IPC - International Patent Classification

Lutz Mailänder
WIPO - World Intellectual Property Organization

- Specialized Agency of UN; based in Geneva

- Administration of >20 international treaties on intellectual property

- PCT - Patent Cooperation Treaty: System for international filing of patent applications

  2004: Total of 121,000 applications

  11 Estonian PCT applications in 2004
  12 applications in 2005
AGENDA

• Introduction and Basics of IPC
• Reform of IPC
• Use for Search
• IPC related websites
  – documentation
  – tools
What is IPC?

System for classifying technical subject matter, e.g. patent literature

applied to 95% of patent documents

Similar to library classification systems
  e.g. Dewey Decimal Classification
  Library of Congress Classification

IPC is specially adapted for needs of patent documentation
What is IPC?

Large set of symbols/codes (~70000),

* e.g.:

  A23G 9/00

  A23G 9/00 Frozen sweets, e.g. ice confectionery, ice-cream;
  Mixtures therefor
Symbols presented on front pages of patent documents

(43) International Publication Date
19 May 2005 (19.05.2005)

(51) International Patent Classification7: A23G 9/00

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/HT 2004/000045

(54) Title: MANUFACTURE PROCEDURE OF THE «SLANOLED » (SALTED ICE CREAM)
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7 A23G 9/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)


Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched:

Korean Patents and applications for inventions since 1975

Korean Utility and applications for Utility models since 1975, Japanese Utility models and application for Utility models since 1975

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

NPS, JPO

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of documents with indication of pertinent passages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>


What is IPC?

A very efficient tool for:

- Ordering patent literature (similar content)
- Searching patent literature

in comparison to term searching, keyword searching:

> language independent
> terminology independent
> standardized application to documents

>> allows for more complete results than text searching
Search patent literature?

• For patent examination
• Investigate State of the Art
  - to avoid redundant research
  - to avoid infringements
• For monitoring technological progress
  - preparation of industrial property statistics
• To monitor competitors’ activities
When and what is classified?

- Classification by experts before publication

- IPC knows two categories of information that is worth classifying:

  **Invention information:**
  technical information worth granting a patent
  > obligatory classification

  **Additional information:**
  supplementary non invention information
  the classifier/examiner considers important

  > discretionary classification

§76-80
Basics of IPC
Structure of IPC Symbols

A23G 9/02

> complete group symbol; consists of different components

A ....................... Section (A, B, ... H)
A23 ....................... Class (any 2 digits)
A23G ....................... Subclass (any letter)
A23G 9/02 ........... Group
IPC Symbols

Two types of groups: Main groups
Subgroups of main groups

A23G 9/00 ............ Main group xxx/00
A23G 9/02 ............ Subgroup xxx/yy yy ≠ 00

Classification of documents only with group symbols!

Section, class, subclass symbols used only in IPC scheme!
Logical structure of IPC

A
SECTION A — HUMAN NECESSITIES

B
SECTION B — PERFORMING OPERATIONS; TRANSPORTING

C
SECTION C — CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY

D
SECTION D — TEXTILES; PAPER

E
SECTION E — FIXED CONSTRUCTIONS

F
SECTION F — MECHANICAL ENGINEERING; LIGHTING; HEATING; WEAPONS; BLASTING

G
SECTION G — PHYSICS

H
SECTION H — ELECTRICITY
IPC hierarchical structure

H

H01

H01B

H01F 1/00

H01F 1/01

H01F 1/44

H01F 3/00

H01F 3/00

H01F 87/00

H01F 87/00

H01F 1/44

H05
IPC hierarchical structure

Section → H → Class → H01 → Subclass → H01F → Main group → H01F 1/00 → Subgroup → H01F 1/01
### SECTION H — ELECTRICITY

#### H01

**BASIC ELECTRIC ELEMENTS**

#### H01F

**MAGNETS; INDUCTANCES; TRANSFORMERS; SELECTION OF MATERIALS FOR THEIR MAGNETIC PROPERTIES** (ceramics based on ferrites C04B 35/26; alloys C22C; thermomagnetic devices H01L 37/00; loudspeakers, microphones, gramophone pick-ups or like acoustic electromechanical transducers H04R)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>H01F 1/00</th>
<th>Magnets or magnetic bodies characterised by the magnetic materials therefor; Selection of materials for their magnetic properties (thin magnetic films characterised by their composition H01F 10/10)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/01</td>
<td>· of inorganic materials (H01F 1/4) takes precedence [6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/03</td>
<td>· characterised by their coercivity [6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/032</td>
<td>· · of hard-magnetic materials [6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/04</td>
<td>· · · metals or alloys [6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/047</td>
<td>· · · · · Alloys characterised by their composition [5,6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/053</td>
<td>· · · · · containing rare earth metals [5,6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/055</td>
<td>· · · · · and magnetic transition metals, e.g. SmCo_5 [6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/057</td>
<td>· · · · · · and IIIa elements, e.g. Nd_2Fe_{14}B [6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/058</td>
<td>· · · · · · and IVa elements, e.g. Gd_2Fe_{14}C [6]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H01F 1/059</td>
<td>· · · · · · and Va elements, e.g. Sm_{2}Fe_{17}N_{2} [6]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 98 docs
- 607 docs

**12th level**

**159 docs**

**98 docs**
Hierarchy of Subgroups

Level of hierarchy:

> Indicated by dots
  number of dots > indentation level, hierarchical level

> Independent of numbering of subgroups!
  Numbering determines sequential order of subgroups

G01N  33/483  • • Physical analysis of biological material
       33/487  • • • of liquid biological material
       33/49   • • • • blood
       33/50   • • Chemical analysis of biological material, e.g. blood

§26
IPC hierarchy

Sections
  8

Classes
Subclasses
  120
Classes
Subclasses
  628
Subclasses
Groups
  69,000
Groups
Groups

628

69,000

69,000
Scope of IPC entries

Scope (content) is defined by titles

sections, classes: title only broadly indicative of content
subclasses, groups: titles define content as precisely as possible

Note: Scope is always defined by title of place + titles of hierarchically higher places

e.g.: H01S 3/00 Lasers
     : H01S 3/05 Construction or shape of optical resonators

§67 -68
Attention!

B 64 C AEROPLANES; HELICOPTERS

5/00 Stabilising surfaces
5/06 . Fins
5/08 . mounted on, or supported by, wings
5/10 . adjustable

Observe hierarchy!

5/08 . Stabilising surfaces mounted on, or supported by, wings
5/10 . Adjustable stabilising surfaces
Elements of IPC scheme

- Classification places: symbol + title
- Guidance headings
- References
- Notes
- Subclass indices
- Class indices
- Subsections

Determine effective scope of groups
History of Classification Systems

1831  American Classification
1877  German Classification
1880  British Classification

1956  European Council initiates work on International Patent Classification (IPC)
1968  Entering into force of IPC (1st edition)
1975  Entering into force of Strasbourg Agreement

1.1.2006  IPC 8
Strasbourg Agreement

entered into force 1975

initially 13 member states
presently 55 member states

in addition 4 organizations
(EPO, EAPO, ARIPO, OAPI)

IPC applied by > 100 countries
(eg 127 PCT members)
Revision of IPC

Goals of revision:

• Adapting IPC to:
  - developing or newly emerging technology
  - high activity in particular existing fields
• Improve efficient use and quality of IPC

> further subdivisions, new groups, etc.
> amendments to existing entries

e.g. in IPC8 new subclass Business Methods: G06Q

<> Reform of the IPC
Traditional revision of the IPC

- Until now new editions every 5 years
- The 8th Edition will enter into force on January 1, 2006
  - including many reform features
- International revision procedure under the administration of WIPO
IPC Growth
(classification groups)
Other Existing Patent Classifications

• ECLA (EPO) - 130 000 groups
• US Patent Classification - 140 000 groups
• Japan Patent Classification - 180 000 groups
• DECLA (German Office) - 100 000 groups
ECLA

- Internal classification of the EPO
  - [http://l2.espacenet.com/eclasrch](http://l2.espacenet.com/eclasrch)
- Based on the IPC, but more detailed
- Searching with the use of ECLA codes is possible on Espacenet
US Patent Classification

• Official classification of the USPTO
  http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/classification/

• Based on different principles than the IPC
  > different structure

• Used for searching US patent documentation

• Concordance table USPC - IPC
Japan Patent Classification

- Internal classification of the JPO
- FI system is based on the IPC but is much more detailed
- FI system is supplemented by F-terms to provide for the multi-aspect search
- Used for searching JP patent documentation

Reform of the IPC
Shortcomings of IPC

• historically a tool for manually searching paper files

• 5 years revision cycle
  > retarded accommodation of new technology, high activity

• a compromise:
  – not sufficiently detailed for large offices
  – too complex for small offices
Reform of the IPC

