EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1790

DATE: AUGUST 1, 2025

PROJECT MP12714

The following classification changes will be affected by this Notice of Changes:

Action	**Subclass**	**Group(s)**
SCHEME:		
Titles Changed:		
	C10L	SUBCLASS
	C10L	5/00, 5/08
	C10L	11/00
DEFINITIONS:		
Definitions Modified:	C10L	SUBCLASS
	C10L	5/00, 5/08
	C10L	11/00
	D21B	SUBCLASS
	D21C	SUBCLASS
	D21D	SUBCLASS

No other subclasses/groups are impacted by this Notice of Changes.

This Notice of Changes includes the following *[Check the ones included]:*

1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES
   - ☒ A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)
   - ☐ B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)
   - ☐ C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)
   - ☐ D. New, Modified or Deleted Guidance Heading(s)
2. DEFINITIONS
   - ☒ A. New or Modified Definitions (Full definition template)
   - ☐ B. Modified or Deleted Definitions (Definitions Quick Fix)
3. ☐ REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)
4. ☐ CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)
5. ☐ CHANGES TO THE CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

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1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)

SUBCLASS C10L - FUELS NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR (fuels for generating pressure gas, e.g. for rockets c06D 5/00; candles C11C; nuclear fuel G21C 3/00); NATURAL GAS; SYNTHETIC NATURAL GAS OBTAINED BY PROCESSES NOT COVERED BY SUBCLASSES C10G OR C10K; LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS; USE OF ADDITIVES TO FUELS OR FIRES; FIRE-LIGHTERS

Type*	Symbol	Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)	Title "CPC only" text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**	Transferred to#
M	C10L	Subclass	FUELS NOT OTHERWISE PROVIDED FOR; NATURAL GAS; SYNTHETIC NATURAL GAS OBTAINED BY PROCESSES NOT COVERED BY SUBCLASSES C10G OR C10K; LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS; USE OF ADDITIVES TO FUELS OR FIRES; FIRE-LIGHTERS	
M	C10L 5/00	0	Solid fuels (produced by solidifying fluid fuels C10L 7/00; peat briquettes C10F 7/06)	
M	C10L 5/08	3	without the aid of extraneous binders	
M	C10L 11/00	0	Fire-lighters	

*N = new entries where reclassification into entries is involved; C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; T= existing entries with enlarged file scope, which receive documents from C or D entries, e.g. when a limiting reference is removed from the entry title; M = entries with no change to the file scope (no reclassification); D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed; U = entries that are unchanged.

NOTES:

- **No {curly brackets} are used for titles in CPC only subclasses, e.g. C12Y, A23Y; 2000 series symbol titles of groups found at the end of schemes (orthogonal codes); or the Y section titles. The {curly brackets} are used for 2000 series symbol titles found interspersed throughout the main trunk schemes (breakdown codes).
- U groups: it is obligatory to display the required "anchor" symbol (U group), i.e. the entry immediately preceding a new group or an array of new groups to be created (in case new groups are not clearly subgroups of C-type groups).Always include the symbol, indent level and title of the U group in the table above.
- All entry types should be included in the scheme changes table above for better understanding of the overall scheme change picture. Symbol, indent level, and title are required for all types.

- "Transferred to" column must be completed for all C, D, F, and Q type entries. F groups will be deleted once reclassification is completed.
- When multiple symbols are included in the "Transferred to" column, avoid using ranges of symbols in order to be as precise as possible.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: "< administrative transfer to XX>", "<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>", or "<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>" when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be "additional information".
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations "ADD" or "INV": <administrative transfer to XX ADD> , <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or < administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the "D" entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination ("Transferred to") symbol, however it is required to specify "<no transfer>" in the "Transferred to" column for such cases.
- For finalisation projects, the deleted "F" symbols should have <no transfer> in the "Transferred to" column.
- For more details about the types of scheme change, see CPC Guide.

2.A. DEFINITIONS (modified)

C10L

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following updated statement.

