

**UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



USPTO University Outreach: Patent Searching and Search Resources

Presenter

Date

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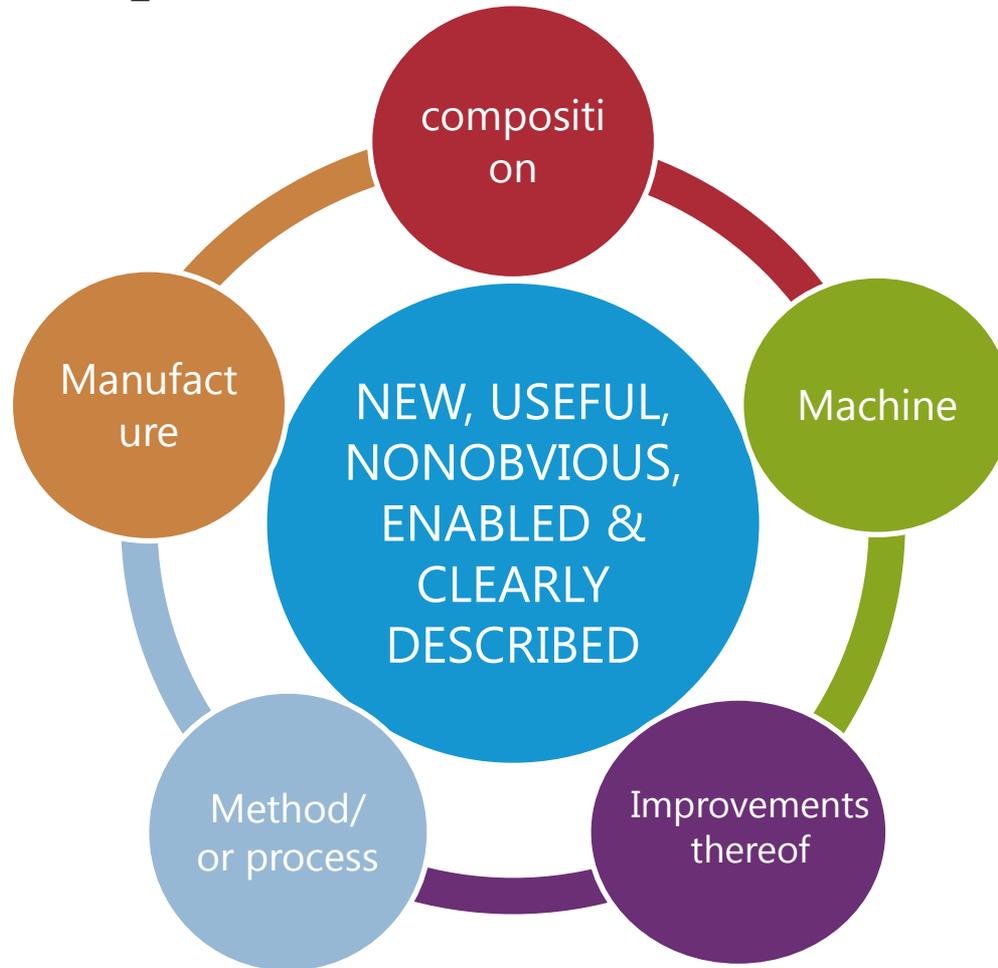
Objectives

- Where can you search?
- What are the benefits of searching?
- When should you search?
and most importantly:
- How do you search using USPTO search tools?
- What are some important strategies?

Overview of IP: Why Get a Patent?

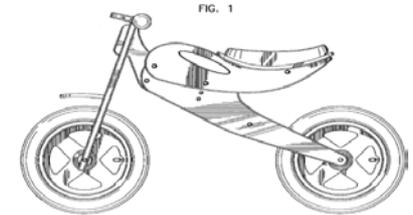
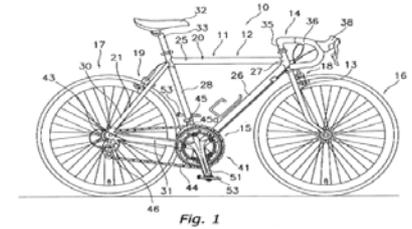
- A patent can be
 - Used to gain entry to a market
 - Used to exclude others from a market
 - Used as a marketing tool to promote unique aspects of a product
 - Sold or licensed, like other property

What is patentable?



Types of Patents

- **Utility** - New and useful process, machine, article of manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof Term – 20 years from earliest effective filing date
- **Design** - Any new, original and ornamental design Term - 15 years from issue date
- **Plant** - Whoever invents or discovers and asexually produces any distinct and new variety of plant... Term – 20 years from earliest effective filing date



Overview of IP: What is a Patent?

- A Property Right
 - Right to ***exclude others*** from making, using, selling, offering for sale or importing the claimed invention
 - Limited term
 - Territorial: protection only in territory that granted patent; **NO world-wide patent**
- Government grants the property right in exchange for the disclosure of the invention



What Type of Application?

- **Provisional** – abandoned after one year, no claims required, written disclosure must meet same requirements as non-provisional, not allowed for design.
- **Non-Provisional** - claims required, written disclosure must meet requirements of 35 USC 112(a). Examined for patentability, may result in a patent grant.

