

## INPADOC news October – December 2020

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# Enhanced INPADOCDB and INPAFAMDB files feature more legal event categories, calculated expiry dates for all authorities and overall efficiency gains

## Summary:

INPADOCDB and INPAFAMDB have been enhanced as of October 18, 2020:

- 27 instead of 7 legal event categories; most useful new categories are Entry into national phase and Non-entry into national phase, Fee payment, separate categories for SPC and Time Extension, and separate categories for Expiry, Withdrawal and Lapse.
- calculated expiration dates are now available for all authorities (except PCT) instead of only 41 before
- enhanced deduplication of names makes searching for inventors and assignees more efficient
- a representative title in the brief family display improves clarity
- extensive possibilities on family statistics are enabled by various new counts such as the number of applications, priorities, publications, legal events
- higher display performance (up to more than three times faster) helps to speed up evaluation of the results especially for large records.

## Details:

INPADOCDB (INternational PATent DOCumentation DataBase) and INPAFAMDB (INternational PATent FAMily DataBase) are based on patent bibliographic and legal status data from the European Patent Office covering 1782 to the present. The databases contain the bibliographic and family data of patent documents, utility models, and design patents of more than 100 patent issuing organizations including the European Patent Office (EPO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). In addition, the legal status data of 98 patent-issuing organizations are included (54 offices + 44 offices with the national phase of PCT/EP applications only). Earliest legal status data for some authorities is from 1968 onwards.

As of December 2020, the databases comprise more than 100 million records (applications) with about 127 million publications in more than 66 million international patent families. More than 335 single million legal status events are available in more than 65 million records from about 52 million patent families.

## Organisation of the databases

The structure of the records in both database remain the same after the reload. The indexes of INPADOCDB are based on the patent application, whereas in INPAFAMDB the indexes are based on the patent families. The accession number AN in INPADOCDB corresponds to the document number DN from INPAFAMDB and the accession number in INPAFAMDB to the family number FN from INPADOCDB.

Accession numbers in both databases can change due to corrections or updates of patent relevant numbers and codes. In the course of the reload all records have received a new accession number.

The numeric ID issued by the EPO – available in the new search fields application ID (/DOCID) and publication ID (/PUBID) – remain almost unchanged over time.

## Changes and Enhancements

### Performance

Due to the new implementation of the databases all displays, especially of large records in INPAFAMDB, are more than three times faster than before.

**Additional Legal Status Categories**

The number of legal status categories has been increased from 7 to now 27 and in the new database versions all legal event codes (/LSC) are now classified in one of the 27 categories (/LSC2). Further details are provided in HELP LEGSTAT including two tables with all categories and their definitions and the country coverage of the legal status.

Six of the previously available legal status categories remain the same, but some codes were sorted into one of the new categories. The legal status category NIF (Not in Force) was split up in the three categories WTH (Withdrawal, Refusal etc.), LAP (Lapse, Non-payment of fees) and EXP (Expiry). A search edit for NIF/LSC2 retrieves all answers for WTH, LAP, and EXP.

In the example new categories are highlighted in green, splitted categories in blue.

