

Aureka® DocDB Release Notes

This document provides a brief summary of changes introduced in the May 20, 2007 release.

New DocDB Data Added to Aureka

The **European Patent Office (EPO) has reissued the entire backfile of DocDB data** in a new format, which extends patent data coverage on *Aureka*. At the same time, DocDB data is being re-indexed.

These enhancements will provide you with a more complete and accurate collection and allowing for more precise and comprehensive prior art searching. Please note that you should expect to see some different search results based on the following changes.

- **Extended backfile coverage for France, Great Britain and Germany using the DocDB bibliographic records.**

French coverage — previously beginning in 1971, is being extended by more than 1 million new bibliographic records. Earliest date covered will be 1900.

German coverage — previously beginning in 1989, is being extended by more than 3 million new records. Earliest date covered will be 1930.

British coverage — previously beginning in 1916, is being extended by more than 300,000 new records published before 1916.

- **More flexible and consistent citation searching and analysis**

Patent and non-patent citations are now associated with every publication record, meaning you will be able to search or view all citations related to that application. (Previously, citation data were present only in specific records, such as US grants, EP and WO A1 or A3, but not A2.)

Two sources will be in place for citation information. Citations received directly from the patenting authorities are enhanced by citation information delivered in the DocDB data, ensuring that post-issue citations are captured as well as those cited during examination. The two sources are compared and de-duplicated.

Citation data is now available for some French and for some pre-2000 Japanese publications.

- **IPC-R reclassification improves retrieval accuracy for Japanese and German publications.**

Approximately 18 million Japanese (JP) and 2 million German (DE) publications and all of their family members are being reclassified.

- **German Utilities Models duplication eliminated**

The discrepancy in publication dates for German Utility Models has been resolved in favor of using the date that the publication appears in the Gazette, which is consistent with the German Patent Office practice. This change eliminates duplication of utility model records in the database.

- **WO correction publications added**

Aureka now includes correction documents for WO publications. These records have kind codes of A8 or A9, depending on the nature of the correction. In covering correction publications, the database policy of retaining just the latest correction of a particular kind is now extended to WO publications. Users may notice these correction documents in alerts.

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Additional Enhancements

- ECLA "Y" codes have been added to the database. Y codes are special tags applied in addition to other ECLA codes, and are designed to cover new technological developments, e.g., nanotechnology.
- ECLA is now available in General Report Export and IPC Report Export.
- Applicant/Assignee field in WO records, which sometimes includes both the company name and the inventor names, has been reordered and now lists the company or organization first, followed by inventor names, when present. (The presence of inventor names in this field occurs only when the US is one of designated states, and is a result of the legal requirement that applicants for US patents must be the inventors.)
- The discrepancy in publication dates for German Utility Models has been resolved in favor of using the date that the publication appears in the Gazette, which is consistent with the German Patent Office practice. This change eliminates duplication of utility model records in the database.
- WO correction publications have been added to the database. These records have kind codes of A8 or A9, depending on the nature of the correction. In covering correction publications, the database policy of retaining just the latest correction of a particular kind is now extended to WO publications.
- Themescape maps can now be created and launched using either Java 1.5 or Java 1.6.

Known Issues

The propagation of citation data in all publications stages, reported above, is a search and result set enhancement. Note that citation reports and exports, and citation trees, are unaffected.