What are the Benefits of Searching?

- Save money
 - Your invention might not be new
 - Many alternatives may be known
- Streamline prosecution
 - Optimize specification and claims to distinguish prior art and avoid a rejection
 - Identify prior art showing typical features to simplify specification
- Hone your business plan
 - Identify potential competitors
 - Identify potential customers or licensees



Where can you search?

USPTO resources

- PubEAST and PubWEST (at USPTO and PTRC facilities)
- Patent Full-text and image database (PatFT)
- Published Application Full-Text and Image Database (AppFT)
- Patent Application Image Retrieval (PAIR)
 - Complete prosecution history of patents and published applications
- Patent Assignment Database
 - USPTO record of patent ownership

Links to these sites all found at: www.uspto.gov/patents/process/search/

Where can you search?

Online Resources-Foreign

- esp@cenet - European Patent Office (EPO)
- J-PlatPat - Japanese Patent Office (JPO)
- PATENTSCOPE - World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- Korean Intellectual Property Rights Information Service (KIPRIS)
- State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO) – China
- Other countries including Canada, Germany, Taiwan

Links to these sites all found at: www.uspto.gov/patents/process/search/

Where can you search?

Additional Non-USPTO Resources

- Google Patent Search™ service
 - <https://patents.google.com/>
- Any web-based search engine
 - www.archive.org
 - Wayback Machine will show older cached versions of the webpage URL
- Think outside the box
 - Video websites
 - IEEE
 - Magazines, Newspapers, other Publications
 - Scientific Journals
 - Visit stores that may sell similar items

When should you search?

- During development of your idea?
- Prior to filing a provisional application?
- Prior to filing a regular application?

- Search may be an ongoing process, not necessarily a point in time.

How to Search in EAST

Public EAST Training Modules are Available on the USPTO Website

Examiner Assisted Search Tool (EAST)

The EAST patent class is a fast-paced course for users with on-line database and Boolean logic experience. Text searching using indexes and the use of the browser screen for rapid patent retrieval. This is a four-hour class given once a month.

[Application for EAST Training \[PDF\]](#)

You may also wish to review an introductory online training package about EAST by linking to: [The EAST Training Package Page](#)



<http://www.uspto.gov/learning-and-resources/support-centers/public-search-facility/public-search-facility>

Topics include using EAST operators, customizing your workspace, and a brief CPC Introduction