• IPC traditionally paper based

> New challenge:
  - converting IPC to a more electronic and internet based tool
  - imbedding IPC in framework of modern IT

• Goals of reform:
  - Improve user-friendliness and efficient use of IPC
  - Creation of a universal search tool for all patent offices
  - Establishment of a global distribution system of classification data
• In March 1999 the IPC Committee of Experts decided to launch the reform

• On January 1, 2006 the reformed IPC will enter into force
Essential features of reformed IPC
Core/Advanced Level

Smaller offices, i.e. small number of applications:

> need simple classification scheme

Larger offices; databases:

> need more sophisticated classification scheme (ECLA, DECLA, FI-terms; US-classification)

> Split of the scheme in two levels
### Core/Advanced Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A23G 9/00</th>
<th>Frozen sweets, e.g. ice confectionery, ice-cream; Mixtures therefor [2]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A23G 9/01</td>
<td>(transferred to A23G 9/32 A23G 9/52)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 9/04</td>
<td>Production of frozen sweets, e.g. ice-cream (packages B65D 85/78) [2]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 9/06</td>
<td>• characterised by using carbon dioxide or carbon dioxide snow as cooling medium [2]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note(s)**

Group A23G 9/06 takes precedence over groups A23G 9/08-A23G 9/14 [2].

| A23G 9/08 | • Batch production (continuous production A23G 9/14) [2]             |
| A23G 9/10 | • • using containers which are rotated or otherwise moved into a cooling medium [2] |
| A23G 9/12 | • • using means for stirring the contents in a non-moving container [2] |
| A23G 9/14 | • Continuous production (A23G 9/20 takes precedence) [2]             |
| A23G 9/16 | • • the products being within a cooled chamber, e.g. drum [2]         |
| A23G 9/18 | • • the products being on the outer wall of a cooled body, e.g. drum or endless band [2] |
| A23G 9/20 | • • the products being mixed with gas, e.g. soft-ice [2]              |
| A23G 9/22 | • • Details, component parts or accessories of apparatus insofar as not peculiar to a single one of the preceding groups [2] |
| A23G 9/24 | • • for coating or filling the products [2]                           |
| A23G 9/26 | • • for producing frozen sweets on sticks [2]                        |
| A23G 9/28 | • • for portioning or dispensing [2]                                 |
| A23G 9/30 | • • Cleaning; Keeping clean; Sterilisation [2]                       |
| A23G 9/02 | • characterised by the composition [8]                               |
| A23G 9/04 | • • characterised by carbohydrates used, e.g. polysaccharides (characterised by the dairy products used A23G 9/40) [8] |
| A23G 9/06 | • • containing micro-organisms or enzymes, containing paramedical or dietetical agents, e.g. vitamins (characterised by the dairy products used A23G 9/40) [8] |
| A23G 9/08 | • • containing peptides or proteins (characterised by the dairy products used A23G 9/40) [8] |
| A23G 9/40 | • • characterised by the dairy products used [8]                     |
| A23G 9/42 | • • containing plants or parts thereof, e.g. fruits, seeds, extracts (containing gums A23G 9/34) [8] |
Core/Advanced Level

Core Level:
- reduced set of classification symbols (17000)
- contains only hierarchically high places (all main groups and hierarchically high subgroups)

Advanced Level:
- full set of symbols (currently 70 000)

Both levels are compatible: Advanced Level is mostly a finer subdivision of the Core Level
On Jan. 1, 2006:
Modified Revision Policy

Core Level:
- revision according traditional procedure by Revision Working Group (all IPC Union members)
- revision cycle 3 years (or longer)

> more stable

Advanced Level:
- revision by Special Subcommittee with few members (EPO, JP, US); harmonization of ECLA, FI, USPC
- revision cycle (at least) 3 months

> accelerated revision, more dynamic
Core/Advanced Level

• Classification in Advanced Level is obligatory for PCT Minimum documentation

PCT Minimum: Defined set of patent literature to be searched for all PCT applications (e.g. all EP, US, DE, GB,… patents)

• Other IPO’s have choice between AL and CL

• Core Level better suited for offices with smaller collections of national patent documents
Obligatory Reclassification of PCT Minimum Documentation

- Obligatory reclassification of all PCT Minimum documents affected by AL revision by members of Special Subcommittee

- Reclassification of one family member only; propagation of reclassification information to other family members, including non PCT minimum members
Master Classification Database

