Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

Search Enhancement Pilot

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Associate Deputy Commissioner for Patent Quality

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Examination Search Enhancement

Public Feedback

– Identify the best prior art references early in prosecution

– Provide early notice to applicant

• Prior art references relevant to the invention as disclosed
Examination Search Enhancement

Pilot Being Designed to Test

– Best avenue for providing prior art
– Overall benefits to the impact on examination quality
– Benefits to the improvements in patent pendency
Examination Search Enhancement

Preliminary Stages (Initiated Jan. 2017)

– Working team studying Foreign Patent Offices, corporations and small businesses search methodology

– Patent Management, POPA and Stakeholders discussions on possible scope of pilot

– Tentatively launching pilot – 4\textsuperscript{th} Qtr FY17
Questions and Comments

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