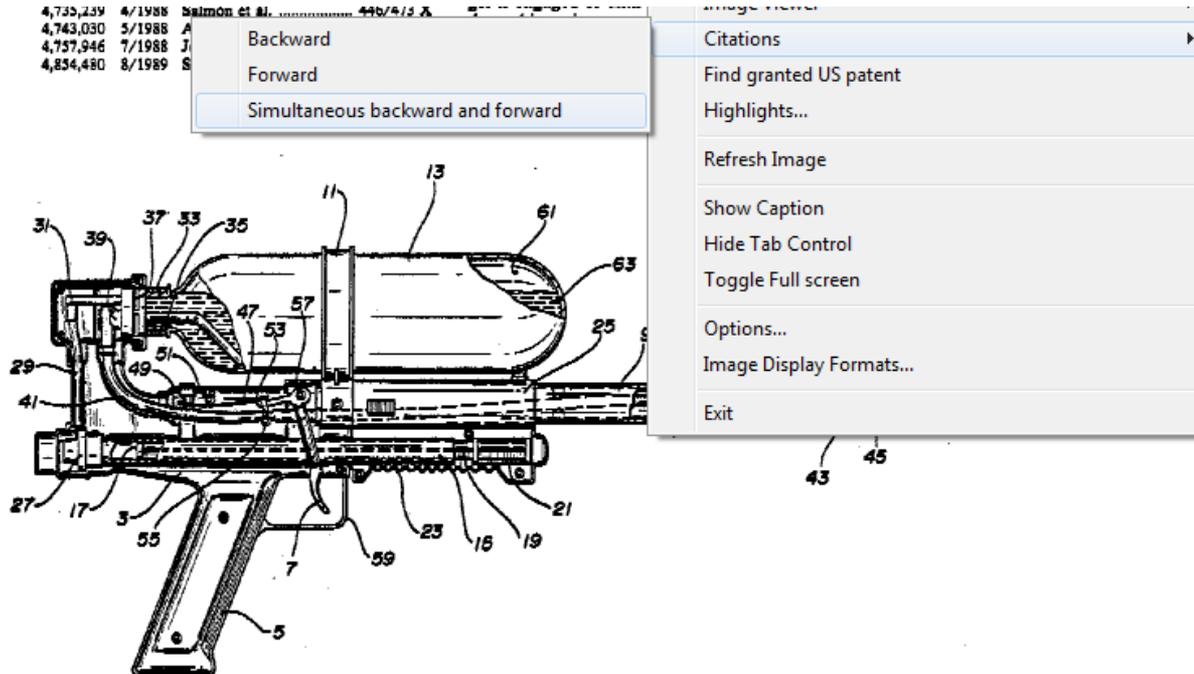


Search Strategies

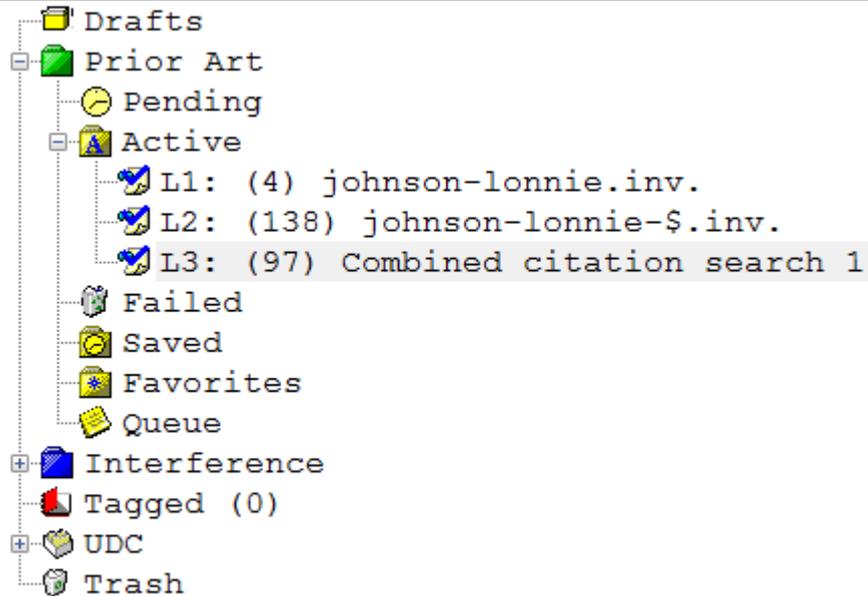
- Use multiple different search strategies
- Forward/Backward Search on a good reference
- “Building Block” Method
 - Search various features or concepts individually
 - Combine features and concepts to get closer to the invention
- Using synonyms or multiple versions of words
 - Not everyone calls a widget a widget
 - We frequently accept British English spellings
 - We don't always catch misspellings
- Classification searching can be extremely helpful
 - CPC schedule
 - Common classifications in prior art

Search Strategies- Forward/Backward Search-EAST

USPN 5,074,473: Pinch trigger pump water gun



Search Strategies- Forward/Backward Search-EAST



97 documents which were either cited in USPN 5,074,437 OR which have cited that document since it was published

Search Strategies- Forward/Backward Search

Pinch trigger pump water gun

US 5074437 A

ABSTRACT

The present invention is directed toward a toy water gun which is operated by selectively releasing water from a water reservoir that is pressurized with air. The present invention is a one piece device formed in the general shape of a gun that has a manually operated air pump incorporated into the design. The air pump pressurizes a water reservoir and consequently pressurizes any water found therein. The pressurized water has an avenue of release that is regulated by the trigger mechanism of the invention. When no force is applied to the trigger, the pressurized water is held at bay with no means of release. When force is applied to the trigger, water is released from the pressurized container and is channeled through a narrow nozzle. The escape of the pressurized water through the narrow nozzle creates a stream of propelled water that lasts as long as the trigger is engaged or until the pressure of the water equals the ambient air.

Other commercial search engines have a similar feature, but you have to click on each document individually instead of having them available to you as a group of results you can scroll through in EAST.

Publication number	US5074437 A
Publication type	Grant
Application number	US 07/578,145
Publication date	Dec 24, 1991
Filing date	Sep 6, 1990
Priority date [?]	Sep 6, 1990
Fee status [?]	Paid
Also published as	CA2048529A1, CA2048529C
Inventors	Bruce M. D'Andrade, Lonnie G. Johnson
Original Assignee	D'andrade Bruce M, Johnson Lonnie G
Export Citation	BiBTeX, EndNote, RefMan
Patent Citations (14), Referenced by (59), Classifications (16), Legal Events (16)	

External Links: [USPTO](#), [USPTO Assignment](#), [Espacenet](#)



Search Strategies- Building Block/Synonyms-USPAT

U.S. Patent

Feb. 3, 1998

Sheet 1 of 4

5,715,323

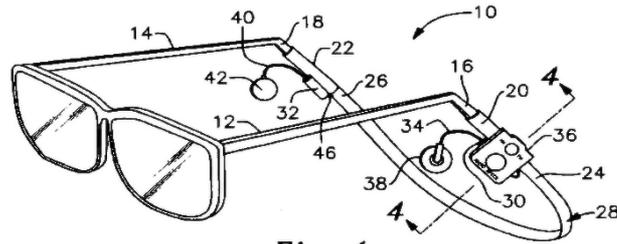


Fig. 1

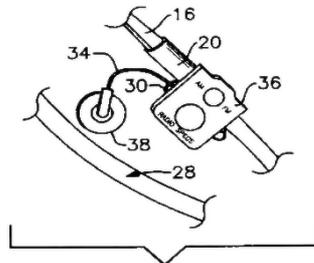


Fig. 2

Radio Sunglasses

Search Strategies- Building Block/Synonyms-USPAT

- Search Primary Concepts Separately
 - Radio and *synonyms*
 - Sunglasses and *synonyms*
- Use "and" to find the union of the two sets of information

Search Strategies- Building Block/Synonyms-USPAT

- First Search Statement
 - Radio or receiver or tuner
 - *Include any other synonyms as well*
- Search returns over **705,000 documents**

[USPTO PATENT FULL-TEXT AND IMAGE DATABASE](#)



Searching US Patent Collection...

