UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Intellectual Property Overview
What to Expect After Filing

Meet the Experts – Patents and Innovation

February 8, 2015

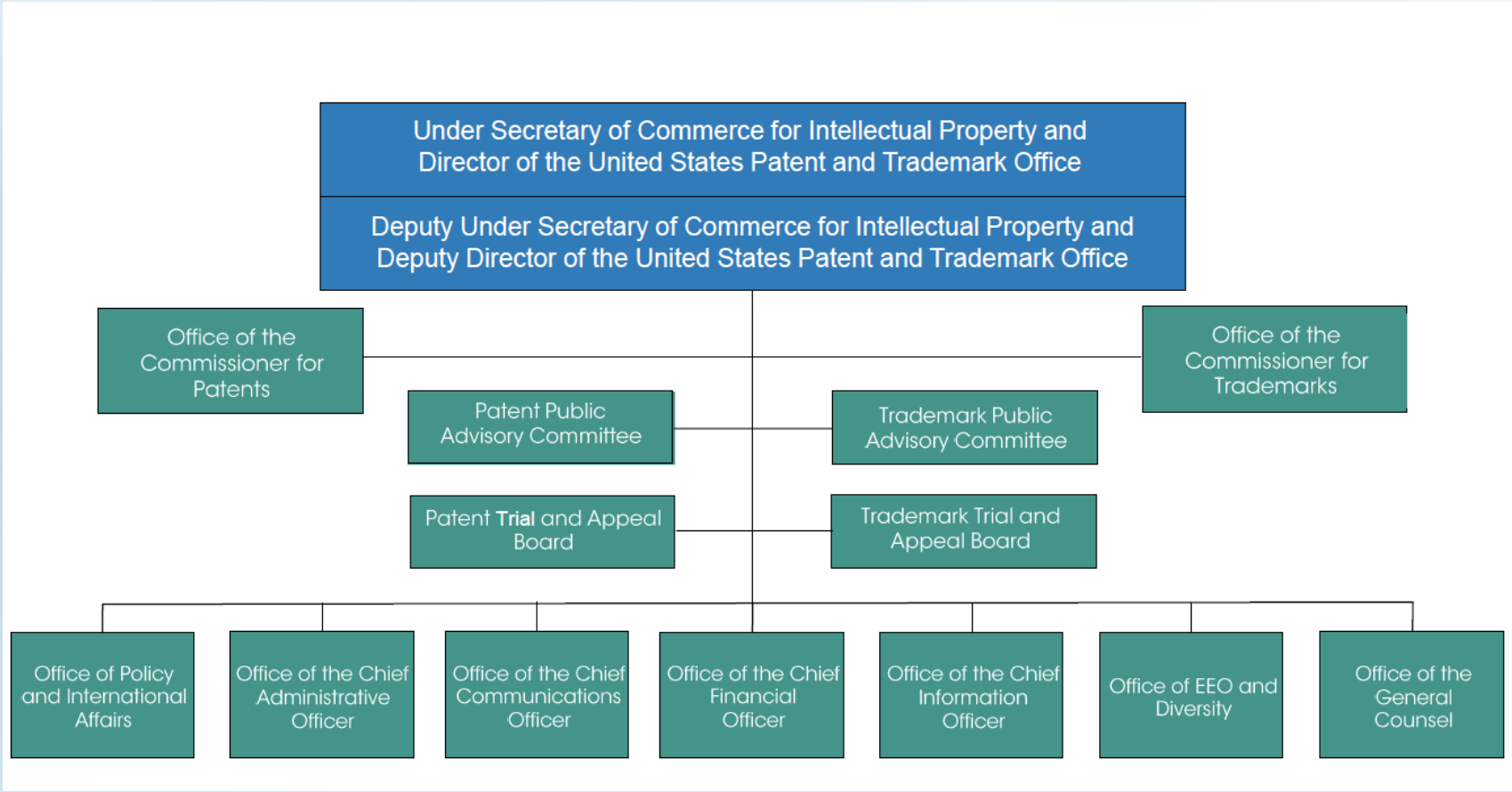
Presentation Outline

- **Setting the Stage**: Understanding the USPTO
- **Two Sides of the Same Coin**; Understanding the Patent Prosecution Process - Patent examiners and applicants
- **10 Patent Tips for Success**

Setting the Stage

What's inside the black box?