INPADOC Legal Status new implementation	INPADOC Legal Status old implementation
PI HR 2006000154 A2 20090531 PI HR 2006000154U B3 20110228  LEGAL STATUS AN 13584709 INPADOCDB Full-text 20090531 HRA1OB + PUBLICATION OF A PATENT APPLICATION PUB New or Withdrawn Publication .....20200123 20100131 HRAKOB + PUBLICATION OF A REQUEST FOR THE GRANT OF A PATENT NOT INCLUDING A SUBSTANTIVE EXAMINATION OF A PATENT APPLICATION (A CONSENSUAL PATENT) EXA Examination, Search Report .....20200123 20110228 HRPKB1 + CONSENSUAL PATENT GRANTED MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous .....20200123 20160408 HRAIPK + REQUEST FOR THE GRANT OF A PATENT ON THE BASIS OF A SUBSTANTIVE EXAMINATION OF A PATENT APPLICATION AFTER GRANT OF CONSENSUAL PATENT EXA Examination, Search Report .....20200123 20160426 HRPK10 - PATENT EXPIRED AFTER TERMINATION OF 10 YEARS FOR CONSENSUAL PATENT 20160421 EXP Expiry .....20200123 20170308 HRODRP + RENEWAL FEE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF A PATENT 20170308 Payment Year: 12 FEE Fee Payment .....20200123 20171004 HRODBI - APPLICATION REFUSED WTH Withdrawal, Refusal, etc. .....20200123 20171222 HRZALP - APPEAL FILED ORE Opposition, Reexamination, Appeal .....20200123 20180912 HRZALO + APPEAL REJECTED/WITHDRAWN /REFUSED NOF No Opposition or Appeal .....20200123 20181102 HRUSP1 ADMINISTRATIVE DISPUTE MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous .....20200123	PI HR 2006000154 A2 20090531 PI HR 2006000154U B3 20110228  LEGAL STATUS AN 69525532 INPADOCDB Full-text 20090531 HRA1OB + PUBLICATION OF A PATENT APPLICATION .....20200123 20100131 HRAKOB + PUBLICATION OF A REQUEST FOR THE GRANT OF A PATENT NOT INCLUDING A SUBSTANTIVE EXAMINATION OF A PATENT APPLICATION (A CONSENSUAL PATENT) .....20200123 20110228 HRPKB1 + CONSENSUAL PATENT GRANTED .....20200123 20160408 HRAIPK + REQUEST FOR THE GRANT OF A PATENT ON THE BASIS OF A SUBSTANTIVE EXAMINATION OF A PATENT APPLICATION AFTER GRANT OF CONSENSUAL PATENT .....20200123 20160426 HRPK10 - PATENT EXPIRED AFTER TERMINATION OF 10 YEARS FOR CONSENSUAL PATENT 20160421 NIF Lapses, Expiries, Withdrawals, Refusals .....20200123 20170308 HRODRP + RENEWAL FEE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF A PATENT 20170308 Payment Year: 12 .....20200123 20171004 HRODBI - APPLICATION REFUSED NIF Lapses, Expiries, Withdrawals, Refusals .....20200123 20171222 HRZALP - APPEAL FILED ORE Opposition, Reexamination, Appeal .....20200123 20180912 HRZALO + APPEAL REJECTED/WITHDRAWN /REFUSED .....20200123 20181102 HRUSP1 ADMINISTRATIVE DISPUTE .....20200123

**Calculated Expiration Dates for all documents**

The calculated expiration Dates in the fields /XPD and /XPY are now provided for records from all patent offices except PCT-documents. They are now available not only for granted patents but also for patent applications. Further details are given in HELP XPD.

**Improved Deduplication of names and one representative title**

Deduplication of names in the fields IN, INS (Inventor Standardized), PA, and PAS (Patent Assignee Standardized) in INPAFAMDB is improved.

In the default format BRIEF clarity is improved by a representative title instead of all available English titles of a family.

INPAFAMDB new implementation	
AN	5343222 INPAFAMDB EWF 201406 UWF 202009 UPFB 20200402
TI	Power splitter and power combiner
INS	HIROAKI OSUGI, JP; ISHIDA KAORU, JP; KAORU ISHIDA, JP; KOSGI HIROAKI, JP; KOSUGI HIROAKI, JP; KUGO SHINICHI, JP; KUGOU SHIN ICHI, JP; MAYAJI MASAYUKI, JP; MIYAJI MASAYUKI, JP; SEISHI MIYAJI, JP
PAS	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD, JP - MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD, US
INPAFAMDB old Implementation	
AN	5013328 INPAFAMDB UPFB 20171109 UWF 201745
TI	Power divider and power combiner. - Power splitter and power combiner. - POWER DISTRIBUTOR AND POWER SYNTHESIZER. - POWER DISTRIBUTER AND POWER COUPLER. - Power splitter and power combiner using N-branch-line-shaped directional couplers.
INS	SEISHI MIYAJI, JP; KAORU ISHIDA, JP; HIROAKI OSUGI, JP; MIYAJI MASAYUKI, JP; ISHIDA KAORU, JP; KOSUGI HIROAKI, JP; KUGOU SHIN ICHI, JP; MIYAJI MASAYUKI; ISHIDA KAORU; KOSUGI HIROAKI; KUGO SHINICHI; MAYAJI MASAYUKI, JP; KOSGI HIROAKI, JP; KUGO SHINICHI, JP
PAS	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD, JP - MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD - MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD, US

**New search and display fields for original numbers**

Original, non-standardized publication (/PNO), application (/APO) and priority numbers (/PRNO) are available as search and display fields. These numbers are helpful for searches on the website of national patent office. Conversely, if the user initially has a number from the website of a patent office, this number can be used for retrieval in INPADOCDB or INPAFAMDB.