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

((radio OR receiver) OR tuner): 705572 patents.

Hits 1 through 50 out of 705572



Search Strategies- Building Block Synonyms-USPAT

- Second Search Statement using truncation
 - `sunglass$` or `eyeglass$` or `spectacl$`
 - *Include any other synonyms as well*
- Search returns over **22,000 documents**

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Searching US Patent Collection...

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

`((sunglass$ OR eyeglass$) OR spectacl$)`: 22136 patents.

Hits 1 through 50 out of 22136



Search Strategies- Building Block/Synonyms-USPAT

- Use the union of the two statements for a more refined search
(radio or receiver or tuner) AND (sunglass\$ or eyeglass\$ or spectacl\$)
- Search returns just over **3500 documents**
- The same techniques can be used in **EAST and commercial search engines, such as, Google patents**
 - Note that EAST will save your previous search queries which can save you some time



Search Strategies- Classification Searches (CPC)

- What is CPC?
 - Joint partnership with the European Patent Office (EPO)
 - Harmonization of USPC and ECLA
- But I was so happy with USPC! How do I know where to search in CPC?
 - You can use the statistical mapping tool on the Classification Search Page to get started
 - Any electronic version of an issued US Patent or PGPub accessed via USPAT, EAST/WEST, or Google Patents will list the CPC classification of most published documents
 - CPC symbols are also printed on the face of more recent US Patent and PGPub documents

Search Strategies- Classification Searches (CPC)

The CPC is divided into 8 main areas, A-H

- **A – Human Necessities**
 - Agriculture, Foodstuffs
 - Apparel (including footwear, hats, and jewelry), Furniture
 - Medical Devices and Hygiene, Sporting Goods
- **B – Performing Operations; Transporting**
 - Separating, Mixing, Shaping, Printing
 - Transporting
 - Micro- and Nano-Technology
- **C – Chemistry and Metallurgy**
- **D – Textiles and Paper**

Search Strategies-

Classification Searches (CPC)

The CPC is divided into 8 main areas, A-H

- **E – Fixed Constructions**
 - Building
 - Drilling and Mining
- **F – Mechanical Engineering; Lighting; Heating; Weapons; Blasting; Engines or Pumps**
- **G – Physics**
 - Measuring and Testing, Optics, Photography
 - Controlling and Regulating; Computing, Calculating, Counting
 - Musical Instruments
 - Nuclear Physics, Nuclear Engineering
- **H – Electricity**
 - Electric Elements, Electric Circuitry, Electric Communication Techniques
 - Generation, Conversion, Distribution of Electric Power



Search Strategies- Classification Searches (CPC)

How to read a Classification Scheme

- A61M 25/10
 - . Balloon catheters (A61M 25/0125 takes precedence; embolectomy A61B 17/22032 ; retractors A61B 17/02 ; inflatable balloons for placing stents or stent-grafts A61F 2/958 ; { stomach balloons for treatment of obesity A61F 5/0003 ; oesophageal tubes A61J 15/00})
- A61M 25/1002
 - .. {characterised by balloon shape (A61M 25/1006 , A61M 25/1009 take precedence)}
- A61M 2025/1004
 - ... {Balloons with folds, e.g. folded or multifolded}
- A61M 25/1006
 - .. {Balloons formed between concentric tubes}
- A61M 25/1009
 - .. {Balloons anchored to a disc or plate}
- A61M 25/1011
 - .. {Multiple balloon catheters}
- A61M 2025/1013
 - ... {with concentrically mounted balloons, e.g. being independently inflatable}
- A61M 2025/1015
 - ... {having two or more independently movable balloons where the distance between the balloons can be adjusted, e.g. two balloon catheters concentric to each other forming an adjustable multiple balloon catheter system}



Search Strategies-

Classification Searches (CPC)

Why do a Classification Search?

- Can be very broad or very narrow
 - A61M 25/10—Balloon Catheters
 - A61M 25/1002—Characterized by Balloon Shape
 - A61M 25/1011—Multiple Balloon Catheters
- Group devices and methods with similar features
- Classification Scheme and Definitions can lead you to other areas of search

Search Strategies- Classification Searches (CPC)-USPAT

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CPC Class

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Text Search

Searching US Patent Collection...

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

CPC/A61M25/10: 1786 patents.

Hits 1 through 50 out of 1786

Searching US Patent Collection...

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

CPC/A61M25/1002: 1010 patents.

Hits 1 through 50 out of 1010

Searching US Patent Collection...

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

CPC/A61M25/1011: 1013 patents.

Hits 1 through 50 out of 1013

Searching US Patent Collection...

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

balloon AND catheter: 28753 patents.

