

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1915

DATE: AUGUST 1, 2026

PROJECT DP12945

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

<u>Action</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Group(s)</u>
<b>DEFINITIONS:</b>		
Definitions New:	G06Q	10/40

**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)

## 2. A. DEFINITIONS (new)

### G06Q10/40

#### Definition statement

*This place covers:*

Information and communication technology [ICT] specially adapted for business processes related to social networking or business processes related to social networking services.

The following social networks are therefore covered, the list being non-exhaustive:

- Social media networks;
- Friendship and acquaintance networks;
- Peer learner networks;
- Business networks;
- Knowledge networks;
- Collaboration graphs;
- Working relationships.

The following business processes related to social networking or social networking services are therefore covered, the list being non-exhaustive:

- managing interactions of individuals, organisations or entities which are connected by one or more common relations or interests;
- analysis of social networks, social networking services or social media, e.g. investigating social structures, characterising behaviours or relationships between individuals or entities within social networks;
- building social networks and/or sharing or spreading information by interconnecting individuals, organisations or entities which have one or more common characteristics.

#### References

##### *Informative references*

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

Information retrieval from the web independent of the retrieved data types	G06F16/95
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Data switching networks for broadcast or conference	<a href="#">H04L12/18</a>
User-to-user messaging in packet-switching networks, real-time or near real-time messaging, e.g. instant messages	<a href="#">H04L51/04</a>
User-to-user messaging in packet-switching networks, transmitted according to store-and-forward or real-time protocols, e.g. e-mail, for supporting social networking services	<a href="#">H04L51/52</a>
Network arrangements or protocols for supporting network services or applications	<a href="#">H04L67/00</a>
Scanning, transmission or reproduction of documents or the like, e.g. facsimile transmission; Details thereof	<a href="#">H04N1/00</a>
Services specially adapted for wireless communication networks, services signalling, for social networking applications	<a href="#">H04W4/21</a>

### Glossary of terms

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

social networking	the interaction between individuals or entities who have common relations or interests
social networking service	an ICT system, tool or application that implements social networking and social media
SM	social media
SN	social network
SNS	social networking service
business process	a business operation or activity performed by entities, e.g. organisations or enterprises, that operate for commercial, financial, industrial or professional purposes