**Title and abstract**

Each title in a different language is preceded by a specific header (TIEN, TIDE, TIFR, TIES, and TIOL [title in original language]); titles in non-Latin characters have the header TIO.

In addition to the names of the inventor and patent assignee (INO, PAO) and the title text (TIO) now also the abstract text (ABO) is displayed in non-Latin characters.

**Family Statistics**

Extensive possibilities on family statistics are enabled by various new counts: Several additional count fields are available (/PCNT, /LSCNT, /CCNT, /SFCNT) as search and display fields. All counts of the family members (i.e. number of applications, publications, priorities, countries, legal events, EPO simple families) are displayed below most formats or with D FSTAT.

INPAFAMDB new implementation	INPAFAMDB old implementation
FSTAT 2 priorities, 2 applications, 2 publications (2 EPO simple family) 3 countries, 8 legal status events	2 priorities, 2 applications, 2 publications (2 EPO simple families)

## Update Dates

All update dates of a family can be displayed in INPAFAMDB with D UPALL.

Any details of changes in the bibliography like ABOL C; INS C; PAS C are no longer displayed.

INPAFAMDB new implementation	INPAFAMDB old implementation
AN 66872075 INPAFAMDB EDF 20200416 UPFD 20200528 UPFP 20200528 UPFB 20200618 UPFL 20200430 UPFC 20200528  DN 100134931 UP 20200416 ED 20200416 EDP 20200416  DN 97467696 UP 20200206 ED 20191017 EDP 20191017 UPBB 20200206 UPCC 20200206  DN 100919452 UP 20200618 ED 20200528 EDP 20200528 UPCC 20200618  2 priorities, 3 applications, 3 publications (3 EPO simple families), 2 countries, 10 legal status events	AN 70190192 UPFB 20200806 UPFP 20200528 UPFD 20200528 EDF 20191017 UPFL 20200702  DN 103285620 EDP 20191017 UP 20200206 UPBB 20200206 UPCC 20200206 ED 20191017 CHG AB C; ABOL C; INS C; IN C; PAS C; PA C; PI A; TI C; IPC A  DN 105941205 EDP 20200416 UP 20200806 UPBB 20200806 UPCC 20200806 ED 20200416; AB C; ABOL C; INS C; IN C; PAS C; PA C; PI A; TI C; IPC A  DN 106784683 EDP 20200528 ED 20200528

## Changes in the display of bibliographic fields

Changes have been made in the display of some bibliographic fields.

- In front of each title in a separate language the respective header and below the respective title language is displayed.
- The Application Kind Code Text (AIT) is now displayed next to the Application Information (AI).
- The Priority Kind Text (PRAIT) is now displayed between the Priority Information (PRAI) and the Simple Family Indicator (Y or N) plus the Entry Date Priority (/EDPR).
- The EP-Extension States (XS) are now clearly a subfield of the Designated States (DS).

INPAFAMDB new implementation
AN 103932133 INPADOCDB ED 20201008 EW 202041 UP 20201008 UW 202041 Full-text FN 69618088 TIDE LUFTMANAGEMENTSYSTEM FUeR RAUM MIT ELEKTRISCHER AUSTRUeSTUNG. TL German TIEN AIR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR ROOM CONTAINING ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. TL English TIFR SYSTEME DE GESTION D'AIR POUR UNE SALLE CONTENANT UN EQUIPEMENT ELECTRIQUE. TL French IN GRABON, Michel INS GRABON MICHEL, FR PA Carrier Corporation PAS CARRIER CORP, US DT Patent PI EP 3720262 A1 20201007 English DS R: AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR XS: BA ME PIT EPA1 APPLICATION PUBLISHED WITH SEARCH REPORT DAV 20201007 examined-printed-without-grant STA PRE-GRANT PUBLICATION XPD 20390404 AI EP 2019-305445 A 20190404 EPA Patent application PRAI EP 2019-305445 A 20190404 EPA Patent application (Y,20201008)

