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CLIENT ALERT!!

APRIL 2023

Updated Forms For USPTO's Transition To eGrants From Paper Patents In 2023

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Will Be Issuing Electronic Patent Grants (eGrants) Rather Than Paper Patents.

On April 18, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will join a growing list of nations and begin issuing electronic patent grants (eGrants) rather than paper patents. Part of this changeover involves modifying the Issue Fee form (PTOL-85B) and its web based version. The form no longer allows for advance orders of patent copies, because patents may be printed directly from Patent Center. Advance orders for copies of patents issuing on or after April 18, 2023 will not be processed. Additionally, since eGrants may be issued shortly after paying the issue fee and sooner than applicants are accustomed to, the PTOL-85B form includes a reminder to file any application requiring copendency prior to issue-fee payment so as not to jeopardize copendency.



ELECTRONIC GRANTS

- Utilize the Portable Document Format (PDF)
- Mirror the appearance of the currently produced bound patent grants (including color for design and plant patents)
- Use an encrypted certification/validation technology

BENEFITS OF ELECTRONIC GRANTS

- Provides electronic grants to patentee and public as a certified PDF on the day of issue
- Streamlines the patent grant process, minimizes paper waste, and provides the opportunity to reduce pendency and PTA time while enhancing the enforcement term
- Minimizes printing and mailing costs
- Increases printing flexibility and choice for the patentee and the public

QUESTIONS? | Please feel free to contact us.

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