Definition statement

This place covers:

- Compositions which react chemically, usually with oxygen in air, to produce heat in controllable amounts or which are dispersed in air for explosive combustion in an engine or which produce light along with heat upon combustion, i.e. liquid carbonaceous fuels, gaseous fuels, natural gas, synthetic natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, solid fuels and fuels produced by solidifying fuels.
- Treatment of fuels to improve their combustion.
- Use of additives to fuels or fires for particular purposes, e.g. for reducing smoke development, for minimising corrosion or incrustation, for facilitating soot removal or for improving the octane number or the low temperature properties of the fuel.
- Fire-lighters, i.e. easily-combustible compositions or shaped products which are designed to initiate the combustion of a larger body of fuel and methods or apparatus for their manufacture.

References

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

Insert: The following three new references in the References out of a residual place table.

References out of a residual place

Examples of places in relation to which this place is residual:

Explosives or thermic compositions, e.g. fuels for rocket engines intended for reaction with an oxidant other than air	C06B
Cracking hydrocarbon oils; Production of liquid hydrocarbon mixtures, e.g. by destructive hydrogenation, oligomerisation or polymerisation, recovery of hydrocarbon oils from oil-shale, oil-sand	C10G

or gases or refining mixtures mainly consisting of hydrocarbons; Reforming of naphtha	
Purifying or modifying the chemical composition of combustible gases containing carbon monoxide	C10K

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Synthesis gas produced by decomposition of gaseous or liquid organic compounds, e.g. hydrocarbons	C01B3/22
Hydrocarbons per se	C07C
Cracking or pyrolysis of hydrocarbon gases to individual hydrocarbons or mixtures thereof of definite or specified constitution	C07C
Destructive distillation of carbonaceous materials for producing of gas, coke, tar or similar materials	C10B
Production of producer gas, water-gas, synthesis gas from solid carbonaceous materials or mixtures containing these gases or carburetting air or other gases	C10J
Lubricating compositions	C10M
Candles	C11C
Arrangements or devices for supplying additives to fuels in combustion engines	F02M 25/00
Vessels for containing or storing compressed, liquefied or solidified gases	F17C
Liquefying gases or gaseous mixtures by pressure and cold treatment	F25J
Nuclear reactor fuels	G21C 3/00

Replace: The existing Glossary of terms table with the following updated table.

Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

fire-lighter	easily-combustible composition or shaped product which is designed to initiate the combustion of a larger body of fuel, e.g. briquettes mainly consisting of charcoal

C10L5/00

References

Replace: The existing Limiting references table with the following updated table.

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Solid fuels produced by solidifying fluid fuels	C10L 7/00
Peat briquettes	C10F 7/06

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Mixing solids	B29B
Briquetting presses	B30B 11/00
Candles	C11C 5/00
Fuel delivery or fuel directly delivered to combustion apparatus	F02M 21/00

Preparation of lump or pulverulent fuel for delivering to combustion apparatus	F23K 1/00

C10L5/08

Delete: The entire Limiting references section.

C10L11/00

References

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Matches or manufacture thereof	C06F
Igniters in general, e.g. lighters containing fuel for cigarettes	F23Q

D21B

Replace: The existing Definition statement with the following updated statement.

Definition statement

This place covers:

The preparation of fibrous raw materials, e.g. wood, rags, waste paper or pulp bales and their mechanical treatment to obtain mechanical pulp, in particular for paper-making and the production of fibreboard, comprises pretreating raw materials before pulp preparation, pulp preparation by dividing raw materials into small particles, e.g. by dry or wet methods of mechanical defibrating (cutting, grinding, kneading in mills or pulpers), conserving the obtained finely-divided cellulosic material (wood chips).

Replace: The existing Relationships text with the following updated text.

Relationships with other classification places

Subclass B27L covers process steps which take place before those steps provided for in subclass D21B. Examples of subject matter provided for in subclass B27L include debarking and removing vestiges of branches from trees or logs, splitting wood and manufacture of wood shavings, chips, powder and wood fibres.

Subclass D21B covers the treatment of raw materials, which may be wood, in preparation for paper-making or cellulose production.

Subclass D21C covers further processes resulting in cellulose pulp, usually by chemical means.

Subclass D21D covers further mechanical processing after initial pulp preparation to cellulose and before the resulting materials are passed to the paper-making machines.

Subclass D21F covers methods of producing paper.