## INPAFAMDB old implementation

```
AN 109478238 INPADOCDB ED 20201008 EW 202041 UP 20201008 UW 202041 Full-text
FN 74799057
TI LUFTMANAGEMENTSYSTEM FUeR RAUM MIT ELEKTRISCHER AUSTRUeSTUNG.
AIR MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR ROOM CONTAINING ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT.
SYSTEME DE GESTION D'AIR POUR UNE SALLE CONTENANT UN EQUIPEMENT ELECTRIQUE.
TL German; English; French
IN GRABON, Michel
INS GRABON MICHEL, FR
PA Carrier Corporation
PAS CARRIER CORP, US
DT Patent
PI EP 3720262 A1 20201007 English
PIT EPA1 APPLICATION PUBLISHED WITH SEARCH REPORT
DAV 20201007 examined-printed-without-grant
STA PRE-GRANT PUBLICATION
DS R: AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT
LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR
XS R: BA ME
AI EP 2019-305445 A 20190404
AIT EPA Patent application
PRAI EP 2019-305445 A 20190404 (EPA, 20201008, Y)
PRAIT EPA Patent application
```

### *Cited and Citing References*

All cited and citing reference (search fields /REN, /REP, and /CGP) are not available for the time being. They will be added in Q2 2021.

### *Images*

All images are not available for the time being. They will be added in Q2 2021.

### *Classifications*

All US Classifications, the Locarno Classification and the Other National Classifications have been removed.

## Legal data from Uruguay increases coverage from Latin America

Legal events from Uruguay (country code UY) are available for the first time via the INPADOC worldwide legal event data. The Patent Office of Uruguay delivers the data on a four-weekly basis. The legal data covered goes back to 2000.

The data includes information on the grant of applications, on withdrawal and on expiry.

Eight legal event codes from Uruguay are available for the time being. The table lists the legal event code, the legal event description, the influence indicator if available and the legal status category.

Legal Event Code	Legal Event Description	Influence Indicator	Legal Status Category
UY104	APPLICATION DEEMED TO BE WITHDRAWN (NO SUBSTANTIVE EXAMINATION FEE PAID)	-	LAP Lapse (Non-Payment of Fees)
UY105	APPLICATION DEEMED TO BE WITHDRAWN (NO GRANT FEE PAID)	-	LAP Lapse (Non-Payment of Fees)
UY109	APPLICATION DEEMED TO BE WITHDRAWN	-	WTH Withdrawal, Refusal, etc.
UY110	PATENT GRANTED	+	MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous
UYABAN	APPLICATION DEEMED TO BE WITHDRAWN (NO PUBLICATION FEE PAID)	-	WTH Withdrawal, Refusal, etc.
UYDESI	APPLICATION DEEMED TO BE WITHDRAWN	-	WTH Withdrawal, Refusal, etc.
UYRDES	APPLICATION REFUSED	-	WTH Withdrawal, Refusal, etc.
UYVENC	PATENT EXPIRED	-	EXP Expiry

### Example

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L26 ANSWER 1 OF 175 INPADOCDB COPYRIGHT 2020 EPO/FIZ KA on STN
PI UY 25181 A1 19981007
AI UY 1998-25181 A 19980914

LEGAL STATUS
AN 101580489 INPADOCDB Full-text
19971031 ARA Patent application
AR 1997-105091 A 19971031
PRI Priority Information
.....20200702
19980914 UYA Patent application
UY 1998-25181 A 19980914
APP Application Information
.....20200702
19981007 UYA1 PATENT APPLICATION (FIRST PUBLICATION LEVEL) [FROM 19411203 UNTIL 20090930]
UY 25181 A1 19981007
PRE Pre-grant Publication
.....20200702
20130214 UY110 + PATENT GRANTED
20130214
MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous
.....20200702
20180914 UYVENC - PATENT EXPIRED
20180914
EXP Expiry
.....20200702

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The legal event data from Uruguay complements the coverage of legal event data from other patent offices in South and Central America.

The table lists the availability of legal event data from the national patent offices and information about the data on entry or non-entry in to national phase in WO applications.

Country Code	Country Text	Domestic applications	WO applications	
			Entry into National Phase	Non-entry into National Phase
AR	Argentina	2004 - present		
BO	Bolivia		2012 - present	
BR	Brazil	1995 - present	2005 - present	
BZ	Belize		2002 - 2007	2002 - 2005
CO	Colombia	1996 - present	2001 - present	
CR	Costa Rica	2000 - present	2001 - present	
CU	Cuba	2009 - present	2009 - present	
MX	Mexico	1994 - present	1994 - present	
NI	Nicaragua		2017 - present	
PE	Peru	1993 - present	2000 - present	
SV	El Salvador	1971 - present		
UY	Uruguay	2000 - present		



## EP intention to grant and third party observation data from the European Patent Register added to INPADOCDB and INPAFAMDB

21 legal event codes related to communication of intention to grant of EP applications and 4 legal event codes related to third party observations have been added to INPADOCDB and INPAFAMDB, using the same source as the European Patent Register.

### Intention to grant data

The communication of the intention to grant is an early indication that an application will be granted soon. New intention to grant data is available in INPADOCDB and INPAFAMDB about two weeks after publication. Intention to grant event codes are available from 1980 onwards. Full back file data will be provided by the EPO in February 2021.

The new intention to grant codes can be found in the legal status with the already existing codes derived from the bibliographic data

**EPINTG** (INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED) and

**EPINTC** INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED (DELETED).

From publication date 20201028 onwards the following legal event codes are always in the legal status data prior to a publication of a granted patent:

<b>EPGRAP</b>	DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT
<b>EPINTG</b>	INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED
<b>EPGRAS</b>	GRANT FEE PAID
<b>EPGRAA</b>	(EXPECTED) GRANT

The code EPGRAP is always the first one in the sequence of intention to grant codes. Both codes EPGRAA or EPINTG can appear directly before publication as could be seen in the following examples.

```
AN      98407113 INPADOCDB
PI      EP 3582174          A1 20191218
PI      EP 3582174          B1 20201118
AI      EP 2019-181848     A  20170126
LEGAL STATUS
...
20200716 EPGRAP  + DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT
                   ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNIGR1
                   EXA Examination, Search Report
                   .....20201029
20200812 EPINTG  + INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED
                   20200717
                   EXA Examination, Search Report
                   .....20200820
20201012 EPGRAS  + GRANT FEE PAID
                   ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNIGR3
                   FEE Fee Payment
                   .....20201029
20201016 EPGRAA  + (EXPECTED) GRANT
                   ORIGINAL CODE: 0009210
                   MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous
                   .....20201029
20201118 EPB1    PATENT SPECIFICATION
                   EP 3582174          B1 20201118
                   GRA Granted Publication
                   .....20201119
```

AN 103081146 INPADOCDB  
PI EP 3695584 A1 20200819  
PI EP 3695584 B1 20201118  
AI EP 2019-783424 A 20191002  
LEGAL STATUS

...  
20200920 EPGRAP + DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT  
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNIGR1  
EXA Examination, Search Report  
.....20201015  
20201012 EPGRAS + GRANT FEE PAID  
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNIGR3  
FEE Fee Payment  
.....20201029  
20201016 EPGRAA + (EXPECTED) GRANT  
ORIGINAL CODE: 0009210  
MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous  
.....20201029  
20201021 EPDAV - REQUEST FOR VALIDATION OF THE EUROPEAN PATENT (DELETED)  
MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous  
.....20201029  
20201021 EPINTG + INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED  
20200921  
EXA Examination, Search Report  
.....20201029  
...  
20201118 EPB1 PATENT SPECIFICATION  
EP 3695584 B1 20201118  
GRA Granted Publication  
.....20201119

If the intention to grant is temporarily resumed, the already existing code

**EPINTC** INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED (DELETED) and the new code  
**EPGRAJ** INFORMATION RELATED TO DIS-APPROVAL OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO  
GRANT BY THE APPLICANT OR RESUMPTION OF EXAMINATION PROCEEDINGS BY THE EPO  
**DELETED** might appear in the same legal status.

AN 92004524 INPADOCDB  
PI EP 3405059 A1 20181128  
PI EP 3405059 B1 20201028  
AI EP 2017-702253 A 20170118  
LEGAL STATUS

...  
20191210 EPGRAP + DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT  
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNIGR1  
EXA Examination, Search Report  
.....20201015  
20200108 EPINTG + INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED  
20191211  
EXA Examination, Search Report  
.....20200116  
20200428 EPGRAJ INFORMATION RELATED TO DISAPPROVAL OF COMMUNICATION OF  
INTENTION TO GRANT BY THE APPLICANT OR RESUMPTION OF  
EXAMINATION PROCEEDINGS BY THE EPO DELETED  
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSDIGR1  
ERR Erratum  
.....20201015  
20200514 EPGRAP + DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT  
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNIGR1  
EXA Examination, Search Report  
.....20201015  
20200603 EPINTC INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED (DELETED)  
MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous  
.....20200611

20200610 EPINTG + INTENTION TO GRANT ANNOUNCED  
20200515  
EXA Examination, Search Report  
.....20200618

20200918 EPGRAS + GRANT FEE PAID  
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNIGR3  
FEE Fee Payment  
.....20201015

20200925 EPGRAA + (EXPECTED) GRANT  
ORIGINAL CODE: 0009210  
MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous  
.....20201015

20201028 EPB1 PATENT SPECIFICATION  
EP 3405059 B1 20201028  
GRA Granted Publication  
.....20201029

Next to the code

**EPGRAP** DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT

There are two more codes with the almost identical text

**EPGRAG** DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT

**EPGRAH** DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT

However, both code are available in the data until 2003 only.

