

CPC Policy matters

EPO – USPTO
4th Fourth Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) annual meeting
with National Offices

20 February 2017, WIPO, Geneva, Switzerland



Agenda

- Use of the latest version of the scheme
- Reclassification
 - of backfile
 - of national collections after revisions
 - » reclassification scenarios
 - » working lists
 - » results lists
 - soft deletion of invalid symbols
- Classification of Utility Models
- Classification of PCT applications for ISAs
- PCT circulaire on National Classification
- Use of CPC-CE by National Offices in the future (USPTO)



Use of the latest version of the scheme

- Around 4 CPC revisions per year
- One month pre-release time

Backfile classification of national collections

Classification of backfile

- Desired
- Can be done progressively, e.g. 2015-2016, then 2013-2014, etc.
- Most important is to inform users of coverage

Reclassification of national collections after CPC revisions

- Scenarios
 1. Families with documents from EPO, USPTO and any other XX office
 2. Families with unique documents from an office not part of EPO's/USPTO's core collection e.g. XX
 3. Families with documents from more than one office not part of EPO's/USPTO's core collection, e.g. XX and YY

Reclassification scenarios

Revision Concordance List (RCL)

Source	Target
A01B 1/02	A01B 1/02
	A01B 1/04
	A01B 1/06
A01B 1/10	A01B 1/10
	A01B 1/12
	A01B 1/14
	A01B 1/16

Reclassification from A01B1/02 → A01B1/06

Reclassification scenario 1: (Family: EP, US, XX)

EPO or USPTO reclassifies the family on behalf of all offices

CLASSIFICATION PICTURE BEFORE CLASSIFICATION PICTURE AFTER

A01B1/02 (EP, US) → A01B1/06 (EP, US)

A01B1/02 (EP, or US) → A01B1/06 (EP, US)

A01B1/02 (EP) }
A01B1/10 (US) } → A01B1/06 (EP, US)

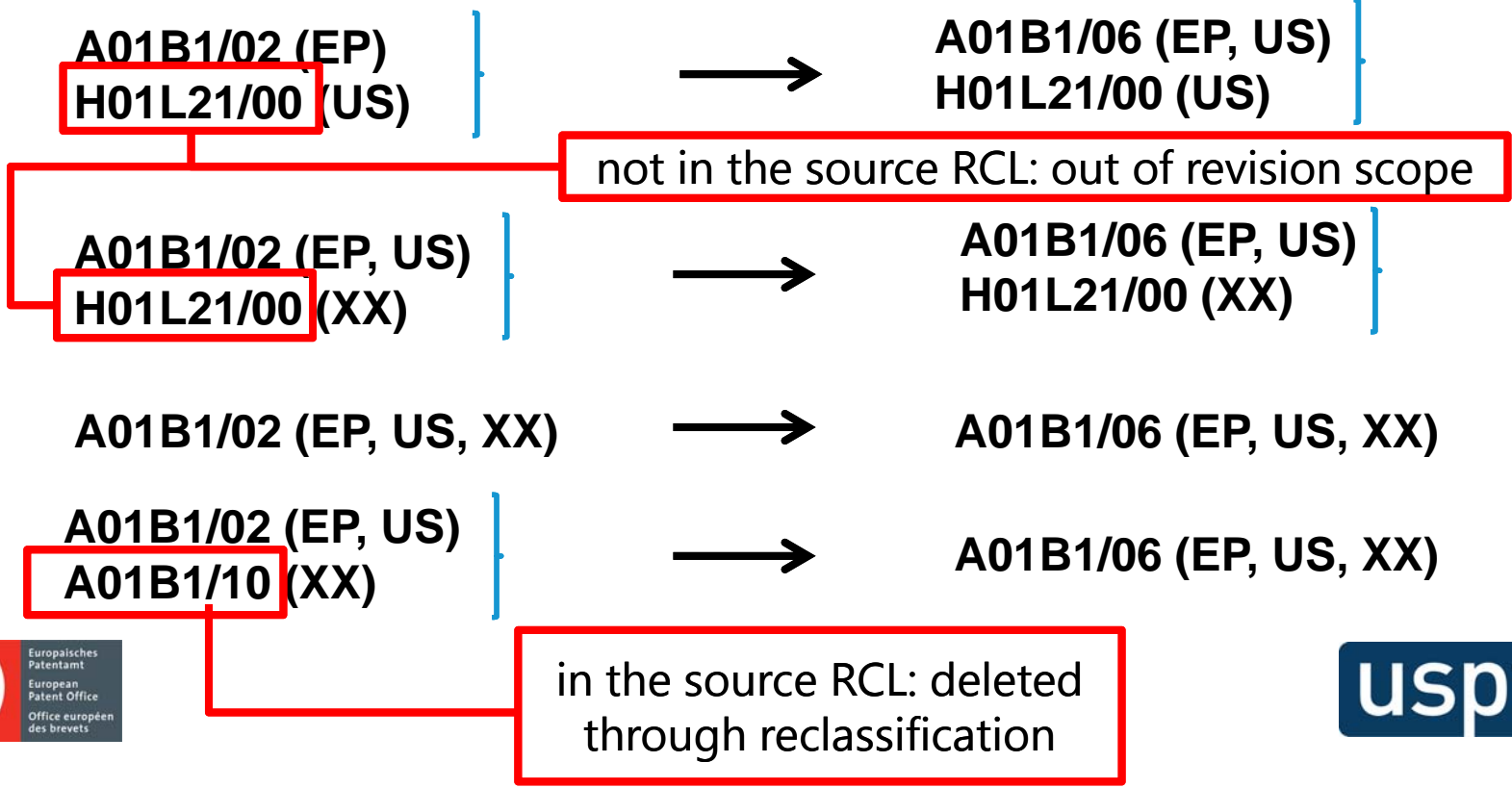
in the source RCL: deleted
through reclassification