- Collects all classification/reclassification data (PCT minimum and other if supplied by IPO’s)
- Complete information of Core Level classification by rolling-up of symbols of the Advanced Level to next higher CL group
- Will accept/contain only valid (ie up-to-date) classification data
- These data available to any IPO (or interested party) and searchable via ESPACENET, etc.
- Hosted by EPO; extension of EPO’s existing DocDB

MCD will therefore be a most powerful tool for searching patent documentation according to the most recent IPC version
Electrical layer of reformed IPC

• IPC traditionally paper based
  > limited space for supplementary information:
    - Explanations of complex subject matter
    - Glossaries, etc
    - Illustrations, formulae

>> now in Electronic Layer via Internet
Classification Software Tools

- Search for relevant classification symbols in natural language (TACSY)
- Computer-assisted classification at the core level (IPCCAT)
Essential features of reformed IPC

- Core/Advanced Level
- Modified Revision Policy
- Obligatory Reclassification PCT Minimum
- MCD
- Supplementary Information in Electronic Layer
- Software Tools to assist Classification
Implications of IPC Reform

IPC reform requires changes to:

> WIPO standards ST.8, ST.36, ST.10/C
> WIPO IPC products (scheme, validity file, concordance list, etc.)
> EPO products

> > internal systems/applications/products of IPOs

Most IPOs committed to implement these changes
New Standard ST.10/C

Document classified in the **Advanced Level**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(51)</th>
<th>Int. Cl.</th>
<th>(2006.01)</th>
<th>(2007.04)</th>
<th>(2008.07)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>B28B 5/00</strong></td>
<td><strong>B28B 1/29</strong></td>
<td><strong>H05B 3/18</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Italics → Advanced Level
- Bold → Invention Information
- Version Indicator
- Non-bold → Additional Information

Document classified in the **Core Level**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(51)</th>
<th>Int. Cl. (2006)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>B28B 5/00</strong></td>
<td><strong>B28B 1/00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Regular → Core Level
New ST.8: Recording IPC data
in string of fixed length (50 positions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position(s)</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Section</td>
<td>A,…,H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,3</td>
<td>Class</td>
<td>01,…,99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Subclass</td>
<td>A,…,Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 8</td>
<td>Main Group (right aligned)</td>
<td>1,…,9999, blank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Separating character</td>
<td>/ (“Slash”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 15</td>
<td>Subgroup (left aligned)</td>
<td>00,…,999999, blank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 to 19</td>
<td>For future use</td>
<td>4 blanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 27</td>
<td>Version indicator</td>
<td>YYYYMMDD date format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Classification level</td>
<td>C,A,S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>First or later position of symbol</td>
<td>F,L</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Classification value (inventive or non-inventive)</td>
<td>I,N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 to 38</td>
<td>Action date</td>
<td>YYYYMMDD date format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Original or reclassified data</td>
<td>B,R,V,D</td>
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<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Source of classification data</td>
<td>H,M,G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-42</td>
<td>Generating office</td>
<td>AA,…,ZZ (ST.3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43-50</td>
<td>For future use</td>
<td>8 blanks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Future publications of the IPC

- **Printed publication:**
  - only the Core Level scheme, Catchword Index and Guide

- **Electronic and Internet publication:**
  - Advanced (Core) Level scheme, Catchword, Guide, Electronic Layer (Definitions), Validity File, Revision Concordance Table
Future of reformed IPC

entering into force Jan.1, 2006

- further elaboration of Advanced Level
- further elaboration of electronic information layer
- promote MCD
  non PCT-minimum offices to contribute
Search practice
Search patent literature?

- For patent examination
- Investigate State of the Art
  - to avoid redundant research
  - to avoid infringements
- For monitoring technological progress
  - preparation of industrial property statistics
- To monitor competitors’ activities

> query combining applicant name and classification code
Selecting Classification Places

> Browse IPC:

Core Level:
- Printed publication
- Online publication
- IPC CLASS CD-ROM

Advanced Level:
- Online publication
- IPC CLASS CD-ROM

Section

Class

Subclass

Main Group

One-dot Subgroup
Selecting IPC codes

• Browsing the IPC (consulting definitions in electronic layer)

• Using the Catchword Index

• Text searching the IPC (e.g. TACSY)

• Reviewing similar documents (cited state of the art)

• Using automated classification tool (IPCCAT) (text input; for subclass and main group level only)
IPC related Internet sites

• IPC homepage hosted by WIPO

  > Classification scheme:
    IPC7, IPC8, online and downloads (soon);
    in English, French, Spanish (soon)

