

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1848

DATE: JANUARY 1, 2026

PROJECT RP12821

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:	B60D	1/015
Titles Changed:	B60D	SUBCLASS
	B60D	1/00, 2001/005, 1/06, 1/075, 1/141, 1/167, 1/243, 1/30, 1/322, 1/325, 1/345, 1/36, 1/481, 1/486, 1/50, 1/52, 1/54, 2001/542, 2001/544, 2001/546, 2001/548, 1/583, 1/62
	B60D	3/00
Warnings Deleted:	B60D	SUBCLASS
Warnings New:	B60D	1/167, 1/173, 1/182, 1/36, 1/465, 1/50, 1/52, 1/54, 1/56, 1/565
Notes Modified:	B60D	SUBCLASS
DEFINITIONS:		
Definitions New:	B60D	1/06, 1/141, 1/167, 1/30, 1/322, 1/325, 1/345, 1/36, 1/50, 1/52, 1/54, 1/60
Definitions Modified:	B60D	SUBCLASS
	B60D	1/00, 1/01, 1/14, 1/58
	B60D	3/00
	B60D	5/00

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 B60D - VEHICLE CONNECTIONS**

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level</u> <u>Number of dots</u> <u>(e.g. 0, 1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> <u>“CPC only” text should normally be</u> <u>enclosed in {curly brackets}**</u>	<u>Transferred to[#]</u>
M	B60D	Subclass	VEHICLE CONNECTIONS	
M	B60D 1/00	0	Traction couplings; Hitches; Draw-gear; Towing devices (fifth-wheel traction couplings B62D 53/08)	
M	B60D 2001/005	2	{for carts, scooters or the like }	
U	B60D 1/01	1	Traction couplings or hitches characterised by their type	
D	B60D 1/015	2	{Fifth wheel couplings }	<administrative transfer to B62D 53/08>
M	B60D 1/06	2	Ball-and-socket hitches	
M	B60D 1/075	3	{Hitch adaptors }	
M	B60D 1/141	2	{Arrangements or frames adapted to allow the connection of trailers to tractor three-point hitches }	
T	B60D 1/167	2	consisting of articulated or rigidly assembled bars or tubes forming a V-, Y- or U-shaped draw gear	
C	B60D 1/173	2	consisting of at least two bars which are not connected or articulated to each other	B60D 1/167, B60D 1/173
U	B60D 1/18	2	Tow ropes, chains or the like	
C	B60D 1/182	3	{comprising resilient members }	B60D 1/182, B60D 1/50
M	B60D 1/243	2	{for protection in case of crash, collision, impact or the like }	
M	B60D 1/30	2	for sway control {; Sway alarm means }	
M	B60D 1/322	4	{using fluid dampers }	
M	B60D 1/325	4	{using friction dampers }	
M	B60D 1/345	4	{the springs being of the bar or leaf type }	
T	B60D 1/36	2	for facilitating connection, e.g. hitch catchers	
C	B60D 1/465	4	{comprising a lifting mechanism, e.g. for coupling while lifting }	B60D 1/36, B60D 1/465
M	B60D 1/481	2	{adapted for being mounted to the front and back of trailers, carts, trolleys or the like to form a train }	

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M	B60D 1/486	2	{adapted for being mounted to the wheel axle of a vehicle}	
T	B60D 1/50	2	resiliently mounted (B60D 1/30 takes precedence)	
C	B60D 1/52	2	removably mounted	B60D 1/52, B60D 1/54
T	B60D 1/54	2	collapsible or retractable when not in use, e.g. hide-away hitches	
C	B60D 1/56	2	securing to the vehicle bumper	B60D 1/52, B60D 1/54, B60D 1/56
C	B60D 1/565	3	{having an eyelet}	B60D 1/52, B60D 1/54, B60D 1/565
M	B60D 2001/542	3	{characterised by the number of pivot axes}	
M	B60D 2001/544	4	{One pivot axis}	
M	B60D 2001/546	4	{Two pivot axes}	
M	B60D 2001/548	4	{Three pivot axes}	
M	B60D 1/583	2	{Holding-down means, e.g. holding-down retainers}	
M	B60D 1/62	2	involving supply lines, electric circuits or the like	
M	B60D 3/00	0	Fittings to facilitate pushing	

*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”.

