



Joint Announcement of the Continuation of the Patent Prosecution Highway Pilot Program between the Spanish Patent and Trademark Office and the Korean Intellectual Property Office

June 30, 2012

The Spanish Patent and Trademark Office (SPTO) and the Korean Intellectual Property Office (KIPO) hereby jointly announce that the SPTO-KIPO Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) pilot program will be extended in its current state.

The SPTO-KIPO PPH pilot program was launched on July 1, 2011 and benefits applicants to both offices. If an application is deemed to be patentable at one office, the results of that office's examination are used to expedite the examination of the corresponding application filed at the other office.

In order to adequately assess the feasibility of the PPH, the SPTO and KIPO have agreed to extend the pilot program in its current state in order to collect more information before any formal decision on the pilot program is made.

Currently, no end date has been fixed for the SPTO-KIPO PPH pilot program. The SPTO and KIPO will continue to evaluate the PPH program and the needs of applicants. Notification of any changes to the PPH program will be posted on the SPTO's and KIPO's websites.

More information and guidelines on the SPTO-KIPO PPH pilot program are available on the two offices' websites at:

- SPTO: <http://www.oepm.es/cs/OEPMSite/contenidos/PPH/PPH.htm>

- KIPO: http://www.kipo.go.kr/kpo/user.tdf?a=user.english.html.HtmlApp&c=100016&catmenu=ek02_02_03

**The Spanish Patent and Trademark Office
and the Korean Intellectual Property Office**