

character coded format, also entitles the applicant to the same reduction in international filing fees as indicated in item 4(b) of the PCT Schedule of Fees (http://www.wipo.int/pct/en/texts/rules/rtax.htm#_S). The use of the ePCT zip file would still require all other documents and application parts to be prepared and loaded separately in EFS-Web for filing of the international application.

By using ePCT, an international application will be associated with the user's ePCT account, even before the application is filed, thereby allowing users to share access rights with others prior to filing, if needed. In addition, after the record copy is received by the IB, the application file may be viewed online via ePCT without the need to separately request access rights.

Applicants who are residents and/or nationals of the United States and its territories can file international applications directly with the Receiving Office of the IB via ePCT or other means, provided that any national security provisions have been met prior to filing, including obtaining any required foreign filing license. See 37 CFR 5.11 and MPEP § 140. A foreign filing license does not, however, authorize the use of ePCT to prepare the PCT Request and resultant zip file for filing, as part of an international application, with the RO/US. See 37 CFR 5.15 regarding the scope of a foreign filing license. Also see *Scope of Foreign Filing Licenses*, 73 FR 42781 (July 23, 2008) (“A foreign filing license from the USPTO does not authorize the exporting of subject matter abroad for the preparation of patent applications to be filed in the United States.”). Using ePCT to create a PCT Request and resulting zip file for later submission to the RO/US does not constitute the “filing of an application in a foreign country or to any foreign patent agency or international patent agency” as provided in 37 CFR 5.15(a). Furthermore, an international application filed in the RO/US is not a “foreign application” within the meaning of 37 CFR 5.15(a) or 5.11(b), which authorize the export of subject matter abroad. See 37 CFR 5.1(b)(2). See also 35 U.S.C. 368(b) (“In accordance with article 27(8) of the treaty, the filing of an international application in a country other than the United States on the invention made in this country shall be considered to constitute the filing of an application in a foreign country within the meaning of chapter 17, whether or not the United States is designated in that international application.”).

As set forth above, a foreign filing license does not authorize the export of technical data into ePCT for generating a PCT Request and resulting zip file for filing as part of an international application with the RO/US. More specifically, to complete the PCT Request and generate the zip file, ePCT requires a title of the invention, which may contain technical data. Moreover, although an abstract is not required for creation of the zip file, ePCT allows users to optionally provide the contents of the application abstract, which may also contain technical data relating to the invention. Since this technical data is stored on servers located outside of the United States, users of ePCT are reminded that the export of this subject matter abroad for the purpose of filing an international application with the RO/US may require the appropriate clearances from the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) at the Department of Commerce (See *Scope of Foreign Filing Licenses*, *supra*), the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC) at the Department of State, or the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) at the Department of Energy.

An ePCT demo system has been set up to enable filers to familiarize themselves with the system. For further information and to get started, go to the ePCT Portal at: <https://pct.wipo.int/ePCT>. To begin use of ePCT, a user is first required to obtain a WIPO account (<https://pct.wipo.int/wipoaccounts/en/ePCT/public/register.jsf>) and subsequently associate a WIPO digital certificate with the account (<https://pct.wipo.int/wipoaccounts/en/ePCT/private/certificates.jsf>—requires login). Users without a WIPO digital certificate can obtain one from <https://pct.wipo.int/CertRequest/Verisign/services/WorldIntellectualPropertyOrganizationWIPOCustomerCAV2/client/userEnrollMS.htm>.

Dated: May 2, 2016.

Michelle K. Lee,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2016-10733 Filed 5-5-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Commission of Fine Arts; Notice of Meeting

The next meeting of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts is scheduled for 19 May 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission offices at the National Building Museum, Suite 312, Judiciary

Square, 401 F Street NW., Washington, DC 20001-2728. Items of discussion may include buildings, parks and memorials.

Draft agendas and additional information regarding the Commission are available on our Web site: www.cfa.gov. Inquiries regarding the agenda and requests to submit written or oral statements should be addressed to Thomas Luebke, Secretary, U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, at the above address; by emailing cfastaff@cfa.gov; or by calling 202-504-2200. Individuals requiring sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired should contact the Secretary at least 10 days before the meeting date.

Dated: 26 April 2016, in Washington, DC.

Thomas Luebke,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2016-10402 Filed 5-5-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6330-01-M

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to and Deletions from the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds products to the Procurement List that will be furnished by the nonprofit agency employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes services from the Procurement List previously provided by such agencies.

DATES: Effective on June 5, 2016.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 1401 S. Clark Street, Suite 715, Arlington, Virginia, 22202-4149.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barry S. Lineback, Telephone: (703) 603-7740, Fax: (703) 603-0655, or email CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Additions

On 12/11/2015 (80 FR 76948), the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice of proposed additions to the Procurement List.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.