Hits 1 through 50 out of 28753

Searching US Patent Collection...

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

((balloon AND catheter) AND shape): 20235 patents.

Hits 1 through 50 out of 20235

Searching US Patent Collection...

Results of Search in US Patent Collection db for:

((balloon AND catheter) AND (multiple OR more)): 28365 patents.

Hits 1 through 50 out of 28365



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Thank You!

Presenter Name

Presenter Title

Presenter@USPTO.gov





Google Patents Content

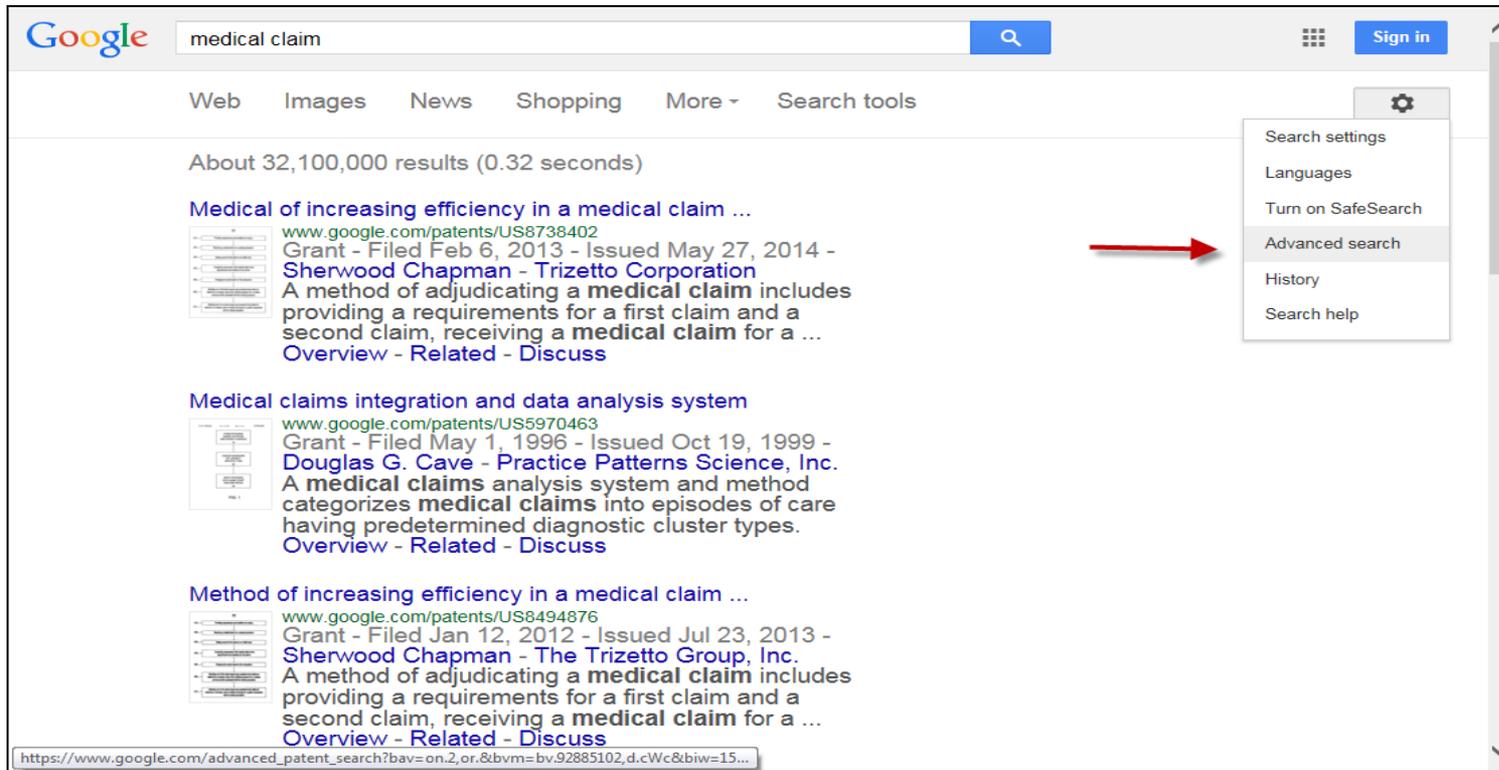
- All documents originate from USPTO, China, Germany, Canada, the European Patent Office (EPO) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
- Entire collection of granted patents and published patent applications from the USPTO is from 1790. EPO and WIPO coverage is from 1978.
- Coverage for Chinese, German and Canadian patent data is unknown.
- Google Patents provides links to Google Scholar and Google Books through the Find Prior Art interface. The exact content of Google Scholar and Google Books is unknown.

Google Patent Features:

- The interface is intuitive.
- Relevancy ranking enables quick searches.
- Prior Art Finder feature searches patent and non-patent literature sources.

Google Patents: Searches CPC Classification

- Click Options icon to access Advanced Patent Search.



The screenshot shows a Google search for "medical claim" on the Google Patents website. The search results page displays three patent entries. A settings menu is open on the right side of the page, with a red arrow pointing to the "Advanced search" option. The menu also includes "Search settings", "Languages", "Turn on SafeSearch", "History", and "Search help".