USPTO Organizational Structure

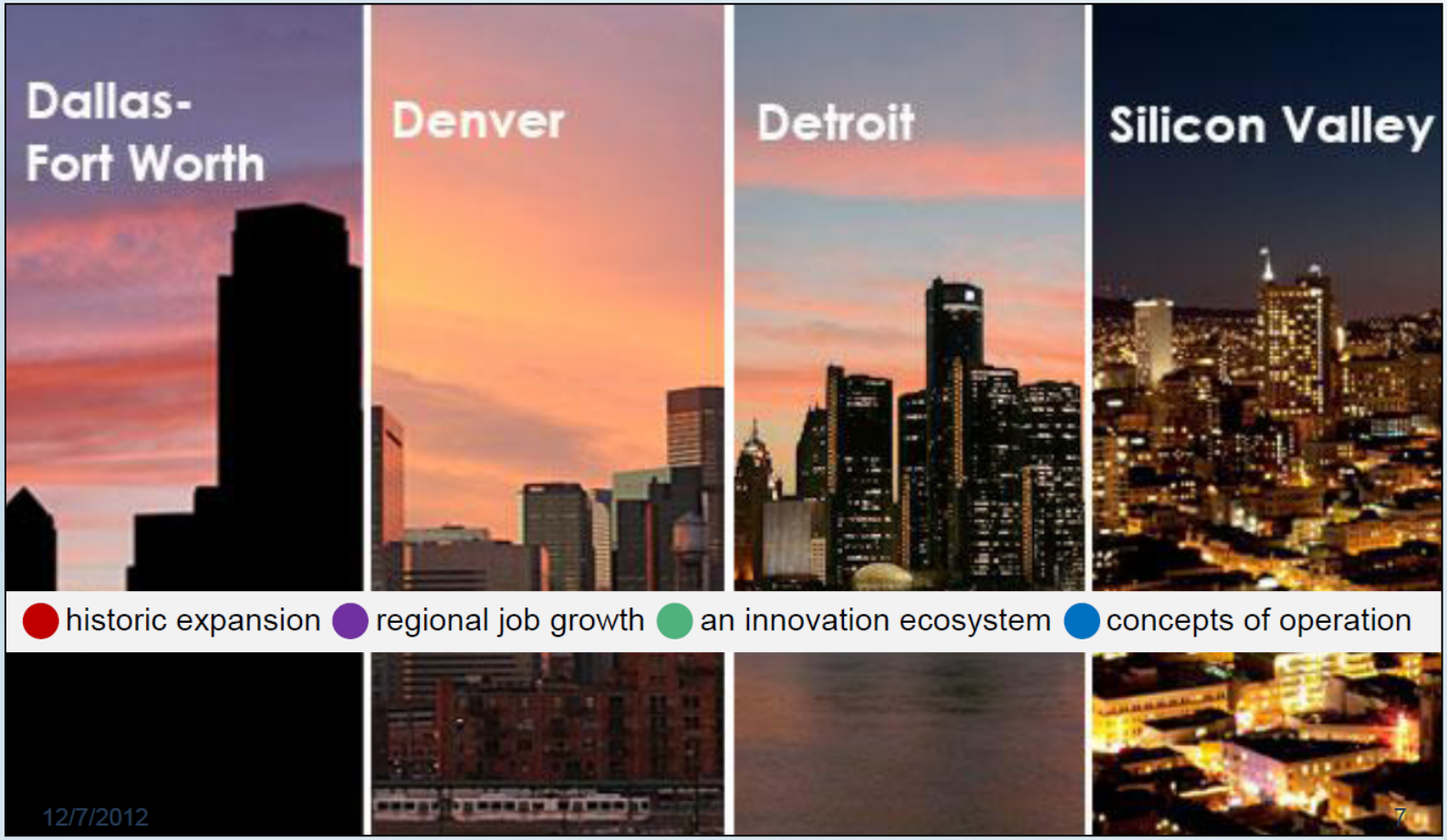


Patents Organization

- Peggy Focarino, Commissioner for Patents
  - Andy Faile, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Operations
    - Technology Centers 1600, 1700, 2100, 2400, 2600, 2800, 2900, 3600, & 3700, Office of Patent Training, and Central Re-exam Unit
  - Andrew Hirshfeld, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy
  - Bruce Kisliuk, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Administration
  - Mark Powell, Deputy Commissioner for International Patent Cooperation
  - Valencia Martin Wallace, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Quality

