

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1839

DATE: JANUARY 1, 2026

PROJECT RP12818

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

<u>Action</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Group(s)</u>
SCHEME:		
Symbols Deleted:	H05K	3/3457, 3/3463
Symbols New:	H05K	3/346, 3/3465
Titles Changed:	H05K	3/24, 3/244, 3/30, 3/303, 3/306, 3/321, 3/325, 3/328, 3/341, 3/3447, 3/3452, 3/3468, 3/3473, 3/3478, 3/3485, 3/3489, 3/3494, 3/4007
DEFINITIONS:		
Definitions Deleted: (no frozen (F) symbol definitions should be deleted)	H05K	3/3457
Definitions New:	H05K	3/346
Definitions Modified:	H05K	3/24

The following group is also impacted by this Notice of Changes: H05K 2201/0367

This Notice of Changes includes the following:

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 H05K - PRINTED CIRCUITS; CASINGS OR CONSTRUCTIONAL DETAILS OF ELECTRIC APPARATUS; MANUFACTURE OF ASSEMBLAGES OF ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS**

Type*	Symbol	Indent Level Number of dots (e.g. 0, 1, 2)	Title <u>“CPC only” text should normally be enclosed in {curly brackets}**</u>	Transferred to[#]
M	H05K3/24	2	Reinforcing of the conductive pattern {by solder coating H05K 3/3465)}	
M	H05K3/244	3	{Finish plating of conductors, especially of copper conductors, e.g. for pads or lands (selective plating methods H05K 3/243; finish plating of conductors made by printing techniques H05K 3/246; solder as finish H05K 3/3465)}	
M	H05K3/30	1	Assembling printed circuits with electric components, e.g. with resistors	
M	H05K3/303	2	with surface mounted components (H05K 3/32 takes precedence)	
M	H05K3/306	2	with lead-in-hole components (H05K 3/32 takes precedence)	
U	H05K3/32	2	electrically connecting electric components or wires to printed circuits	
M	H05K3/321	3	by conductive adhesives	
M	H05K3/325	3	by abutting or pinching; Mechanical auxiliary parts therefor	
M	H05K3/328	3	by welding	
U	H05K3/34	3	by soldering	
M	H05K3/341	4	Surface mounted components	
M	H05K3/3447	4	Lead-in-hole components	
M	H05K3/3452	4	Solder masks	
D	H05K3/3457	4	{Solder materials or compositions; Methods of application thereof}	<administrative transfer to H05K3/3465>
N	H05K3/346	4	Solder materials or compositions specially adapted therefor	
D	H05K3/3463	5	{Solder compositions in relation to features of the printed circuit board or the mounting process}	<administrative transfer to H05K3/346>
N	H05K3/3465	4	Application of solder	
M	H05K3/3468	5	Application of molten solder, e.g. dip soldering	
M	H05K3/3473	5	Plating of solder	

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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	H05K3/3478	5	Application of solder preforms; Transferring prefabricated solder patterns	
M	H05K3/3485	5	Application of solder paste, slurry or powder (using printing techniques to form the desired conductive pattern of the printed circuit by applying conductive material H05K 3/12)	
M	H05K3/3489	4	Composition of fluxes; Application thereof; Other processes of activating the contact surfaces	
M	H05K3/3494	4	Heating processes for reflow soldering	
M	H05K3/4007	2	{Surface contacts, e.g. bumps (H05K 3/4092 takes precedence; deposition of finish layers on pads H05K 3/24; forming solder bumps H05K 3/3465)}	

*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.

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- 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.

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2. A. DEFINITIONS (NEW)

H05K3/346

References

Informative references

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

Solder compositions per se	B23K35/24
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2. B. DEFINITIONS QUICK FIX

Symbol	Location of change (e.g., section title)	Existing reference symbol or text	Action; New symbol; New text
H05K3/24	Limiting references	By solder coating H05K3/3457	<u>Replace</u> symbol with: H05K3/3465
H05K3/3457			<u>Delete</u> entire definition

Notes:

Use this Definitions Quick Fix (DQF) table to:

- Delete an entire definition
- Delete an entire section
- Change a reference symbol
- Delete a reference symbol
- Delete text in a References section
- Correct one error in spelling, article use, or verb tense

Otherwise, use the standard template.