Google Patents search results for "medical claim". The search returned approximately 32,100,000 results in 0.32 seconds. The top results are:

- Medical of increasing efficiency in a medical claim ...**
www.google.com/patents/US8738402
Grant - Filed Feb 6, 2013 - Issued May 27, 2014 - Sherwood Chapman - Trizetto Corporation
A method of adjudicating a **medical claim** includes providing a requirements for a first claim and a second claim, receiving a **medical claim** for a ...
Overview - Related - Discuss
- Medical claims integration and data analysis system**
www.google.com/patents/US5970463
Grant - Filed May 1, 1996 - Issued Oct 19, 1999 - Douglas G. Cave - Practice Patterns Science, Inc.
A **medical claims** analysis system and method categorizes **medical claims** into episodes of care having predetermined diagnostic cluster types.
Overview - Related - Discuss
- Method of increasing efficiency in a medical claim ...**
www.google.com/patents/US8494876
Grant - Filed Jan 12, 2012 - Issued Jul 23, 2013 - Sherwood Chapman - The Trizetto Group, Inc.
A method of adjudicating a **medical claim** includes providing a requirements for a first claim and a second claim, receiving a **medical claim** for a ...
Overview - Related - Discuss

The settings menu is open, showing options: Search settings, Languages, Turn on SafeSearch, **Advanced search**, History, and Search help. A red arrow points to the "Advanced search" option.

URL: https://www.google.com/advanced_patent_search?bav=on,2,or.&tbvm=bv,92885102,d,cWc&biw=15...

Google Patents: Searches CPC Classification

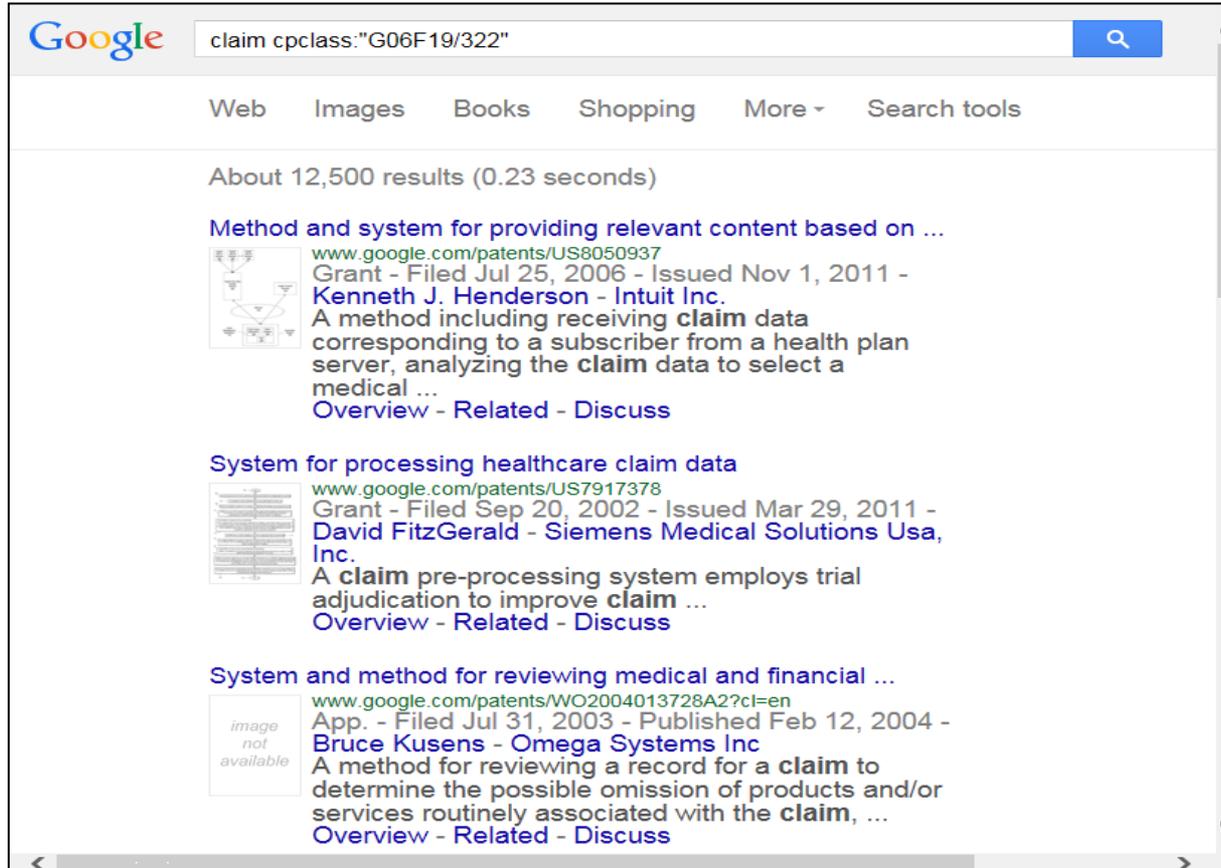
Use Advanced Patent Search to limit with Cooperative Patent Classification (CPC) code G06F19/322 (Management of patient personal data...).