USPTO Alexandria Headquarters

Satellite Office Program



Two Sides of the Same Coin

Patent Tip 1: Recognize and Understand the Different Forms of IP

- Different types of intellectual property are protected by different means
- Multiple forms of IP protection may be valuable and/or necessary in a business enterprise
- Try: IP Awareness Assessment Tool
  - http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/assessment/index.html

Intellectual Property

	Utility Patent	Design Patent	Trade Secrets	Copyrights	Trademarks
What is protected	Inventions – Process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter	Ornamental characteristics embodied in, or applied to, an article of manufacture	Business-related information (formulas, techniques, information)	Art, in an all-encompassing sense	Marks that indicates the source or origin of goods or services
Requirements	Utility, novelty, and nonobviousness	Novelty and nonobviousness	Commercial value, generally not known, and reasonable efforts of secrecy	Original, authorship, and fixation in a tangible medium	Use in commerce and either distinctiveness or secondary meaning
Protects Against…	Making, selling, offering for sale, and importing	Making, selling, offering for sale, and importing	Stealing	Copies, performances, displays, and derivative works	Use of a mark that causes the likelihood of confusion
Endures until…	20 years from filing date	15 years from issuance	Publicly disclosed	The life of the author + 70 years	Abandoned
Rights of Independent Creators	None	None	Full	Full	None

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IP Awareness Assessment Tool

Patent Tip 2: If Seeking a Patent, Know What Type of Patent is Right for You

- What is the nature of your invention, or what is it you are trying to protect?
- Keep in mind, oftentimes more than one type of patent may be useful or necessary

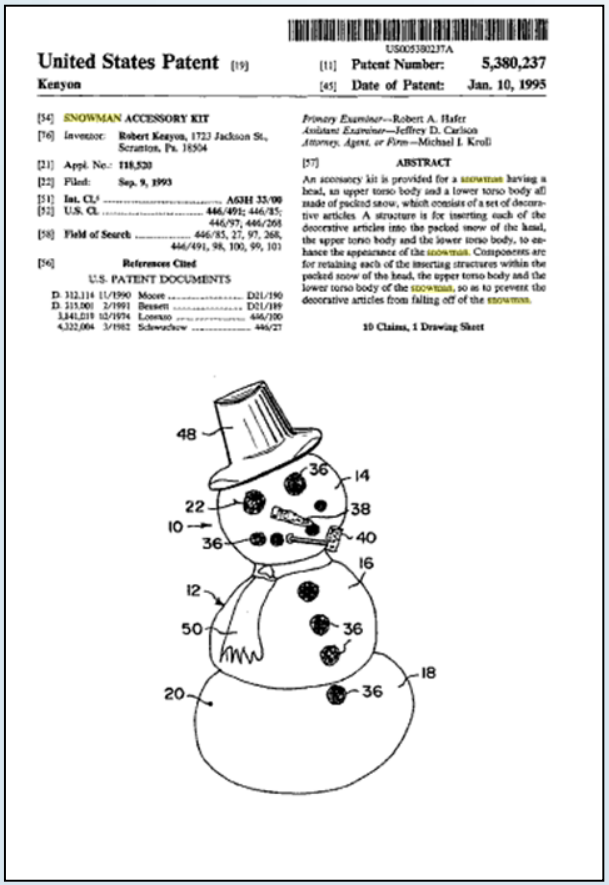
What is a Patent?

- A grant by the U.S. Government conferring to an inventor the right to exclude others from the:
  - manufacture
  - sale or offering for sale
  - use
  - or importation of

  her/his invention

  in/into the U.S.

- For a limited period of time
- U.S. system is a quid pro quo system



US005380237A

United States Patent [19]
Kenyon

[11] **Patent Number: 5,380,237**
[45] **Date of Patent: Jan. 10, 1995**

[54] **SNOWMAN ACCESSORY KIT**

[76] Inventor: **Robert Kenyon**, 1723 Jackson St., Scranton, Pa. 18504

[21] Appl. No.: **118,520**

[22] Filed: **Sep. 9, 1993**

[51] **Int. Cl.**[5] **A63H 33/00**
[52] **U.S. Cl.** **446/491**; 446/85; 446/97; 446/268
[58] **Field of Search** 446/85, 27, 97, 268, 446/491, 98, 100, 99, 101

