

## **New Low-Fee Search Option and Expedited Examination for US-Based International Patent Applications**

Written by Dana M. Gordon, Ph.D.

*January 9, 2012*

Effective tomorrow, January 10, 2012, applicants filing international patent applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will be able to designate the Russian Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) as the International Search Authority (ISA) and pay a Search Fee of only \$415. The Rospatent search fee is substantially lower than those for the other search authorities a US applicant may choose, which are South Korea (\$1,101), Australia (\$1,833), the United States (\$2,080) and Europe (\$2,370). Applicants primarily concerned with minimizing cost while preserving international rights may therefore wish to consider selecting Russia as the ISA for their PCT applications.

An applicant whose PCT application receives a favorable search report and written opinion from Rospatent will be eligible for expedited examination in the USPTO. The “PCT-Patent Prosecution Highway” program between the USPTO and Rospatent enables an applicant to fast-track a corresponding US application. A US application is eligible for fast-tracking if at least one claim of the related PCT application is found by Rospatent to satisfy the novelty, inventiveness, and industrial applicability requirements for PCT applications. There is currently no fee associated with filing a fast-track examination request under this program.

### RELATED PRACTICES

- [Patent Prosecution, Strategy and Management](#)
- [PTAB Proceedings](#)
- [Business Counseling](#)

---

This communication is intended for general information purposes and as a service to clients and friends of Foley Hoag LLP. This communication should not be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion on any specific facts or circumstances, and does not create an attorney-client relationship.

United States Treasury Regulations require us to disclose the following: Any tax advice included in this document was not intended or written to be used, and it cannot be used, for the purpose of avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code.

Attorney advertising. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. © 2017 Foley Hoag LLP. All rights reserved.