Examiners' Comments on Candidates' Overall Performance in QE2010 Paper B

General comments

Typical problems which all candidates still have to work on:

1. Precise clear wording
2. Clear and logical inventive step arguments
    a. based on the claimed features; and
    b. being more than novelty arguments.
3. Client advise letter
    a. less "repetition" of response letter: and
    b. more answers to client's question
    c. more explanations to 'strategy" e.g. fallback positions.

Comments on candidates

4. Many candidates identified the inventive concept in the Response. However, only a small handful of these candidates made the necessary amendments to claim 1.
5. A few candidates recited the inventive concept in dependent claims instead and at least one candidate added a separate independent claim directed at the inventive concept.
6. Some candidates addressed the clarity issue on "integrally formed reservoir" by amending claim 1 but only a few presented reasoning for the changes.
7. Many candidates missed out points for adding new dependent claims.
8. Candidates generally did well for Novelty analysis.
9. For Inventive Step analysis, most candidates failed to consider combinations of the cited references and some candidates presented general statements, therefore missing out on many marks.
10. In the Memo to client, most candidates did not identify and discuss other possible amendments.