[56] **References Cited**
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

D. 312,114	11/1990	Moore	D21/190
D. 315,001	2/1991	Bessett	D21/189
3,841,019	10/1974	Lorenzo	446/100
4,322,004	3/1982	Schwechow	446/27

Primary Examiner—Robert A. Hafer
Assistant Examiner—Jeffrey D. Carlson
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Michael I. Kroll

[57] **ABSTRACT**

An accessory kit is provided for a snowman having a head, an upper torso body and a lower torso body all made of packed snow, which consists of a set of decorative articles. A structure is for inserting each of the decorative articles into the packed snow of the head, the upper torso body and the lower torso body, to enhance the appearance of the snowman. Components are for retaining each of the inserting structures within the packed snow of the head, the upper torso body and the lower torso body of the snowman, so as to prevent the decorative articles from falling off of the snowman.

10 Claims, 1 Drawing Sheet

What is the Value of a Patent?

- New Technology Resources
- Ensure that Investment of Time and Money is Rewarded to Continue Future Incentive Stimulation
  - Accelerates Development
  - Strengthens National Economy
- Creation of Assets (To Sell or License, Collateral for Financing)
- Building Block for Future Inventions
- Source of Historical Information
- Contribution to Society

Types of Patents/Patent Applications

- Utility

  New and useful process, machine, article of manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof

- Design

  Any new, original and ornamental design

- Plant

  Whoever invents or discovers and asexually produces any distinct and new variety of plant

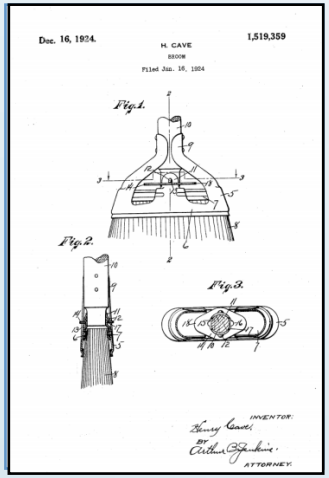

Dec. 16, 1924. H. CAVE 1,519,359

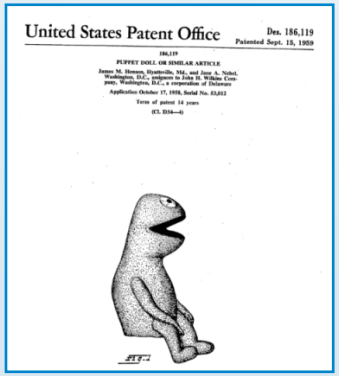
Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

INVENTOR:

ATTORNEY.


United States Patent Office

Des. 186,119

Patented Sept. 15, 1959

PUPPET DOLL OR SIMILAR ARTICLE

Oct. 13, 1942. G. JANSSEN Plant Pat. 550

ROSE PLANT

Filed April 13, 1942

WITNESS

George Janssen, inventor,

by Rommel & Rommel & Evans, Attorneys.

Patent Tip 3: Know the Difference Between a Provisional and Non-Provisional Patent Application

- Provisional - one year period, no claims required, written disclosure must meet same requirements as non-provisional, not allowed for design.
- Non-Provisional - claims required, written disclosure must meet requirements of 35 USC 112 1st paragraph. Examined for patentability, can result in a patent.

Patent Tip 4: Conduct a Thorough Prior Art Search

What Documents are Available to be Searched?

- **US Patents and US Published Applications**
- **Foreign Patent Documents (e.g., EPO and JPO)**
- **Non-Patent Literature (any published documents publicly available other than Patents or Published Patent Applications)**
  - Internet Searches (Google, Yahoo, etc.)
  - Trade Publications and Databases (e.g., IEEE, CHEMnetBASE, MechanicalEngineeringnetBASE)

What is the Value of a Patent?