Reminder: Never delete F symbol definitions.

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3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

Type*	From CPC Symbol (existing)	To CPC Symbol(s)
D	H05K 3/3457	<administrative transfer to H05K 3/3465>
D	H05K 3/3463	<administrative transfer to H05K 3/346>

* 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; D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed.

NOTES:

- Only C, D, F, and Q type entries are included in the table above.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “To” column, do not use ranges of symbols.
- 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 (“To”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “To” column for such cases.
- RCL is not needed for finalisation projects.

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4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

<u>CPC</u>	<u>IPC</u>	<u>Action*</u>
H05K 3/303	H05K 3/303	UPDATE
H05K 3/305	H05K 3/303	UPDATE
H05K 3/306	H05K 3/306	UPDATE
H05K 3/308	H05K 3/306	UPDATE
H05K 3/321	H05K 3/321	UPDATE
H05K 3/323	H05K 3/321	UPDATE
H05K 3/325	H05K 3/325	UPDATE
H05K 3/326	H05K 3/325	UPDATE
H05K 3/328	H05K 3/328	UPDATE
H05K 3/341	H05K 3/341	UPDATE
H05K 3/3415	H05K 3/341	UPDATE
H05K 3/3421	H05K 3/341	UPDATE
H05K 3/3426	H05K 3/341	UPDATE
H05K 3/3431	H05K 3/341	UPDATE
H05K 3/3436	H05K 3/341	UPDATE
H05K 3/3442	H05K 3/341	UPDATE
H05K 3/3447	H05K 3/3447	UPDATE
H05K 3/3452	H05K 3/3452	UPDATE
H05K 3/3457		DELETE
H05K 3/346	H05K 3/346	NEW
H05K 3/3463		DELETE
H05K 3/3465	H05K 3/3465	NEW
H05K 3/3468	H05K 3/3468	UPDATE
H05K 3/3473	H05K 3/3473	UPDATE
H05K 3/3478	H05K 3/3478	UPDATE
H05K 3/3485	H05K 3/3485	UPDATE
H05K 3/3489	H05K 3/3489	UPDATE
H05K 3/3494	H05K 3/3494	UPDATE

*Action column:

- For an (N) or (Q) entry, provide an IPC symbol and complete the Action column with “NEW.”
- For an existing CPC main trunk entry or indexing entry where the existing IPC symbol needs to be changed, provide an updated IPC symbol and complete the Action column with “UPDATED.”
- For a (D) CPC entry or indexing entry complete the Action column with “DELETE.” IPC symbol does not need to be included in the IPC column.
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry which is positioned within the main trunk scheme (breakdown code) provide an IPC symbol and complete the action column with “NEW”.
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry positioned at the end of the CPC scheme (orthogonal code), with no IPC equivalent, complete the IPC column with “CPCONLY” and complete the action column with “NEW”.

NOTES:

- F symbols are not included in the CICL table above.
- T and M symbols are not included in the CICL table above unless a change to the existing IPC is desired.

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5. CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

Definitions references impacted by this revision project

<u>Location of reference to be changed</u>	<u>Referenced subclass or group to be changed</u>	<u>Section of definition</u>	<u>Action; New reference symbol; New text</u>
H05K2201/0367	H05K3/3457	Informative references	H05K3/346

NOTES:

- The CRL tables above are used for changes to locations **outside** of the project scope. Changes to references in scheme titles or definitions **inside** the project scope will be reflected in the “scheme change” template or one of the “definition” templates.
- In addition to other changes proposed in the tables above, in the column titled “Referenced subclass or group to be changed,” **referenced** D symbols should indicate an action of “delete” or should indicate a replacement symbol and **referenced** F symbols should indicate a replacement symbol.
- When a reference is deleted, text related to that reference will also be deleted unless other references or a range of references associated with the same text remain.