

Wednesday Morning Session 8:30 - 12:00
Hot Topics - Session Chair: Suzanne Robins

11:30-12:00

USPTO's 21st Century Plan and Harmonization: Where do Things Stand?
by Joe Ebersole, Counsel for the Coalition for Patent and Trademark Information
Dissemination.

Abstract:

The 21st Century Plan funding bill was recently passed by the House of Representatives; but with some significant amendments directed to patent search outsourcing that may have a significant impact on private sector participation. The Plan now awaits action by the Senate. USPTO is also actively involved in a number of projects as part of trilateral harmonization. We will look at some of these and their implications.

Biography:

Mr. Ebersole is Counsel for the Coalition for Patent and Trademark Information Dissemination. [Members are: Derwent, Dialog, IFI Claims, LexisNexis, MicroPatent, CCH Corsearch, and Thomson&Thomson.] His background includes intellectual property and business law, lobbying, and database systems. He was responsible for the first patent full-text search system while with LexisNexis in the 1980s; after leading federal court reform as Deputy Director of The Federal Judicial Center in the 1970s. He also developed a major pharmaceutical market research database business in China in the 1980s and 1990s which now includes data from almost one thousand hospitals and thirty thousand drug stores in China. He has been Counsel for the Coalition since its founding in the 1990s.

Coalition for Patent & Trademark Information Dissemination
2101 Connecticut Ave., N.W.
Suite 63
Washington, CD 20008-1760
Phone: 202 329-538
jle2@aol.com