- New Technology Resources
- Ensure that Investment of Time and Money is Rewarded to Continue Future Incentive Stimulation
  - Accelerates Development
  - Strengthens National Economy
- Creation of Assets (To Sell or License, Collateral for Financing)
- Building Block for Future Inventions
- Source of Historical Information
- Contribution to Society

Patent Tip 5: Recognize and Provide the Proper Parts, Form and Content When Filing a Patent Application

- Study relevant patents in your technological field – use as a guide
- Patent Specification: Use appropriate headings and sections
  - Provide necessary specificity
- Patent Claims
- Use USPTO forms available at: http://www.uspto.gov/forms/index.jsp

Patent Forms

http://www.uspto.gov/forms/aia_forms.jsp

- Find all patent forms on USPTO web site
  - For **general assistance** in completing the patent forms below or to request paper copies of the forms, contact **General Information Services Division at 1-800-786-9199 (1-800-PTO-9199) or 571-272-1000, and select option 2** .
  - All forms provided in Adobe Acrobat

Exemplary list:

Appeal		
AIA/31	03/2014	Notice of Appeal
AIA/32	03/2013	Request for Oral Hearing Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board
AIA/33	03/2013	Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review (more information)
AIA/34	05/2014	Certification and Transmittal of Appeal Forwarding Fee (more information)
Application Data Sheet		
AIA/14	12/2013	Application Data Sheet (37 CFR 1.76) (instructions *[DOC]*)
Certificate of Mailing/Transmission		
SB/92	07/2009	Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8
SB/97	07/2009	Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8
Customer Number		
SB/124	12/2008	Request for Customer Number Data Change
SB/125	11/2008	Request for Customer Number
Express Abandonment		
AIA/24	07/2012	Express Abandonment Under 37 CFR 1.138
AIA/24A	07/2012	Petition for Express Abandonment to Avoid Publication under 37 CFR 1.138(c)
AIA/24B	09/2012	Petition for Express Abandonment to Obtain a Refund
Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program		
AIA/421	01/2013	Certification and Request for Extended Missing Parts Pilot Program
Fees		
PTO-2038	05/2012	Credit Card Payment Form and Instructions
SB/06	03/2013	Patent Application Fee Determination Record
SB/07	07/2007	Multiple Dependent Claim Fee Calculation Sheet
SB/15A	07/2014	Certification of Micro Entity Status - Gross Income Basis (Gross Income Limit) (Who may sign the SB/15A and SB/15B?)
SB/15B	07/2014	Certification of Micro Entity Status - Institution of Higher Education Basis (Who may sign the SB/15A and SB/15B?)
SB/17	03/2013	Fee Transmittal
SB/17i	03/2013	Processing Fee Under 37 CFR 1.17(i) Transmittal
AIA/17p	03/2013	Petition Fee Under 37 CFR 1.17(f), (g) & (h) Transmittal
SB/45	03/2013	Maintenance Fee Transmittal
SB/56	03/2013	Reissue Application Fee Transmittal
SB/91	07/2009	Deposit Account Order Form

Parts, Form and Content

Arrangement of Application

- Title
- Cross-Reference to Related Applications
- Statement Regarding Federally Sponsored Research or Development
- Background of the Invention
- Brief Summary of the Invention
- Brief Description of the Drawings
- Detailed Description of the Invention
- Claims
- Abstract
- Drawings
- Sequence or Computer Program Listings

Parts, Form and Content

Claims

- Must commence on a separate sheet
- Must particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as his/her invention or discovery
- Must conform to the invention as set forth in the remained or the specification – there must be antecedence of the terms and phrases found in the written description for the claims
- The claims shall be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals
- The original numbering of the claims must be preserved throughout the prosecution of the application – when claims are cancelled the remaining claims must not be renumbered

Patent Tip 6: Timely Pay Correct Fees

- Question: Are you a large, small or micro-entity filer?
- Regularly visit: Current Fee Schedule (as fees may change)
- Surcharges incurred with delays or insufficiencies
- Note: Non-electronic filing fee

Basic Fees

Utility $2560— $640

- Basic filing fee
  - $280/$140/$70
- Search Fee
  - $600/$300/$150
- Examination fee
  - $720/$360/$180
- Issue
  - $960/$480/$240

Design

- Basic filing fee
  - $ 180/$90/$45
- Search fee
  - $120/$60/$30
- Examination
  - $460/$230/$115
- Issue
  - $560/$280/$140

Provisional Application Filing Fee:$260/$130/$65

Patent Fees

http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/qs/ope/fee010114.htm

- All patent fees available on USPTO web site
  - Be certain to always check for "current fee schedule"
  - Many fees broken into large entity/small entity/ micro entity payments

Example of fee schedule:

