



Institut der beim Europäischen Patentamt zugelassenen Vertreter
 Institute of Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office
 Institut des mandataires agréés près l'Office européen des brevets

Ausschuss für Europäische Patentpraxis
European Patent Practice Committee
Commission pour la Pratique du Brevet Européen

21 October 2019

Report from the EPC sub-committee

This report covers my notes (not proof read or confirmed) on two meetings. First the VP1 meeting on May 2019.

2.5.2019 - VP1 Meeting

The main purpose of this meeting was to discuss co-operation and how to arrange thematic group meetings. **epi** listed different meetings that have taken place, or has been agreed to take place, and their purpose. Mr. Rowan told that EPO will organize the meetings in a more structured way, this causing a little bit delay to the process. Further they want to ensure that meetings are beneficial for both parties.

EPO is working on a template to help feedback from examiners on meeting with firms and praktika extern.

EPO will build a new IT system, in a modular way. The old system will be there at least five years. EPO's viewpoint will be to define what processes are needed, then automate them (i.e. not to automate existing processes). Basic idea is that core process is automated, exceptions handled manually.

EPO is trying to capture incoming comments, including comments during calls to the call center.

Call centre will be open longer hours.

EPO is piloting, as one step to increase efficiency and maintaining quality, involving all three examiners to a patent application before a search is performed. We were also asked for a definition what quality means. Involving users to estimate quality – the SQAP used in EUIPO - cannot be implemented as such, but a similar system will be under consideration. However, it may take time.

EPO has a key user program. There is about two thousand key users (a key user has 25 or more filings/year), who have a key account manager.



EPO Delegation

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