

Patent Public Advisory Committee Meeting



John B Owens II
Chief Information Officer
April 14, 2011



Examiner Docket / Performance Plan

- Project to implement the examiner document management (workflow) element in the examiner performance appraisal plan (PAP)
 - Negotiated between patent business unit and the patent union (POPA) in summer 2010
 - Approved by POPA membership and signed on October 22, 2010



Major Features

- **Auto Count** – Enables patent examiners at GS-12 and GS-13, without any signatory level, the ability to have their office actions counted before they are reviewed by a primary or SPE.
- **New Docket Categories** – Separates incoming work for examiners into additional docket categories which have specific deadlines for the examiner response.
- **Workflow Calculations** – Each application on the examiners' docket will have a particular workflow category and time for examiner's response.



Major Features (cont.)

- **Pay Period Calculator** – Provides an interface for the examiners to enter desired parameters based upon applications within the various docket categories and project their Docket Management calculations for the current pay period.
- **Award Calculator** – Provides an interface for the examiners to enter desired parameters based upon applications within the various docket categories and project their Docket Management calculations upon which their quarterly Docket Management award will be based.



Q2 Accomplishments

- **PALM Docket Management 1.0** – Deployed backend database tables required to support all Docket Management requirements in addition to Role Based Access Control for new functions .
- **OACS Auto Count** – Enables patent examiners at GS-12 and GS-13, without any signatory level, the ability to have office actions submitted in OACS to be counted before they are reviewed by a primary or SPE.
- **EFS-WEB Separation** – Separation of systems sharing Secure Portal and deployment of a stand-alone portal instance for each Patent ecommerce System.



Q3 - Look Ahead

- **OACS Auto Count** – *Complete deployment to ALL TCS.* Enables patent examiners at GS-12 and GS-13, without any signatory level, the ability to have office actions submitted in OACS to be counted before they are reviewed by a primary or SPE. April 2011
- **New Docket Categories** – Commensurate with new examiner PAP, Separates incoming work for examiners onto additional docket categories which have specific deadlines for the examiner response. Includes PALM data conversion for existing applications. April 2011
- **Workflow Calculations** – Using posting data created by OACS, PALM will calculate and displays the number of days the application is in the particular category for the examiner. April 2011



Q3 - Look Ahead (cont.)

- **PALM Reporting System** – Statistical reports generated which incorporate new docket categories and workflow calculations. April 2011
- **Pay Period Calculator** – Provides an interface for the examiners to enter desired parameters based upon applications within the various docket categories and project their Docket Management calculations for the current pay period. May 2011



ePetitions

- Addresses user complaints that it takes too long to get decisions
- Expands the two (2) types already available by automating eight (8) additional types
- Provides for input through a secure web interface
- Push-button no-wait petition decisions
- The eight (8) petition types are:
 - WITHDRAWAL OF ATTORNEY (37 CFR 1.36)
 - WITHDRAW FROM ISSUE AFTER PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE
 - WITHDRAW FROM ISSUE AFTER PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE (37 CFR 1.313(c))
 - WITHDRAW FROM ISSUE AFTER PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE (37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) OR (2)) WITH ASSIGNED PATENT NUMBER
 - WITHDRAW FROM ISSUE UNDER 37 CFR 1.313(c)(3). APPLICATION IS EXPRESSLY ABANDONED.
 - PETITION TO ACCEPT LATE PAYMENT OF ISSUE FEE - UNINTENTIONAL LATE PAYMENT (37 CFR 1.155(c) OR 37 CFR 1.316(b))
 - PETITIONS UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(f)
 - PETITION TO REVIVE ABANDONED APPLICATION FOR CONTINUITY PURPOSES ONLY



ULP - Production Deployment

New Employee Laptop

- Intel Core i7 CPU, 8GB RAM
- Windows 7 / Office 2010
- 500 users participated in Agency-wide beta testing
- Production deployment began 3/28/11 – 35 per day, increasing to 50 per day
- Deployment is planned for completion in FY 2012



PALM Slowness

- Six (6) year old server (installed in 2005) running HPUX 11.1 (obsolete OS) handling PALM database
- Database running Oracle 9i (no longer supported)
- Approximately 20 AISs share database queries from this server
- Additional Examiners and services (PALM Count, Workflow) have added strain.
- Peak utilization regularly exceeds 95% (100% at production count deadlines)



PALM Improvements

- Two New servers procured and installed, each with 6x processing power of the current servers (*completed*)
- Highly available and redundant (*completed*)
- Upgrades to Linux and Oracle 11g (*completed*)
- Implement database mirroring (synchronization) to support transition (*completed*)
- Incremental migration of selected services to the new server to ensure minimal examination impact (*Begins April 9 and continues no later than end of FY11*)



David Landrith

PE2E Portfolio Manager

- 20 years experience building database-driven applications
- 15 years leading successful agile-based and iterative software projects
- Built industry-leading case management system for analyzing billions of legal documents across 3 continents
- Extensive background in data quality, large data sets and unstructured data