The description of each legal event is searchable in field /LSTX. You will find the corresponding original event description used in European Patent Register in the following table. The free text of field /LSFT includes the original event code of the underlying data source. Some of the new codes – most of them correction codes – were not delivered yet.

Code in LSC	Legal Event Text in LSTX	Original description in European Patent Register	Indicator	Category in /LSC2
EPGRAA	(EXPECTED) GRANT	(EXPECTED) GRANT	+	MIS
EPGRAB	INFORMATION RELATED TO APPROVAL FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT MODIFIED	CHANGE: APPROVAL (YES/NO) AFTER COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT		ERR
EPGRAC	INFORMATION RELATED TO COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT MODIFIED	CHANGE: COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT		ERR
EPGRAD	INFORMATION RELATED TO INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT MODIFIED	CHANGE: INFORMATION ABOUT INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT		ERR
EPGRAE	INFORMATION RELATED TO CORRECTION AFTER DECISION TO GRANT OR AFTER DECISION TO MAINTAIN PATENT IN AMENDED FORM MODIFIED	CHANGE: REQUEST FILED FOR CORRECTION OF THE DECISION TO GRANT		ERR
EPGRAF	INFORMATION RELATED TO PAYMENT OF GRANT FEE MODIFIED	CHANGE: PAYMENT OF FEE FOR GRANT		ERR
EPGRAG	DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT	COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT	+	EXA
EPGRAH	DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT	COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT	+	EXA
EPGRAI	INFORMATION RELATED TO APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT DELETED	DELETION: APPROVAL (YES/NO) AFTER COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT		ERR

Code in LSC	Legal Event Text in LSTX	Original description in European Patent Register	Indicator	Category in /LSC2
EPGRAJ	INFORMATION RELATED TO DISAPPROVAL OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT BY THE APPLICANT OR RESUMPTION OF EXAMINATION PROCEEDINGS BY THE EPO DELETED	DELETION - DISAPPROVAL OF THE COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT THE PATENT BY THE APPLICANT OR RESUMPTION OF EXAMINATION PROCEEDINGS BY THE EPO		ERR
EPGRAK	INFORMATION RELATED TO DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT DELETED	DELETION: DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT		ERR
EPGRAL	INFORMATION RELATED TO PAYMENT OF FEE FOR PUBLISHING/PRINTING DELETED	DELETION: PAYMENT OF FEE FOR PUBLISHING/PRINTING		ERR
EPGRAM	INFORMATION RELATED TO CORRECTION AFTER DECISION AFTER DECISION TO GRANT OR TO MAINTAIN PATENT IN AMENDED FORM DELETED	DELETION: REQUEST FILED FOR CORRECTION OF THE DECISION TO GRANT		ERR
EPGRAN	INFORMATION RELATED TO APPROVAL FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT DELETED	DELETION: SUBSEQUENT APPROVAL FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT		ERR
EPGRAO	APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT	NEW ENTRY: APPROVAL (YES/NO) AFTER COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT		EXA
EPGRAP	DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT	NEW ENTRY: COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT	+	EXA
EPGRAQ	DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT	NEW ENTRY: DESPATCH OF COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT	+	EXA
EPGRAR	INFORMATION RELATED TO INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: INFORMATION ABOUT INTENTION TO GRANT A PATENT	+	EXA
EPGRAS	GRANT FEE PAID	NEW ENTRY: PAYMENT OF FEE FOR GRANT	+	FEE
EPGRAT	CORRECTION REQUESTED AFTER DECISION TO GRANT OR AFTER DECISION TO MAINTAIN PATENT IN AMENDED FORM	NEW ENTRY: REQUEST FILED FOR CORRECTION OF THE DECISION TO GRANT		ERR
EPGRAU	APPROVAL FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT	NEW ENTRY: SUBSEQUENT APPROVAL FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION OF INTENTION TO GRANT	+	MIS

ERR Erratum    EXA Examination, Search Report    FEE Fee Payment    MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous

## Third party observation

Third party observations can only be filed after the publication of a European patent application and show early evidence of conflict of interest between different parties. Currently events from 2001 onwards are covered.

