the claim numbering macro, each claim element should be prefixed with the macro:

[0023] `\el`

[0024] The last section of the patent application is the abstract. The abstract is indicated with the macro:

[0025] `\abstract`

[0026] The abstract macro forces a new page like the claims section. Paragraph numbering is not used in the abstract.

MACROS FOR REFERENCING PARTS AND CLAIMS

[0027] Two additional macros are included to ease referencing part names and

claim numbers. The first dynamically creates a macro to serve as a shortcut for the name of the part. This helps centralize part naming and numbering in your T_EX file. Instead of having to repeat in the application the full name of the part and its part number each time in the specification, only the macro need be typed. See the `example.tex` file for sample use. The macro's format follows:

[0028] `\ref{macroname}{fullnameofpart}`
 `\macroname{}`

[0029] The second macro is used in the claims section. It also dynamically creates a macro for later use. Since claim numbers are automatically generated keeping track of which claim number goes with which claim can be difficult. The purpose of this macro is to get T_EX to keep track of the claim numbers for you. When a claim needs to be referenced, such as within a dependant claim, you only need to type the macro that was generated by its labeling macro. The generated macro will output the word “claim” and the referenced claim number, eg., “claim 3”. Again see the sample application in `example.tex`. The macro's format is:

[0030] `\label{macroname}`
 `\macroname{}`

FILING YOUR PATENT APPLICATION

[0031] These macros have not been used to actually draft and file, electronically or otherwise, a patent application with the USPTO. Please check the

USPTO website, the relevant law, the USPTO's help center, or other sources for the necessary filing and formatting rules so your patent application does not get rejected.

[0032] Remember, all electronically filed applications must be run through the USPTO's "joboptions" file to ensure compliance. See the USPTO's website for details.

LEGAL NOTICE

[0033] *No guarantee or warranty, expressed or implied, is provided with this macro package. No attorney-client privilege is created through the use, documentation, or continued support of this macro package. No legal advice is being offered or given. All information provided is procedural and does not constitute legal advice. This is not attorney advertising. See the license documents included in the package and the comments at the beginning of each source file for more information.*

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