  > Documentation: Guide, Conops, FAQ, …
Zur Anzeige wird der QuickTime™ Dekompressor „TIFF (LZW)” benötigt.
Note(s)

1. In this subclass, the following term is used with the meaning indicated:
   - "Ice-cream" includes any edible frozen or congealed semi-liquid or pasty substance, e.g. slush-ice. [2]

2. In this subclass, subject matter which cannot be completely classified in a single one of the main groups should be classified in each relevant main group. [9]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A23G 1/00</th>
<th>Cocoa; Cocoa products, e.g. chocolate; Substitutes therefor (kitchen equipment for cocoa preparation A47J, e.g. apparatus for making beverages A47J 31/00)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/02</td>
<td>Preliminary treatment, e.g. fermentation of cocoa (machines for roasting cocoa A23N 12/00)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/04</td>
<td>Apparatus specially adapted for manufacture or treatment of cocoa or cocoa products (machines for roasting cocoa A23N 12/00; crushing or grinding apparatus in general B02C) [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/06</td>
<td>Apparatus for preparing or treating cocoa beans or nibs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/08</td>
<td>Cocoa butter presses (presses for squeezing out liquid from liquid-containing material in general B30B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/10</td>
<td>Mixing apparatus; Roller mills for preparing chocolate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/12</td>
<td>Chocolate-refining mills, i.e. roll refiners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/14</td>
<td>Longitudinal conches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/16</td>
<td>Circular conches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/18</td>
<td>Apparatus for conditioning chocolate masses for moulding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/20</td>
<td>Apparatus for moulding, cutting, or dispensing chocolate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/21</td>
<td>Apparatus for moulding hollow products, open shells or other articles having cavities, e.g. open cavities [3,7]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/22</td>
<td>Chocolate moulds (A23G 1/21 takes precedence) [3]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/24</td>
<td>Tapping orJuliet tables [1,7]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/26</td>
<td>Conveying devices for chocolate moulds [1,7]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/28</td>
<td>Apparatus for removing chocolate from the moulds (discharging baked goods from tins A21B 3/16) [1,7]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/30</td>
<td>Cocoa products, e.g. chocolate; Substitutes therefor [8]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/32</td>
<td>Characterised by the composition [8]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A23G 1/34</td>
<td>Cocoa substitutes [8]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Definitions

Investigating materials by optical radiation, microwaves or acoustic waves

Measuring linear or angular speed, indicating presence, absence, or direction of movement

Detecting masses or objects by methods not involving reflection or reradiation of radio, acoustic, or other waves; prospecting

Optical systems

Control of position, course, altitude or attitude

Detecting the presence of objects for the purpose of counting them

Traffic control systems; anti-collision systems

Glossary of terms

In this subclass, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

Waves, wave motion

is the mechanism by which energy is transported without the transfer of matter. Waves may be either electromagnetic waves, which do not require a medium to propagate, or mechanical waves, which require a medium, e.g. acoustic waves. Waves are most easily defined in mathematical terms as obeying a so-called wave equation.

Propagation effects

are relevant if the outcome of a measurement depends on the actual value of a physical quantity characterising the propagation of the wave, i.e. its wavelength, frequency, velocity, or phase. The mere presence or direction of a wave are not considered a propagation effect or to contribute to a propagation effect. To put it in another way, propagation effects are irrelevant, if the radiation may be looked upon as a beam of radiation whose wave nature can be ignored. Examples of measurements where propagation effects are relevant include e.g. measurements of propagation time, phase difference, phase delay, measurements using the Doppler effect, or interference.
IPC related Internet sites

• Homepages of other IPO’s

• Classification Tools

  Natural language search of IPC: TACSY
  http://www.wipo.int/tacsy/

  Automated classification: IPC-CAT
  http://www.wipo.int/ipccat/ipc.html
SECTION A – HUMAN NECESSITIES

SECTION B – PERFORMING OPERATIONS; TRANSPORTING

SECTION C – CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY

SECTION D – TEXTILES; PAPER

SECTION E – FIXED CONSTRUCTIONS

SECTION F – MECHANICAL ENGINEERING; LIGHTING; HEATING; WEAPONS; BLASTING

SECTION G – PHYSICS

SECTION H – ELECTRICITY
IPC-CAT

tool for automated classification

- artificial neural network technology
- trained with ~200,000 classified documents
- available in English, French, German, Spanish
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- Input: text of up to ~200 words
- Output: proposals for subclass, main group
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