Subclass D21H covers pulp compositions.

Subclass D21J covers manufacture of articles from cellulosic fibres by wet processes while subclass B27N covers this by dry processes.

Subclass D01B, specifically main group D01B 1/00, covers the mechanical separation of fibres from plant material, e.g. seeds, leaves or stalks, in order to obtain fibres normally used in textiles.

References

Replace: The B27L reference text with the following updated text.

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Splitting wood; Manufacture of veneer, wooden sticks, wood shavings, wood fibres or wood powder	B27L

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Disintegration in mills; Milling devices in general	B02C
Flotation in general	B03D
Dry sorting of waste	B07B
Disposal of solid waste	B09B
Manufacture by dry processes of articles, with or without organic binding agents, made from fibres consisting of wood or other lignocellulosic or like organic material	B27N
Treatment of water from the processing of plants or parts thereof	C02F 2103/26
Treatment of water from the paper or cellulose industry	C02F 2103/28
Cellulose derivatives and their preparation	C08B 1/00
Macromolecular compounds derived from lignocellulosic materials	C08H 8/00
Disintegrating peat	C10F 7/02
Preparation of polysaccharide by fermentation or enzyme-using process	C12P 19/04
Preparation of ethanol by fermentation or enzyme-using process of cellulosic material substrate	C12P 7/10
Mechanical removal of impurities from animal fibres	D01B 3/00
Obtaining silk fibres or filaments	D01B7/00
Chemical features in the manufacture of artificial filaments, threads, fibres, bristles or ribbons	D01F
Working-up waste paper (chemical part)	D21C5/02
Methods of producing paper in paper-machines	D21F

Flotation of white water, recovering fibres from suspensions	D21F1/70
Pulp compositions	D21H
Manufacture of articles from cellulosic fibrous suspensions	D21J

Insert: The following new Synonyms and Keywords section.

Synonyms and Keywords

In patent documents, the word/expression in the first column is often used instead of the word/expression in the second column, which is used in the classification scheme of this place:

lignocellulosic biomass materials	fibrous raw materials

D21C

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following updated text.

Definition statement

This place covers:

- Pretreatment of the finely-divided materials before digesting, e.g. with water, acid reacting compounds, alkaline reacting compounds or oxygen-generating compounds or physical methods for facilitating impregnation.
- Pulping cellulose-containing materials, e.g. sulfate processes, or other features of pulping processes.
- Other processes for obtaining cellulose, e.g. cooking cotton linters; working-up other than mechanical of waste-paper.
- Digesters.
- After-treatment of cellulose pulp, e.g. of wood pulp or cotton linters, e.g. washing, removal of fats, resins, pitch or waxes, bleaching or de-watering other than in general.

- Regeneration of pulp liquors, e.g. treatment of pulp gases, recovery of the heat content of the gases, deodorisation, concentrating spent liquor by evaporation other than evaporating and distillation or combustion of pulp liquors.

Replace: The existing Relationships text with the following updated text.

Relationships with other classification places

Subclass D21B covers fibrous raw material or their mechanical treatment.

Subclass D21D covers treatment of the materials before passing to the paper-making machine.

Subclass D21F covers paper-making machines and methods of producing paper thereon.

Subclass D21H covers pulp compositions.

Subclass C08B covers polysaccharides and derivatives thereof.

References

Replace: The existing Limiting references table with the following updated table.

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Mechanical treatment of waste paper by dry methods	D21B 1/08
Mechanical treatment of waste paper by wet methods, by the use of steam or other means	D21B 1/32

Insert: The following new Application-oriented references section.

Application-oriented references

Examples of places where the subject matter of this place is covered when specially adapted, used for a particular purpose, or incorporated in a larger system:

Evaporating	B01D 1/00
Distillation	B01D 3/00
Drying solid materials or objects by removing liquid therefrom	F26B

Insert: The following new Informative references section.

