CPC classification at the Finnish Patent and Registration Office

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Feb 6th, 2018
CPC Fifth Annual meeting, Geneva
CPC Classification / Search

Systematic ECLA/CPC classification since 2004

including:
national applications,
utility models, and
PCT-applications

ECLA/CPC symbols have ”always” been used for search
National Search Reports with IPC and CPC
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IPC</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>F23C 10/04</td>
<td>(2006.01)</td>
<td></td>
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PCT search reports: just IPC
(even though also CPC-symbols are given)
Naturally our classification tool does not accept invalid symbols but there is no any specific process for CPC quality assurance. Classification may be assessed as a part of our general examination quality assurance process.
CPC comparisons with other offices
(CPC-classifications within the same family)

- similar methodology as used by the EPO
- different offices may be used as benchmarks
  (FI, EP, US, SE …)
- no efforts to measure the quality of the classifications

Information for our examiners / training
As a part of our CPC training program (that also includes some "general" training)
CPC-comparison reports were sent to all examiners
(e.g. EP vs. FI)

Might have been the last and only chance to do this properly
(FI CPC data is almost up-to-date in (and only in) PRH’s national data bases
but further updating may utilize some kind of family-level integration)
CPC data exchange

- Very simple: XML-files by e-mail
- Only national patent applications (no utility models, no PCT)
  - CPCNO data (in EPO data bases) is partially outdated
    - Reclassification is not comprehensive
      (only national patent applications are reclassified (to a certain extent))

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CPC working lists cannot be (fully) utilized
(a proper CPC-validity file might help)