Code in LSC	Legal Event Text in LSTX	Original description in European Patent Register	Indicator	Category in /LSC2
EPTPAA	INFORMATION RELATED TO OBSERVATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES MODIFIED	CHANGE: OBSERVATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES		ERR
EPTPAB	INFORMATION RELATED TO OBSERVATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES DELETED	DELETION: OBSERVATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES		ERR
EPTPAC	OBSERVATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES	NEW ENTRY: OBSERVATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES		MIS
EPTPAD	OBSERVATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES	OBSERVATIONS BY THIRD PARTIES		MIS

ERR Erratum    MIS Miscellaneous or Ambiguous

## EP Appeal data from the European Patent Register added to INPADOCDB and INPAFAMDB

55 legal status codes related to EP appeals have been added using the same source as the European Patent Register. Backfile data for appeal events is available from 1996 onwards. 53 of the 55 new legal status codes are categorized as ORE (Opposition, Reexamination, Appeal) in field /LSC2.

The appeal codes make aware of proceedings before the boards of appeal. Decisions about appeals can be searched in EPOs [Board of Appeal database](#).

The description of each legal event is searchable in field /LSTX. You find the corresponding original event description used in European Patent Register in the table below. The free text of field /LSFT includes the original event code of the underlying data source.

### Background

Until now, the primary source of EP procedural data for the INPADOC legal status data has been the EP procedural data (EBD) product, which provides the data listed in [Rule 143 EPC](#). Due to the nature of EBD data as the primary source, some pieces of information related to the EP application and granting procedure have not been available via INPADOC. Examples include data on appeals and third party observations.

In order to meet the growing need for EP procedural data in the INPADOC database, the EPO has started to integrate further EP procedural data in addition to EBD data. For this purpose, the EPO accesses a source of EP procedural data that is also used by European Patent Register and for the European Patent Register data backfile.

To keep the data consistent with the European Patent Register, some INPADOC event codes have the same event description. This applies to similar procedural steps that occur at different stages of the application and grant procedure and in the post-grant phase. For example, there are three event codes with the legal status code description "Date of receipt of recorded statement of grounds of appeal" (EPAPBQ, EPAPBR, EPAPBS), which belong to events related to the recording of the grounds of appeal in appeals following examination, opposition or limitation. The EPO is working on extending the INPADOC event description to include additional information on the stage at which the event occurred.

### Example

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PI EP 3235715 A1 20171025
PI EP 3235715 A4 20180328
AI EP 2015-870105 A 20151218
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#### LEGAL STATUS

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AN 91870389 INPADOCDB Full-text
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20200311 EPAPBK APPEAL REFERENCE RECORDED
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNREFNE
ORE Opposition, Reexamination, Appeal
.....20200813
20200311 EPAPBN DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL RECORDED
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNNOA2E
ORE Opposition, Reexamination, Appeal
.....20200813
20200803 EPAPBR DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF APPEAL RECORDED
ORIGINAL CODE: EPIDOSNNOA3E
ORE Opposition, Reexamination, Appeal
.....20200813
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**List of legal status codes related to EP Appeals with text in /LSTX, original text in the European Patent Register and the INPADODB/INPAFAMDB legal status category**

