

i-link for Access Code on the AIA/14

Q1. What is an Access Code?

A1. Data that used together with the application number and filing date to uniquely identify a patent application that is registered into the WIPO DAS (World Intellectual Property Organization Digital Access Service). As of March 18, 2013, all WIPO DAS participating offices require that the access code be provided in order to retrieve the priority document. The WIPO DAS access code is assigned by the WIPO DAS participating office and consists of four alphanumeric characters.

Q2. When is an Access Code required?

A2. When the following conditions are met:

- (1) The foreign priority application is filed in a foreign intellectual property office that is a participating WIPO DAS depositing office;
- (2) Appropriate steps have been taken by the applicant to make the priority application available to the Office via the WIPO DAS; and,
- (3) The applicant wishes the Office to attempt electronic retrieval of the priority application.

Q3. Will the Office notify the applicant when an Access Code is required, but not furnished?

A3. When an applicant claims priority to a foreign application filed in a WIPO DAS depositing office and fails to provide the required access code, the U.S. application filing receipt will include an indication "No Access Code Provided" adjacent to the foreign application number.

Q4. Will the Office notify the applicant that retrieval of the priority document will be attempted?

A4. When an applicant claims priority to a foreign application filed in a WIPO DAS depositing office and provides the required access code, the U.S. application filing receipt will include an indication "Access Code Provided" adjacent to the foreign application number and the following notice:

Request to Retrieve – This application either claims priority to one or more applications filed in an intellectual property Office that participates in the Priority Document Exchange (PDX) program or contains a proper Request to Retrieve Electronic Priority Application(s) (PTO/SB/38 or its equivalent). Consequently, the USPTO will attempt to electronically retrieve these priority documents.

Q5. Which offices participate in the WIPO DAS and what format should be used on the Application Data Sheet (ADS) Foreign Priority Information section?

A5. The list of WIPO DAS participating offices and information concerning the scope of available priority documents are maintained by the WIPO. For successful retrieval, it is important that the foreign priority claim identify the country/office code and the foreign priority application number in the recommended format. The participating offices, the types of applications that may be available for retrieval by the USPTO from each participating office, and the recommended application number formats for each participating office are set forth in the table below and on the [USPTO Priority Document Exchange](#) site:

The [list of WIPO DAS participating offices](#) and information concerning the scope of available priority documents are maintained by the WIPO.

National/ Regional	Utility Model	Industrial Design	Hague International Design	PCT International	Participating Office	Recommended Application Number Format
AR	AR				Argentina	PYYYY01NNNNN MYYYY01NNNNN
AT	AT	AT		RO/AT	Austria	A NNNNN/YYY GM NNNNN/YYY MU NNNN/YYY PCT/ATYYYY/NNNNN

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National/ Regional	Utility Model	Industrial Design	Hague International Design	PCT International	Participating Office	Recommended Application Number Format
AU		AU		RO/AU	Australia	YYYYNNNNNN PCT/AUYYYY/NNNNNN
BR		BR		RO/BR	Brazil	10YYYYNNNNNN 30YYYYNNNNNN PCT/BRYYYY/NNNNNN
CA		CA		RO/CA	Canada	NNNNNN NNNNNN PCT/CAYYYY/NNNNNN
CL	CL	CL		RO/CL	Chile	NNNNN-YYYY PCT/CLYYYY/NNNNNN
CN	CN	CN		RO/CN	People's Republic of China	YYYY-1NNNNNNN.X YYYY-2NNNNNNN.X YYYY-3NNNNNNN.X PCT/CNYYYY/NNNNNN
CO	CO	CO		RO/CO	Colombia	NCYYYY/NNNNNNN PCT/COYYYY/NNNNNN
DK	DK			RO/DK	Denmark	PA YYYY NNNNN BA YYYY NNNNN PCT/DKYYYY/NNNNNN
EA		EA		RO/EA	Eurasian Patent Organization	YYYYNNNNN YYYY4NNNN PCT/EAYYYY/NNNNNN
EE	EE				Estonia	PYYYYNNNNN UYYYYNNNNN
		EM			European Union Intellectual Property Office	NNNNNNNNN-NNNN
EP				RO/EP	European Patent Office	YNNNNNN PCT/EPYYYY/NNNNNN
ES	ES	ES		RO/ES	Spain	PYYYYNNNNN UYYYYNNNNN DNNNNNNN PCT/ESYYYY/NNNNNN
FI	FI			RO/FI	Finland	YYYYNNNN UYYYYNNNN PCT/FIYYYY/NNNNNN
FR	FR	FR		RO/FR	France	YNNNNNN YYYYNNNN PCT/FRYYYY/NNNNNN
GB					United Kingdom	YNNNNNN.X
GE	GE	GE		RO/GE	Georgia	AP YYYYYNNNN AU YYYYYNNNN AD YYYYYNNNN PCT/GEYYYY/NNNNNN
			IB	RO/IB	International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization	WIPONNNNN WIPONNNNN NNNNNNNNN PCT/IBYYYY/NNNNNN

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IL		IL		RO/IL	Israel	NNNNNN NNNNN PCT/ILYYYY/NNNNNN
IN		IN		RO/IN	India	YYYYNNNNNNNN NNNNNN PCT/INYYYY/NNNNNN
IT	IT	IT		RO/IT	Italy	10YYYYNNNNNNNN 20YYYYNNNNNNNN 40YYYYNNNNNNNN PCT/ITYYYY/NNNNNN
JP	JP	JP			Japan	YYYY-NNNNNN YYYY-NNNNNN U YYYY-NNNNNN D
KR	KR	KR			Republic of Korea	10-YYYY-NNNNNN 20-YYYY-NNNNNN 30-YYYY-NNNNNN
LV					Latvia	PYYYYNNNNNN
MA				RO/MA	Morocco	NNNNN PCT/MAYYYY/NNNNNN
MX	MX	MX		RO/MX	Mexico	A/YYYY/NNNNNN U/YYYY/NNNNNN F/YYYY/NNNNNN PCT/MXYYYY/NNNNNN
NL				RO/NL	Netherlands	NNNNNNN PCT/NLYYYY/NNNNNN
NO		NO		RO/NO	Norway	YYYYNNNN PCT/NOYYYY/NNNNNN
NZ					New Zealand	NNNNNN
SE				RO/SE	Sweden	YYNNNNN-N PCT/SEYYYY/NNNNNN
TR	TR	TR		RO/TR	Turkey	YYYY/NNNNNN PCT/TRYYYY/NNNNNN