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- 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 finalization 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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B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning notice(s)**SUBCLASS B60D - VEHICLE CONNECTIONS**

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Old Warning notice</u>	<u>New/Modified Warning</u>
D	B60D	In this subclass non-limiting references (in the sense of paragraph 39 of the Guide to the IPC) may still be displayed in the scheme.	Delete entire warning
N	B60D1/167		Group B60D1/167 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group B60D1/173. Groups B60D1/173 and B60D1/167 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	B60D1/173		Group B60D1/173 is impacted by reclassification into group B60D1/167. Groups B60D1/173 and B60D1/167 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	B60D1/182		Group B60D1/182 is impacted by reclassification into group B60D1/50. Groups B60D1/182 and B60D1/50 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	B60D1/36		Group B60D1/36 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group B60D1/465. Groups B60D1/465 and B60D1/36 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	B60D1/465		Group B60D1/465 is impacted by reclassification into group B60D1/36. Groups B60D1/465 and B60D1/36 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.
N	B60D1/50		Group B60D1/50 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from group B60D1/182. Groups B60D1/182 and B60D1/50 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.

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N	B60D1/52		<p>Group B60D1/52 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from groups B60D1/56 and B60D1/565. Group B60D1/52 is also impacted by reclassification into group B60D1/54.</p> <p>Groups B60D1/52, B60D1/56, B60D1/565 and B60D1/54 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.</p>
N	B60D1/54		<p>Group B60D1/54 is incomplete pending reclassification of documents from groups B60D1/52, B60D1/56 and B60D1/565.</p> <p>Groups B60D1/52, B60D1/56, B60D1/565 and B60D1/54 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.</p>
N	B60D1/56		<p>Group B60D1/56 is impacted by reclassification into groups B60D1/52 and B60D1/54.</p> <p>Groups B60D1/56, B60D1/52 and B60D1/54 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.</p>
N	B60D1/565		<p>Group B60D1/565 is impacted by reclassification into groups B60D1/52 and B60D1/54.</p> <p>Groups B60D1/565, B60D1/52 and B60D1/54 should be considered in order to perform a complete search.</p>

*N = new warning, M = modified warning, D = deleted warning

NOTE: The "Location" column only requires the symbol PRIOR to the location of the warning. No further directions such as "before" or "after" are required.

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C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)

SUBCLASS B60D - VEHICLE CONNECTIONS

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Old Note</u>	<u>New/Modified Note</u>
M	B60D	Attention is drawn to the note following the class B60	Attention is drawn to the Note following the title of class B60.

*N = new note, M = modified note, D = deleted note

NOTE: The "Location" column only requires the symbol PRIOR to the location of the note. No further directions such as "before" or "after" are required.

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2. A. DEFINITIONS (new)

B60D1/06

Definition statement

This place covers:

Ball-and-socket hitches, e.g. constructional details, auxiliary devices or their arrangement on the vehicle.

B60D1/141

References

Informative references

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

Coupling of multi-purpose tractors with equipment	B62D49/065
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B60D1/167

References

Informative references

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

Draw-gear or towing devices characterised by their type, consisting of at least two bars which are not connected or articulated to each other	B60D1/173
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B60D1/30

Definition statement

This place covers:

- Arrangements for sway control, e.g. stabilising or anti-fishtail devices.
- Sway alarm means.

B60D1/322

References

Informative references

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

Springs, vibration-dampers, shock-absorbers or similarly-constructed movement-dampers using a fluid or the equivalent as damping medium	F16F9/00
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B60D1/325

References

Informative references

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

Vibration-dampers or shock-absorbers with relatively-rotatable friction surfaces that are pressed together	F16F7/02
Vibration-dampers or shock-absorbers with friction surfaces rectilinearly movable along each other	F16F7/08

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B60D1/345**References*****Informative references***

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

Torsion springs consisting of bars or tubes	F16F1/14
Leaf springs	F16F1/18

B60D1/36**Definition statement**

This place covers:

Arrangements for facilitating connection, e.g. hitch catchers, visual guide means or signalling aids.

References***Informative references***

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

Traction couplings, hitches, draw-gear or towing devices comprising a lifting mechanism, e.g. for coupling while lifting	B60D1/465
Arrangement of signalling devices, the mounting or supporting thereof or circuits therefor, for vehicle in general	B60Q
Optical arrangements specially adapted for viewing trailer hitches	B60R1/003

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B60D1/50

References

Informative references

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

Tow ropes, chains or the like comprising resilient members	B60D1/182
Springs; Shock-absorbers; Means for damping vibration	F16F

B60D1/52

References

Informative references

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

Traction couplings, hitches, draw-gear or towing devices securing to the vehicle bumper	B60D1/56
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B60D1/54

References

Informative references

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

Removably mounted traction couplings, hitches, draw-gear or towing devices	B60D1/52
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B60D1/60

Definition statement

This place covers:

Covers, caps or guards, e.g. comprising anti-theft devices.