Fee Code	37 CFR	Description	Fee	Small Entity Fee	Micro Entity Fee
Patent Application Filing Fees					
1011/2011/3011	1.16(a)	Basic filing fee - Utility (paper filing – *also requires non-electronic filing fee under 1.16(t)*)	280.00	140.00	70.00
1011/4011[1]/3011	1.16(a)	Basic filing fee - Utility (electronic filing)	280.00	70.00	70.00
1012/2012/3012	1.16(b)	Basic filing fee - Design	180.00	90.00	45.00
1017/2017/3017	1.16(b)	Basic filing fee - Design (CPA)	180.00	90.00	45.00
1013/2013/3013	1.16(c)	Basic filing fee - Plant	180.00	90.00	45.00
1005/2005/3005	1.16(d)	Provisional application filing fee	260.00	130.00	65.00
1014/2014/3014	1.16(e)	Basic filing fee - Reissue	280.00	140.00	70.00
1019/2019/3019	1.16(e)	Basic filing fee - Reissue (CPA)	280.00	140.00	70.00
1051/2051/3051	1.16(f)	Surcharge - Late filing fee, search fee, examination fee or oath or declaration, or application filed without at least one claim or by reference	140.00	70.00	35.00
1052/2052/3052	1.16(g)	Surcharge - Late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	60.00	30.00	15.00
1201/2201/3201	1.16(h)	Independent claims in excess of three	420.00	210.00	105.00
1204/2204/3204	1.16(h)	Reissue independent claims in excess of three	420.00	210.00	105.00
1202/2202/3202	1.16(i)	Claims in excess of 20	80.00	40.00	20.00

Micro Entity

Applicant must certify that applicant:

- Qualifies as a small entity
- **Previous application limit:** Has not been named as an inventor on more than 4 previously filed applications
- **Gross income threshold:** Did not have a gross income exceeding 3 times the median household income in the preceding calendar year, and
- **Assignment:** Did not convey a license or other ownership interest in the application to an entity that had a gross income exceeding 3 times the median household income in the preceding calendar year

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Micro Entity Form

Document Description: Certification of Micro Entity Status (Gross Income Basis)

PTO/SB/15A (03-13)

CERTIFICATION OF MICRO ENTITY STATUS
(GROSS INCOME BASIS)

Application Number or Control Number (if applicable):	Patent Number (if applicable):
First Named Inventor:	**Title of Invention:**
Jane Doe	Dough Making Machine

The applicant hereby certifies the following—

(1) **SMALL ENTITY REQUIREMENT -** The applicant qualifies as a small entity as defined in 37 CFR 1.27.

(2) **APPLICATION FILING LIMIT -** Neither the applicant nor the inventor nor a joint inventor has been named as the inventor or a joint inventor on more than four previously filed U.S. patent applications, excluding provisional applications and international applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) for which the basic national fee under 37 CFR 1.492(a) was not paid, and also excluding patent applications for which the applicant has assigned all ownership rights or is obligated to assign all ownership rights as a result of the applicant's previous employment.

Micro Entity Form

(3) **GROSS INCOME LIMIT ON APPLICANTS AND INVENTORS -** Neither the applicant nor the inventor nor a joint inventor, in the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which the applicable fee is being paid, had a gross income, as defined in section 61(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 61(a)), exceeding the "Maximum Qualifying Gross Income" reported on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/patents/law/micro_entity.jsp which is equal to three times the median household income for that preceding calendar year, as most recently reported by the Bureau of the Census.