Reclassification scenario 1: (Family: EP, US, XX)

CLASSIFICATION PICTURE BEFORE

CLASSIFICATION PICTURE AFTER



Reclassification scenario 2: (Family: XX only)

- A Working List (WL) will be created for Office XX with unique documents
- Office XX will reclassify e.g.

A01B1/02 (XX) → A01B1/06 (XX)

Reclassification scenario 3: (Family: XX, YY)

(no EPO or USPTO family member present)

- Options:

1. Both offices XX and YY reclassify (family present in working lists of XX and YY). The result may be e.g.

A01B1/02 (XX, YY) → A01B1/06 (XX, YY)

or

A01B1/02 (XX, YY) → A01B1/04 (XX)
A01B1/06 (YY)

Reclassification scenario 3: (Family: XX, YY) **(no EPO or USPTO family member present)**

2. Only one office reclassifies for both XX and YY e.g. XX (family present in working list of XX only)

A01B 1/02 (XX, YY) → A01B 1/06 (XX, YY)

3. USPTO reclassify (use of Machine Translation)

A01B 1/02 (XX, YY) → A01B 1/06 (US, XX, YY)

Reclassification Working Lists

Plan is that for each revision project, reclassification working lists will be made available on the CPC-CE:

- Full reclassification Working List (for information)
- Working List of unique documents per office XX
- Working List with all families having a family member from office XX

Results Lists

- For any family that the EPO, USPTO or any other office reclassify, office XX will receive a Results List of the kind:

XX document number Allocations Before Allocations After

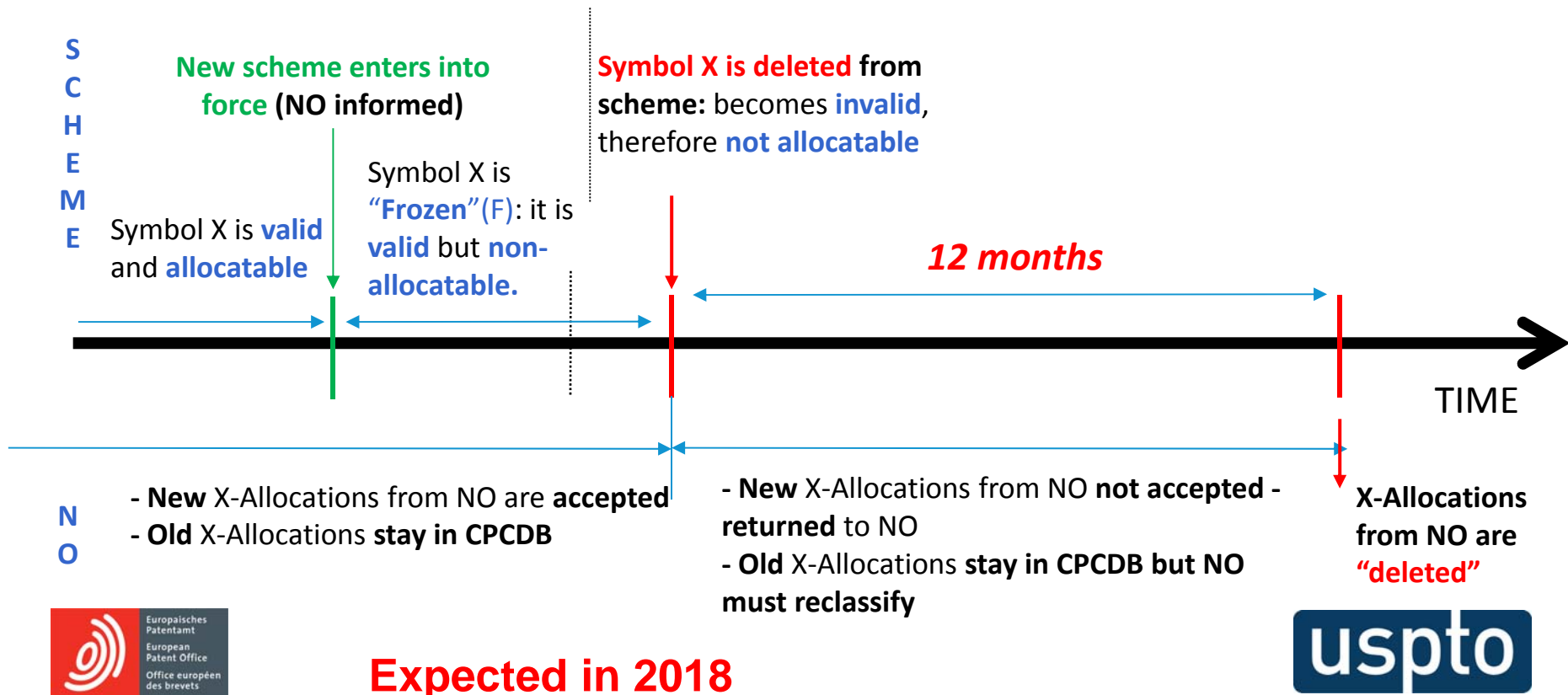
- Office XX can:
 - either accept the allocations provided by the EPO, the USPTO or the other office, or
 - reclassify the XX documents and provide the new allocations back to the EPO/USPTO



Soft deletion of Invalid symbols

(following a CPC revision, symbol X is to be deleted from the CPC scheme)

EPO/USPTO reclassification completed



Expected in 2018

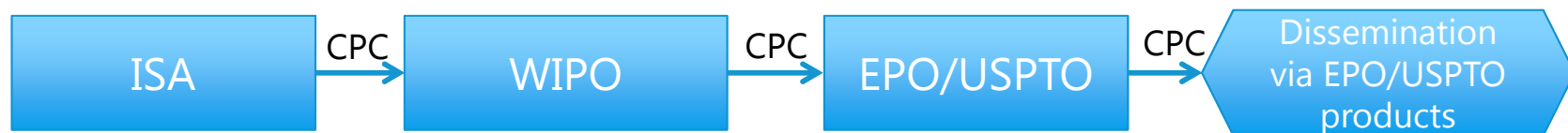


Classification of Utility models

- Utility Models are valuable Patent Information as well
- If resources allow, they should also be classified
- Of secondary priority compared to patent documents

Classification of PCT applications from ISAs

- PCT documents are of high prior-art value
- ISAs are requested to classify PCT files they search in CPC
- Exchange of data?
 - KIPO has proposed to exchange this data via WIPO (PCT Circular C. PCT 1488)
 - Bilateral workflows?



Use of CPC-CE by National Offices

- Access will be given to the National Offices in the new CPC-CE (Collaborative Environment) tool for:
 - Scheme viewing
 - Communication – interaction between experts
 - CPC Revisions
 - Follow and comment on EPO/USPTO revision projects
 - Making proposal requests for new CPC revisions



Expected by the end 2018





Thank you

cpc@epo.org
cpc@uspto.gov