2. A. DEFINITIONS (modified)

B60D

Definition statement

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

Types of hitches or devices which are not covered by this subclass include:

- Carriers for bikes or other loads which are connected to hitches.
- Hitches used not between vehicles, e.g. between bikes.
- No 5th-wheel couplings.
- Electrical, hydraulic or pneumatic connections as long as the hitch or part of the hitch is concerned, e.g. fixation to the hitch or sensor on the hitch.

References

Informative references

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

Parts, details or accessories of agricultural machines or implements, in general	A01B
Arrangement of signalling or lighting devices for vehicles in general	B60Q
Vehicles, vehicle fittings or vehicle parts not otherwise provided for	B60R
Servicing, cleaning, repairing, supporting, lifting or manoeuvring of vehicles, not otherwise provided for	B60S
Brake control systems or parts thereof; Arrangement of braking elements on vehicles in general	B60T
Auxiliary devices or accessories specially adapted to cycles and not otherwise provided for	B62J
Testing of vehicles	G01M17/00

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B60D1/00**Definition statement**

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

All kinds of couplings between vehicles, but not between bikes or motorbikes. If a connection is solely claimed for connecting multiple bikes or motorbikes or connecting trailers solely to bikes or motorbikes, then the connection should indeed not be classified in [B60D](#) but in the respective classes for bikes or motorbikes, e.g. [B62K27/00](#). For classifying such a document, it should then be referred to that field only.

However, in practice most of the connections are NOT explicitly claimed for bikes or motorbikes, which then makes the documents relevant to be classified in [B60D](#).

References**Limiting references**

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

Fifth-wheel traction couplings	B62D53/08
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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:

Devices specially adapted for connection between animals or tractors and agricultural machines or implements	A01B59/00
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Insert: The following new Informative references section.

Informative references

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

Supplementary fittings on vehicle exterior for carrying cycles	B60R9/10
Hand-propelled vehicles, e.g. hand carts	B62B
Cycles	B62K
Sidecars; Forecars; Trailers or the like specially adapted to be attached to cycles	B62K27/00

B60D1/01

Definition statement

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

Traction couplings or hitches according to their type, e.g. ball-and-socket hitches or bolt-type couplings.

Delete: The entire Informative references section.

B60D1/14

Definition statement

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

Gears according to their type, e.g. V-shaped draw gears or draw gears which consist of a single longitudinal bar.

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B60D1/58**Definition statement**

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

- Load, weight, angle, force, torque measuring or sensing devices.
- Length of drawbar or position measuring devices.
- Coupling monitoring systems such as alarm systems (theft prevention).
- Brake system for hitches.
- Safety devices.
- Auxiliary accessories on hitches (such as steps).

References***Informative references***

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

Electric or fluid circuits specially adapted for vehicles and not otherwise provided for	B60R16/00
Ground-engaging vehicle fittings for supporting, lifting or manoeuvring the vehicle, wholly or in part, e.g. built-in jacks	B60S9/00
Arrangements for measuring electric power or power factor	G01R21/00
Radio direction-finding; Radio navigation; Determining distance or velocity by use of radio waves; Locating or presence-detecting by use of the reflection or reradiation of radio waves; Analogous arrangements using other waves	G01S
Line connectors; Current collectors	H01R

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B60D3/00

Definition statement

Insert: A period at the end of the existing Definition statement, so that the updated statement appears as follows.

Couplings for facilitating pushing.

Insert: The following new Informative references section.

References

Informative references

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

Traction couplings; Hitches; Draw-gear; Towing devices	B60D1/00
Vehicle bumpers	B60R19/02
Steering arrangements for backing a normally-drawn trailer	B62D13/06

B60D5/00

Definition statement

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

Bellow or concertina-type gangway between coupled vehicles, such as between two wagons, e.g. rotatable platforms.

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References

Informative references

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

Communication passages between coaches; Adaptation of coach ends therefor	B61D17/20
Flexible communication passages between coaches, e.g. bellows; Adaptation of coach ends therefor	B61D17/22
Articulated buses with interconnecting passageway, e.g. bellows	B62D47/025

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3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

Type*	From CPC Symbol (existing)	To CPC Symbol(s)
D	B60D 1/015	<administrative transfer to B62D 53/08>
C	B60D 1/173	B60D 1/167, B60D 1/173
C	B60D 1/182	B60D 1/182, B60D 1/50
C	B60D 1/465	B60D 1/36, B60D 1/465
C	B60D 1/52	B60D 1/52, B60D 1/54
C	B60D 1/56	B60D 1/52, B60D 1/54, B60D 1/56
C	B60D 1/565	B60D 1/52, B60D 1/54, B60D 1/565

*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>
B60D1/015		DELETE

*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.