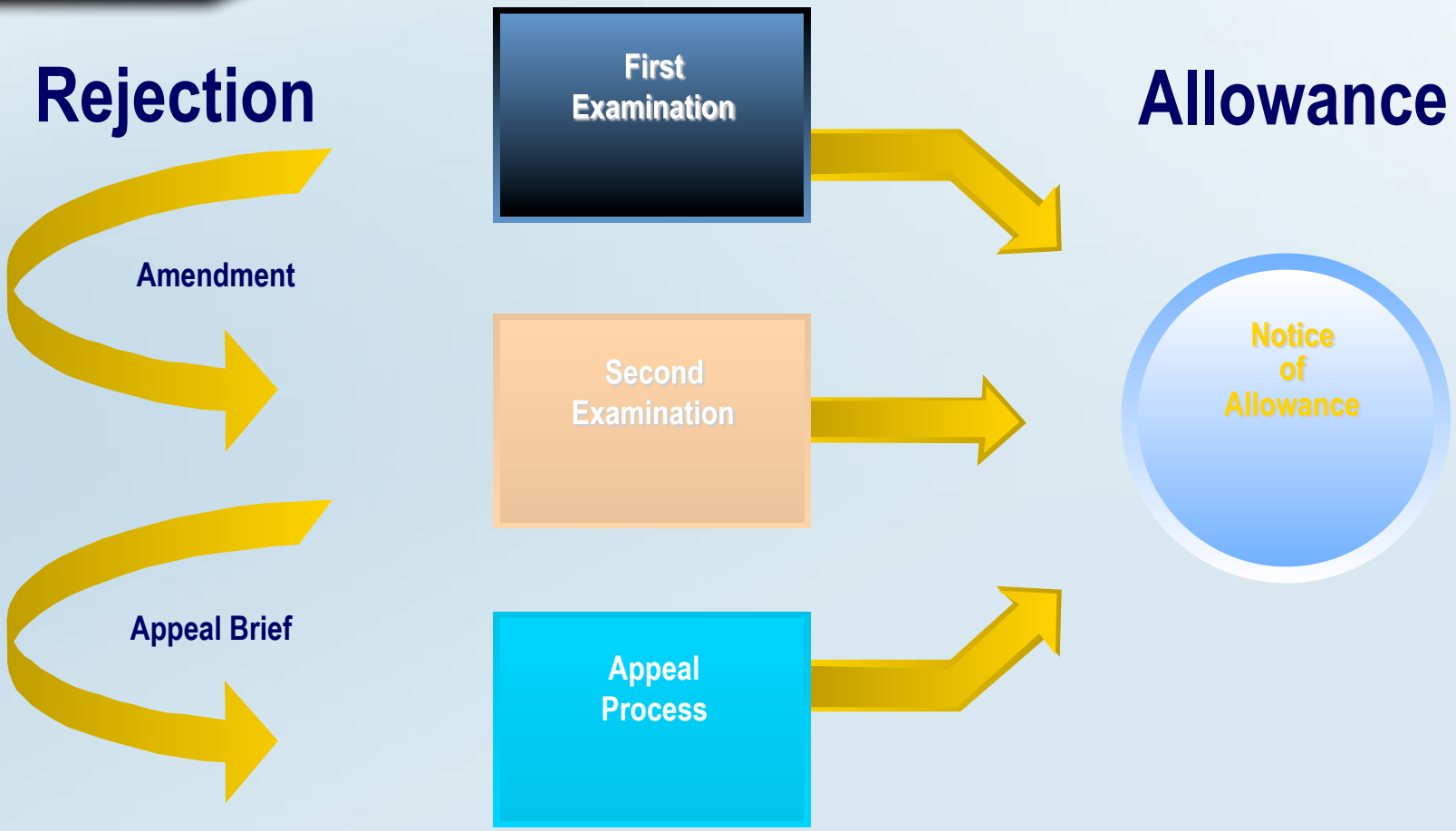
(4) **GROSS INCOME LIMIT ON PARTIES WITH AN "OWNERSHIP INTEREST" -** Neither the applicant nor the inventor nor a joint inventor has assigned, granted, or conveyed, nor is under an obligation by contract or law to assign, grant, or convey, a license or other ownership interest in the application concerned to an entity that, in the calendar year preceding the calendar year in which the applicable fee is being paid, had a gross income, as defined in section 61(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, exceeding the "Maximum Qualifying Gross Income" reported on the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/patents/law/micro_entity.jsp which is equal to three times the median household income for that preceding calendar year, as most recently reported by the Bureau of the Census.

SIGNATURE by a party set forth in 37 CFR 1.33(b)					
Signature	/jane doe/				
Name	Jane Doe				
Date	1/1/01	Telephone	555-555-5555	Registration No.	

