

Enhancements to Patent Application Process (Circular No. 8/2017, dated 21 November 2017)

As part of our continuous effort to ease the patent application process, IPOS will be introducing the following changes to Patents Forms 1 and 12B. These changes will be made available from 10 December 2017.

Changes to Patents Form 1

1. Merging Patents Form 8 with Patents Form 1

Applicants will be able to submit details of inventor by filling in part 7 of the merged form ("Patents Form 1/ 8"), instead of filing a separate Patents Form 8. Further, applicants will be able to indicate the derivation of right from the inventor by filling in part 8 of the merged form. Please note that the procedure involving amendment or correction of the details of inventor will remain the same. Patents Form 13 will not be applicable for such amendment or correction.

In the event when applicants prefer to submit details of inventor separately, Patents Form 8 will still be available for such submissions.

2. Attachment for sequence listing

A new document type "sequence listing" is available for the attachment of such documents, if applicants do not wish to include it as part of the description. Applicants shall paginate the sequence listing document independently of the description/claims. Applicants will be able to indicate the page count of sequence listing document in a separate field.

If applicants wish to submit the sequence listing as a separate reference document, not forming part of the specification, such document can be submitted using the mentioned "sequence listing" document type with a cover letter attached to indicate that it will serve as a reference document only.

3. Auto-population feature for divisional filings

For the convenience of applicants, relevant information from a parent's application will be auto-populated when applicants indicate on the form that a divisional application is being filed. Applicants may however still choose to amend the information that has been auto-populated.

Changes to Patents Form 12B

1. Merging Patents Form 13 with Patents Form 12B

Instead of filing Patents Form 13, applicants who wish to make amendments to the specification, when requesting for an examination review report using Patents Form 12B may do so by selecting the option "Written submissions and proposed amendments are filed". With this selection, the applicant will be required to submit both a clean and a marked up copy of the amendment of the specification.

If you have any enquiries, please direct them to Ms Tay Shu Wen (tay_shu_wen@ipos.gov.sg) or Mr Tan Wei Hao (tan_wei_hao@ipos.gov.sg).