The image shows a screenshot of the Google Advanced Patent Search interface. The search criteria are as follows:

Search Criteria	Value
Find results	with all of the words: claim
Patent number	
Title	
Inventor	
Original Assignee	
Current U.S. Classification	
International Classification	
Cooperative Classification	G06F19/322
Patent type/status	Any type/status
Date	Return patents anytime
Restrict date by	Restrict by filing date

The 'Cooperative Classification' field is highlighted with a red border in the original image, and the value 'G06F19/322' is entered in the text box. The 'Find results' section also shows search options like 'with the exact phrase' and 'with at least one of the words', but the 'with all of the words' option is selected.

Google Patents: Searches CPC Classification



Google claim cpclass:"G06F19/322"

Web Images Books Shopping More ▾ Search tools

About 12,500 results (0.23 seconds)

Method and system for providing relevant content based on ...
www.google.com/patents/US8050937
Grant - Filed Jul 25, 2006 - Issued Nov 1, 2011 -
Kenneth J. Henderson - Intuit Inc.
A method including receiving **claim** data corresponding to a subscriber from a health plan server, analyzing the **claim** data to select a medical ...
[Overview](#) - [Related](#) - [Discuss](#)

System for processing healthcare claim data
www.google.com/patents/US7917378
Grant - Filed Sep 20, 2002 - Issued Mar 29, 2011 -
David FitzGerald - Siemens Medical Solutions Usa, Inc.
A **claim** pre-processing system employs trial adjudication to improve **claim** ...
[Overview](#) - [Related](#) - [Discuss](#)

System and method for reviewing medical and financial ...
www.google.com/patents/WO2004013728A2?cl=en
App. - Filed Jul 31, 2003 - Published Feb 12, 2004 -
Bruce Kusens - Omega Systems Inc
A method for reviewing a record for a **claim** to determine the possible omission of products and/or services routinely associated with the **claim**, ...
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image not available

Google Patents: Find Prior Art Button

Google 20130263631  

Patents     

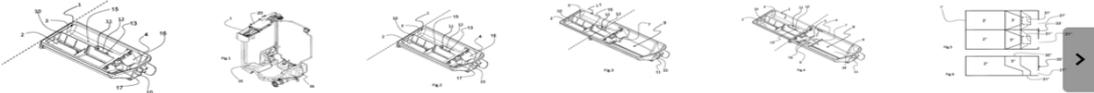
Washing machine comprising a drawer for loading washing agent

US 20130263631 A1

ABSTRACT

A washing machine, in particular a laundry washing or washing/drying machine, has at least one wash tub, one tank for a washing agent, and one drawer for loading washing agents, in which machine the drawer can be moved to at least a first position, wherein at least a portion of the drawer is in fluid communication with the tub, and a second position, wherein at least a portion of the drawer is in fluid communication with the tank.

IMAGES (9)



DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a washing machine, such as a laundry washing or washing/drying machine, equipped with a drawer for loading washing agents, in accordance with the first claim.

2. The Prior Art

CLAIMS (10)

1. A washing machine, in particular a laundry washing or washing/drying machine, comprising at least one wash tub, one tank for a washing agent, and one drawer for loading washing agents, wherein

the drawer is movable to at least a first position, wherein at least a portion of the drawer is in fluid communication with the tub, and a second position, wherein at least a portion of the drawer is in fluid communication with the tank.

Publication number US20130263631 A1
Publication type Application
Application number US 13/054,989
PCT number PCT/IB2009/005888
Publication date Oct 10, 2013
Filing date Jun 9, 2009
Priority date  Jul 24, 2008

Also published as EP2324151A2, EP2324151B1, WO2010010433A2, WO2010010433A3

Inventors Luca D'Andrea, 4 More »

Original Assignee Elisa Mariotti, Maria Angela Mariotti, Fernanda Gaggioli

Export Citation BiBTeX, EndNote, RefMan

[Patent Citations \(13\)](#), [Classifications \(3\)](#), [Legal Events \(1\)](#)

External Links: [USPTO](#), [USPTO Assignment](#), [Espacenet](#)

Google Patents: Prior Art Finder

Features

- Identifies key phrases from EPO, WIPO and post-1976 US patents and combines them into a search query.
- Searches not only Google Patents, but simultaneously searches Google Scholar, Google books and the rest of the Web.
- Results can be tuned by date and are ranked by relevancy using algorithms that combine multiple signals to determine order of search results.

Google Patents: Prior Art Finder Search Results

Google

Prior Art Finder

Top 10 Scholar Patents Web Books People

Search Terms

Add your own

- drawer
- washing machine
- loading
- washing agent
- drawer for loading
- wash tub
- fluid communication
- loading washing
- tank
- laundry

Custom Date Range

Start date: MM/DD/YYYY

End date: 06/09/2009

[Structuring agglomerated products for improved performance](#)
PC Knight - Powder technology, 2001
... The rate of sedimentation of individual granules, before they have dissolved, within the **washing machine** drum, will also increase with increase ... In a dispenser **drawer**, water is sprayed onto the powder. The water must penetrate into the powder in order to **wash** it from the **drawer** ...

