DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records


ACTION: Notice of amendment of Privacy Act system of records.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is amending the system of records currently listed under “COMMERCE/PAT–TM–14 Users of Public Facilities of the Patent and Trademark Office.” This action is being taken to update the Privacy Act notice. We invite the public to comment on the amendments noted in this publication.

DATES: Written comments must be received no later than April 18, 2013. The amendments will become effective as proposed on April 18, 2013, unless the USPTO receives comments that would result in a contrary determination.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by any of the following methods:

Email: psf@uspto.gov. Include “Privacy Act PAT–TM–14 comment” in the subject line of the message.

Fax: (571) 273–0020, marked to the attention of Director, Public Search Services Division.

Mail: Director, Public Search Services Division, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22314–1450.


All comments received will be available for public inspection at the Federal rulemaking portal located at www.regulations.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Martha Sneed, ATTN: Public Search Facility, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450, (703) 756–1236.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is giving notice of an amendment to a system of records that is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974. This system of records maintains information on users of the USPTO Public Search Facility. The Privacy Act notice is being updated with current address information for the system location and system manager. The description of the categories of records in the system is being revised to remove information that is no longer being collected, including user photographs, registration numbers (for those registered to practice before the USPTO), and information from government-issued identification cards. The description of the routine uses of records maintained in the system has been updated to include use in law enforcement, audits and oversight activities, and distribution to contractors, all uses commonly published in other agency system of records notices. The rule references for the notification procedure and contesting record procedures are being updated to correspond to the current statutes and rules for those items as related to the USPTO.

The Privacy Act system of records notice, “COMMERCE/PAT–TM–14 Users of Public Facilities of the Patent and Trademark Office,” was previously published at 64 FR 72640 (December 28, 1999). The amended system of records is published in its entirety below.

COMMERCE/PAT–TM–14

SYSTEM NAME:

Users of Public Facilities of the Patent and Trademark Office.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Public Search Facility, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Madison East 1st Floor, 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Federal employees other than employees of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO); employees and other representatives of commercial firms offering patent search services to the public; registered agents before the USPTO; and any member of the general public who uses the search room.

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Name; addresses; telephone numbers; business firm or other organizations with which affiliated; user access number; record of use; violations of policies governing use of the search facilities and other office areas; signature of recipients of user access number; and other information as needed to establish identity.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:


PURPOSE(S):

To manage user access to the materials provided at USPTO Public Facilities in order to ensure that the materials are preserved and sufficient resources are allocated to serve the public.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

(1) Routine uses will include disclosure of information to law enforcement authorities, employers of violators of regulations governing use of the search room, and organizations with which recipients of user passes claim affiliation. Information such as home address or business affiliation, on individuals who have removed, with proper authority, patent documents from the search room but have failed to return such documents, may be used in retrieving such documents.

(2) Routine uses will include disclosure for law enforcement purposes to the appropriate agency or other authority, whether federal, state, local, foreign, international or tribal, charged with the responsibility of enforcing, investigating, or prosecuting a violation of any law, rule, regulation, or order in any case in which there is an indication of a violation or potential violation of law (civil, criminal, or regulatory in nature).

(3) Routine uses will include disclosure to an agency, organization, or individual for the purpose of performing audit or oversight operations as authorized by law, but only such information as is necessary and relevant to such audit or oversight function.

(4) Routine uses will include disclosure to contractors and their agents, grantees, experts, consultants, and others performing or working on a contract, service, grant, cooperative agreement, or other work assignment for the United States Patent and Trademark Office, when necessary to accomplish an agency function related to this system of records. Individuals provided information under this routine use are subject to the same Privacy Act requirements and limitations on disclosure as are applicable to the United States Patent and Trademark Office employees.

(5) Routine uses will include the

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records
ACTION: Notice of amendment of Privacy Act system of records.
SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is amending the system of records currently listed under “COMMERCE/PAT–TM–5 Non-Registered Persons Rendering Assistance to Patent Applicants.” This action is being taken to update the Privacy Act notice. We invite the public to comment on the amendments noted in this publication.
DATES: Written comments must be received no later than April 18, 2013. The amendments will become effective as proposed on April 18, 2013, unless the USPTO receives comments that would result in a contrary determination.
ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by any of the following methods:
- Email: OEDRecords@uspto.gov. Include “Privacy Act PAT–TM–5 comment” in the subject line of the message.
- Fax: (571) 273–0074, marked to the attention of the Deputy General Counsel for Enrollment and Discipline and Director of the Office of Enrollment and Discipline, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop OED, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.
- Mail: Deputy General Counsel for Enrollment and Discipline and Director of the Office of Enrollment and Discipline, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop OED, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.
- Federal Rulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. All comments received will be available for public inspection at the Federal rulemaking portal located at www.regulations.gov.
EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:
None.
Dated: March 14, 2013.
Susan K. Fawcett,
Records Officer, USPTO, Office of the Chief Information Officer.
[FR Doc. 2013–06262 Filed 3–18–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–16–P
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Deputy General Counsel for Enrollment and Discipline and Director of the Office of Enrollment and Discipline, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop OED, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450, (571) 272–4097.
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is giving notice of an amendment to a system of records that is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974. This system of records maintains information on persons other than registered or recognized attorneys or agents who have offered various services to inventors, patent applicants, and patentees. The Privacy Act notice is being updated with additional departmental information for the system location and system manager. The descriptions of the categories of individuals covered by the system and the purpose of the system have been revised to clarify that the system includes records for persons other than registered and recognized practitioners. The description of the routine uses of records maintained in the system has been updated to include use in law enforcement, audits and oversight activities, and distribution to contractors, all uses commonly published in other agency system of records notices. The description of retrievability has been revised to indicate that records may be retrieved by indicators other than name and registration number through a searchable database. The description of record source categories has been revised to clarify the sources of the information contained in this system. The Privacy Act system of records notice, “COMMERCE/PAT–TM–5 Non-Registered Persons Rendering Assistance to Patent Applicants,” was previously published at 70 FR 69521 (November 16, 2005). The amended system of records notice is published in its entirety below.
COMMERCE/PAT–TM–5
SYSTEM NAME:
Non-Registered Persons Rendering Assistance to Patent Applicants.
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:
Unclassified.
SYSTEM LOCATION: