forms, and mail and facsimile transmission of paper forms.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0651–0214.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Regular submission (extension of a currently approved collection).

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations; individuals, or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 345.

Estimated Time per Response: 30 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 6,231.

Estimated Total Annual Cost to Public: $5,048 in recordkeeping/reporting costs.

IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: September 19, 2011.

Gwennan Banks,
Management Analyst, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Federal Register / Vol. 76, No. 185 / Friday, September 23, 2011 / Notices

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will submit to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for clearance the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35).


Title: United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

Form Number(s): PTO/SB/80/81/81A/81B/81C/83/84, PTO/SB/122/123/123A/123B/124/125, and PTO–2248.

Agency Approval Number: 0651–0035.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Burden: 33,867 hours annually.

Number of Respondents: 592,315 responses per year.

Avg. Hours Per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take the public approximately 3 minutes (0.05 hours) to 1.5 hours to submit the information in this collection, including the time to gather the necessary information, prepare the appropriate form or document, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.

Needs and Uses: Under 35 U.S.C. 2 and 37 CFR 1.31–1.36, the public uses this information collection to grant or revoke power of attorney, to withdraw as attorney or agent of record, to authorize a practitioner to act in a representative capacity, to change a correspondence address, to request a Customer Number, and to change the data associated with a Customer Number. The USPTO’s Customer Number practice permits authorized individuals to change the correspondence address or representatives of record for a number of applications, patents, or reexamination proceedings with one change request instead of filing separate requests for each application, patent, or reexamination proceeding. The USPTO uses the information in this collection to determine who is authorized to take action in an application, patent, or reexamination proceeding and where to send correspondence regarding an application, patent, or reexamination proceeding.

Affected Public: Individuals or households; businesses or other for-profits; and not-for-profit institutions.

Frequency: On occasion.

Respondent’s Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

OMB Desk Officer: Nicholas A. Fraser, e-mail: Nicholas.A.Fraser@omb.eop.gov. Once submitted, the request will be publicly available in electronic format through the Information Collection Review page at http://www.reginfo.gov. Paper copies can be obtained by:

• E-mail: InformationCollection@uspto.gov.

Include “0651–0035 copy request” in the subject line of the message.

• Mail: Susan K. Fawcett, Records Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent on or before October 24, 2011 to Nicholas A. Fraser, OMB Desk Officer, via e-mail to Nicholas.A.Fraser@omb.eop.gov, or by fax to 202–395–5167, marked to the attention of Nicholas A. Fraser.

Dated: September 20, 2011.

Susan K. Fawcett,
Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011–24506 Filed 9–22–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–16–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO–T–2011–0050]

Request for Comments on Establishment of a One-Year Retention Period for Trademark-Related Papers That Have Been Scanned Into the Trademark Initial Capture Registration System


ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) is considering establishing a retention period of one year for trademark-related documents submitted on paper that are subsequently scanned into the Trademark Initial Capture Registration System (“TICRS”). TICRS is available to the public through the Trademark Document Retrieval (“TDR”) database on the USPTO Web site. After the expiration of the one-year retention period, the USPTO would dispose of the paper documents unless, within sufficient time prior to disposal, the relevant trademark applicant or owner files a request to correct the electronic record in TICRS, and the request remains outstanding at the time disposal would otherwise have occurred.

Specifically, the proposed one-year retention period begins on: September 26, 2011, for papers scanned into TICRS prior to September 26, 2011; or a paper’s submission date, for papers scanned into TICRS on or after September 26, 2011. The proposal would reduce the costs currently associated with indefinitely warehousing paper documents, while permitting sufficient time for the review and rarely needed correction of the scanning of such paper documents.