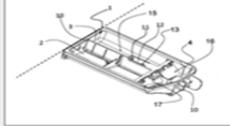
[... of hamstring and patellar tendon graft anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction techniques: the impact of fixation level and fixation method under cyclic loading](#)
SU Scheffler, NP Südkamp, A Göckenjan... - Arthroscopy: The Journal of ..., 2002
... An anterior **drawer** with increasing loads of 20 N increments was applied at 30° of ... Both graft constructs (HST Button and HST **Washer**) were pretensioned at 30° of flexion with ... The **load**-elongation data were digitally recorded from the material testing **machine** and transferred ...

[Space and design requirements for wheelchair kitchens](#)
HE McCullough, MB Farnham - 1960
Page 1. This document was created by the Digital Content Creation Unit University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 2011 Page 2. SPACE AND DESIGN REQUIREMENTS FOR WHEELCHAIR KITCHENS By Helen E. McCullough and Mary B. Farnham BULLETIN 661 ...

[What Does It Mean to Be Design-led?](#)
M Beverland, FJ Farrelly - Design Management Review, 2007
... an extremely small and flat motor so that the two-**drawer** design could ... Indeed, Dyson combined traditional techniques for hand-**wash**-ing with new technical advances and environmental concerns over water usage to develop the Contrarotator **washing machine**. ...

[Washing machine comprising a drawer for loading washing agent](#)
www.google.com/patents/WO2010010433A2?cl=en
App. - Filed Jun 9, 2009 - Published Jan 28, 2010 - Luca D'andrea - Indesit Company S.P.A.
The present invention relates to a **washing machine**, in particular a laundry washing or ... **Washing machine** comprising a **drawer** for **loading** washing agent

Application US20130263631



Washing machine comprising a drawer for loading washing agent

Show Claims

Inventors: Luca D'Andrea, Giovanni Bombardieri, Gianluca Pierucci, Maurizio Baldini, Costantino Mariotti
Assignees: Elisa Mariotti, Maria Angela Mariotti, Fernanda Gaggioli
Publication number: US20130263631
Application number: 13/054,989
Filing date: Jun 9, 2009

Discuss this Patent Application

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Search Terms

- drawer ×
- washing machine ×
- loading ×
- washing agent ×
- drawer for loading ×
- wash tub ×
- fluid communication ×
- loading washing ×
- tank ×
- laundry ×

Custom Date Range

Start date:

End date:

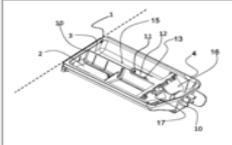
[Structuring agglomerated products for improved performance](#)
PC Knight - Powder technology, 2001
... The rate of sedimentation of individual granules, before they have dissolved, within the **washing machine** drum, will also increase with increase ... In a dispenser **drawer**, water is sprayed onto the powder. The water must penetrate into the powder in order to **wash** it from the **drawer** ...

[... of hamstring and patellar tendon graft anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction techniques: the impact of fixation level and fixation method under cyclic loading](#)
SU Scheffler, NP Südkamp, A Göckenjan... - Arthroscopy: The Journal of ... , 2002
... An anterior **drawer** with increasing loads of 20 N increments was applied at 30° of ... Both graft constructs (HST Button and HST **Washer**) were pretensioned at 30° of flexion with ... The **load**-elongation data were digitally recorded from the material testing **machine** and transferred ...

[Space and design requirements for wheelchair kitchens](#)
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Application US20130263631



Washing machine comprising a drawer for loading washing agent

[Show Claims](#)

Inventors: Luca D'Andrea, Giovanni Bombardieri, Gianluca Pierucci, Maurizio Baldini, Costantino Mariotti
Assignees: Elisa Mariotti, Maria Angela Mariotti, Fernanda Gaggioli
Publication number: US20130263631
Application number: 13/054,989
Filing date: Jun 9, 2009

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Search Terms

Add your own

- drawer
- washing machine
- loading
- washing agent
- drawer for loading
- wash tub
- fluid communication
- loading washing
- tank
- laundry

Custom Date Range

Start date: MM/DD/YYYY

End date: 06/09/2009

Costantino Mariotti
Inventor
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Luca D'Andrea
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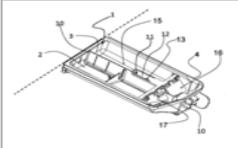
Maurizio Baldini
Inventor
[Scholar Search](#) - [Patent Search](#) - [Book Search](#)

Gianluca Pierucci
Inventor
[Scholar Search](#) - [Patent Search](#) - [Book Search](#)

Giovanni Bombardieri
Inventor
[Scholar Search](#) - [Patent Search](#) - [Book Search](#)

Ingo Schulze
Inventor of a cited patent
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Application US20130263631



Washing machine comprising a drawer for loading washing agent

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Inventors: Luca D'Andrea, Giovanni Bombardieri, Gianluca Pierucci, Maurizio Baldini, Costantino Mariotti

Assignees: Elisa Mariotti, Maria Angela Mariotti, Fernanda Gaggioli

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