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Cellulose as gelling or thickening agents in food	A23L 29/262
Filtration material of cellulose	B01D 39/18
Semi-permeable membrane of cellulose	B01D 71/10
Moulding material of cellulose	B29K 2001/00
Treatment of water, waste water, sewage or sludge to be treated from the paper or cellulose industry	C02F 2103/28
Use of cellulosic materials as fillers for mortars, concrete or artificial stone	C04B 16/02
Compositions of mortars, concrete or artificial stone, containing only organic binders, e.g. cellulosic waste liquor	C04B 26/24
Peptides immobilised on cellulose	C07K 17/12
Lignin; Modified lignin; High-molecular-weight products derived therefrom	C08H 6/00
Macromolecular compounds derived from lignocellulosic materials	C08H 8/00
Compositions of cellulose, modified cellulose or cellulose derivatives	C08L 1/00
Coating compositions based on cellulose	C09D 101/00
Obtaining, purification or chemical modification of natural resins	C09F 1/00
Destructive distillation of cellulose-containing material	C10B 53/02
Production of fats or fatty oils	C11B 1/00
Processes using or culture media containing cellulose or hydrolysates thereof	C12N 1/22
Processes using or culture media containing waste sulfite liquor	C12N 1/24

Ethanol produced as by-product or from waste or cellulosic material substrate	C12P 7/06
Glucose by saccharification of cellulosic material	C13K 1/02
Obtain filaments or fibers for spinning	D01C
Monocomponent artificial filaments of cellulose or cellulose derivatives	D01F 1/00

Replace: The existing Special rules text with the following updated text.

Special rules of classification

The invention per se should be classified in the last appropriate place. Ideally, one group should be given for covering the main aspect of the invention per se. Exceptionally, the core of the invention may also be classified by using several groups (up to three).

Replace: The existing Glossary text with the following updated text.

Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

bagasse	fibre remaining after the extraction of the sugar-bearing juice from sugarcane
bleaching	treatment of lignocellulosic material to obtain a pulp/paper having an increased brightness
cellulose	structural component of the primary cell wall of green plants. It is an organic compound with the formula $(C_6H_{10}O_5)_n$ and is the major constituent of paper, paper-board and of textiles made from cotton, linen and other plant fibres.
cotton linters	fine, silky fibres which adhere to the seeds of the cotton plant after ginning and are traditionally used in the manufacture of paper and as a raw material in the manufacture of cellulose
delignification	treatment of lignocellulosic material to remove a part of the lignin
lignocellulosic material	cellulosic material which also comprises lignin
linings	material that covers the inner surface of something

pulp	a dispersion (e.g. aqueous suspension) comprising cellulosic fibres and optional additives; it is prepared by chemically or mechanically separating cellulose fibres from wood, fibre crops or waste paper

Insert: The following new Synonyms and Keywords section.

Synonyms and Keywords

In patent documents, the following words/expressions are often used with the meaning indicated:

fibres	fibers

D21D

Replace: The existing Definition statement text with the following updated text.

Definition statement

This place covers:

- Methods of beating or refining of fibrous materials and apparatus therefor.
- Methods for purification of the pulp suspension by mechanical means and apparatus therefor.
- Other treatments of the fibrous materials before passing to the paper-making machine.

References

Replace: The existing Informative references table with the following updated table.

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Separation	B01D
Crushing	B02C
Separating solid materials using liquids	B03B
Centrifuges	B04B
Cyclones	B04C
Separating solids from solids by sieving	B07B
Pre-treatment of moulding material consisting of wood or other lingo-cellulosic or like organic material	B27N 1/00
Mechanical separation of fibres from plant material	D01B 1/00

Replace: The existing Glossary of terms table with the following updated table.

Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

beating	treatment of fibrous suspensions in Hollander type equipment in order to fibrillate, shorten or soften fibers
bed plate	stator of Hollander or Jordan devices
Hollander	traditional equipment for beating fibrous suspensions, being a device using at least one wheel like beating rotor (roll) equipped with beaters revolving in a trough having a beating stator (bed plate), also equipped with beaters, in which trough the suspension is circulated to pass multiple times through the beating zone formed between the rotor and the stator
Jordan	refiner having a frusto-conical rotor revolving inside a complimentary stator
paper stock	a term used to define pulp after mechanical (refining or beating) and/or chemical treatment (sizing, loading, dyeing etc.) in the paper making process, e.g. the pulp ready to make paper
refining	treatment of fibrous suspensions for the same purpose in all other types of equipment