<b>Code in /LSC</b>	<b>Text in /LSTX</b>	<b>Original description in European Patent Register</b>	<b>Category in /LSC2</b>
EPAPAA	APPEAL REFERENCE RECORDED	APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPAB	APPEAL DOSSIER MODIFIED	CHANGE - APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAC	APPEAL DOSSIER MODIFIED	CHANGE - APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAD	APPEAL REFERENCE RECORDED	CHANGE - APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPAE	APPEAL REFERENCE MODIFIED	CHANGE - APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPAF	APPEAL REFERENCE MODIFIED	CHANGE - APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPAG	APPEAL REFERENCE MODIFIED	CHANGE - APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPAH	APPEAL REFERENCE MODIFIED	CHANGE - APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPAI	DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL MODIFIED	CHANGE: DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAJ	DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL MODIFIED	CHANGE: DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAK	DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF AN APPEAL MODIFIED	CHANGE: DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAM	INFORMATION ON CLOSURE OF APPEAL PROCEDURE MODIFIED	CHANGE: DECISION (+DATE) IN APPEAL PROCEDURE	ORE
EPAPAN	INFORMATION ON CLOSURE OF APPEAL PROCEDURE MODIFIED	CHANGE: DECISION (+DATE) IN APPEAL PROCEDURE	ORE
EPAPAO	INFORMATION ON INTERLOCUTORY REVISION MODIFIED	CHANGE: INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAP	INFORMATION ON INTERLOCUTORY REVISION MODIFIED	CHANGE: INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAQ	INFORMATION ON INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATION IN APPEAL MODIFIED	CHANGE: INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL + TIME LIMIT	ORE
EPAPAR	INFORMATION ON INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATION IN APPEAL MODIFIED	CHANGE: INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL + TIME LIMIT	ORE
EPAPAS	INFORMATION ON RECEIPT OF OBSERVATION IN APPEAL MODIFIED	CHANGE: RECEIPT OF OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAT	INFORMATION ON RECEIPT OF OBSERVATION IN APPEAL MODIFIED	CHANGE: RECEIPT OF OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAU	COMMUNICATION FROM THE BOARD OF APPEAL SENT	COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAV	APPEAL REFERENCE DELETED	DELETION: APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPAW	APPEAL REFERENCE DELETED	DELETION: APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPAX	DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL DELETED	DELETION: DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAY	DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL DELETED	DELETION: DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPAZ	DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF APPEAL DELETED	DELETION: DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF AN APPEAL	ORE

<b>Code in /LSC</b>	<b>Text in /LSTX</b>	<b>Original description in European Patent Register</b>	<b>Category in /LSC2</b>
EPAPBA	DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF APPEAL DELETED	DELETION: DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBB	INFORMATION ON CLOSURE OF APPEAL PROCEDURE DELETED	DELETION: DECISION (+DATE) IN APPEAL PROCEDURE	ORE
EPAPBC	INFORMATION ON CLOSURE OF APPEAL PROCEDURE DELETED	DELETION: DECISION (+DATE) IN APPEAL PROCEDURE	ORE
EPAPBD	INFORMATION ON INTERLOCUTORY REVISION DELETED	DELETION: INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBE	INFORMATION ON INTERLOCUTORY REVISION DELETED	DELETION: INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBF	INFORMATION ON INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATION IN APPEAL DELETED	DELETION: INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL + TIME LIMIT	ORE
EPAPBG	INFORMATION ON INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATION IN APPEAL DELETED	DELETION: INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL + TIME LIMIT	ORE
EPAPBH	INFORMATION ON RECEIPT OF OBSERVATION IN APPEAL DELETED	DELETION: RECEIPT OF OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBI	INFORMATION ON RECEIPT OF OBSERVATION IN APPEAL DELETED	DELETION: RECEIPT OF OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBJ	INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL RECORDED	INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBK	APPEAL REFERENCE RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPBL	APPEAL REFERENCE RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPBM	APPEAL REFERENCE RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: APPEAL NUMBER	ORE
EPAPBN	DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBO	DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBP	DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: DATE OF RECEIPT OF NOTICE OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBQ	DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBR	DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBS	DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: DATE OF RECEIPT OF STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBT	APPEAL PROCEDURE CLOSED	NEW ENTRY: DECISION (+DATE) IN APPEAL PROCEDURE	NOP
EPAPBU	APPEAL PROCEDURE CLOSED	NEW ENTRY: DECISION (+DATE) IN APPEAL PROCEDURE	NOP



<b>Code in /LSC</b>	<b>Text in /LSTX</b>	<b>Original description in European Patent Register</b>	<b>Category in /LSC2</b>
EPAPBV	INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBW	INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: INTERLOCUTORY REVISION OF APPEAL	ORE
EPAPBX	INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATIONS IN APPEAL SENT	NEW ENTRY: INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL + TIME LIMIT	ORE
EPAPBY	INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATIONS IN APPEAL SENT	NEW ENTRY: INVITATION TO FILE OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL + TIME LIMIT	ORE
EPAPBZ	RECEIPT OF OBSERVATIONS IN APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: RECEIPT OF OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPCA	RECEIPT OF OBSERVATIONS IN APPEAL RECORDED	NEW ENTRY: RECEIPT OF OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPCB	COMMUNICATION FROM THE BOARD OF APPEAL SENT	OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL	ORE
EPAPCC	COMMUNICATION FROM THE BOARD OF APPEAL SENT	OBSERVATIONS IN AN APPEAL	ORE