Patent Tip 7: Respond Thoroughly and Timely to All Communications

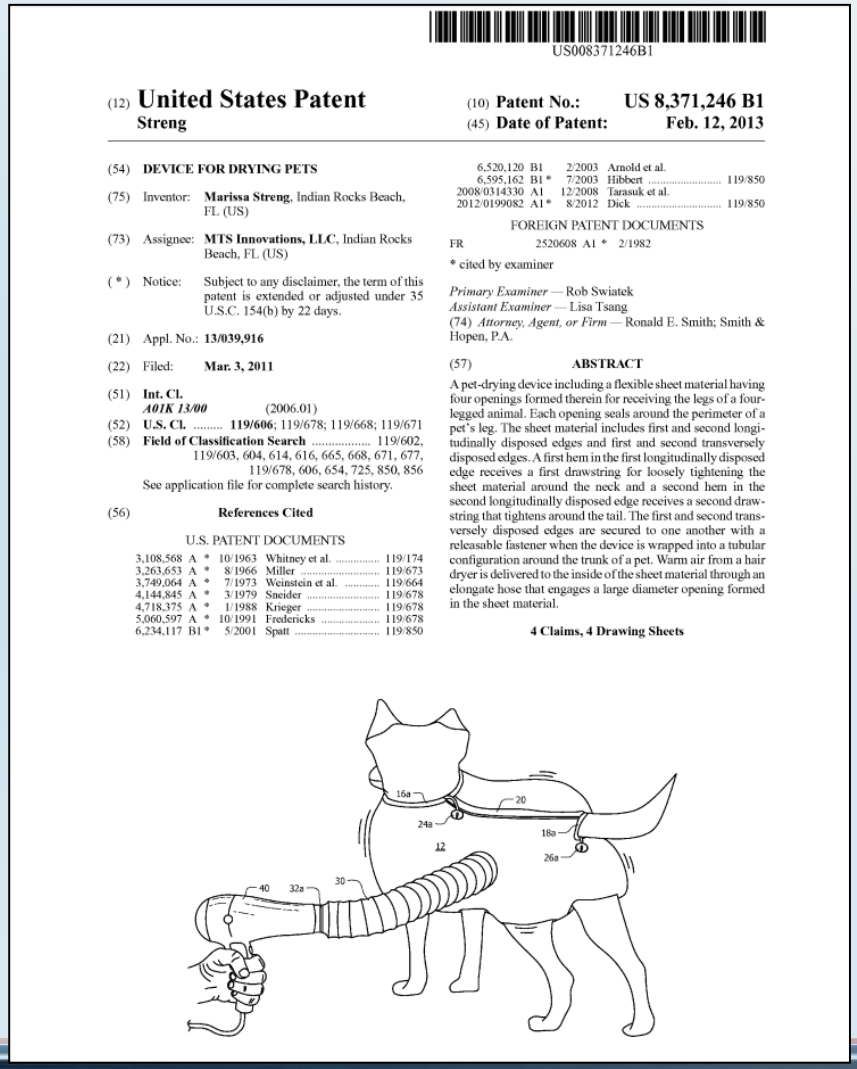
- Respond in writing to all objections and rejections set forth by examiner
- Present arguments as appropriate
- Consider requesting an examiner interview
  - Telephonic, in-person
  - Ask for help and/or clarification

Examination Process



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Teaching Example
U.S. Patent 8,371,246



US008371246B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Streng

(10) **Patent No.: US 8,371,246 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent: Feb. 12, 2013**

(54) **DEVICE FOR DRYING PETS**

(75) Inventor: **Marissa Streng**, Indian Rocks Beach, FL (US)

(73) Assignee: **MTS Innovations, LLC**, Indian Rocks Beach, FL (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 22 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/039,916**

(22) Filed: **Mar. 3, 2011**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01K 13/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **119/606**; 119/678; 119/668; 119/671

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 119/602, 119/603, 604, 614, 616, 665, 668, 671, 677, 119/678, 606, 654, 725, 850, 856
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

3,108,568	A *	10/1963	Whitney et al.	119/174
3,263,653	A *	8/1966	Miller	119/673
3,749,064	A *	7/1973	Weinstein et al.	119/664
4,144,845	A *	3/1979	Sneider	119/678
4,718,375	A *	1/1988	Krieger	119/678
5,060,597	A *	10/1991	Fredericks	119/678
6,234,117	B1 *	5/2001	Spatt	119/850
6,520,120	B1	2/2003	Arnold et al.	
6,595,162	B1 *	7/2003	Hibbert	119/850
2008/0314330	A1	12/2008	Tarasuk et al.	
2012/0199082	A1 *	8/2012	Dick	119/850

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FR	2520608	A1 *	2/1982

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — Rob Swiatek
Assistant Examiner — Lisa Tsang
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Ronald E. Smith; Smith & Hopen, P.A.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

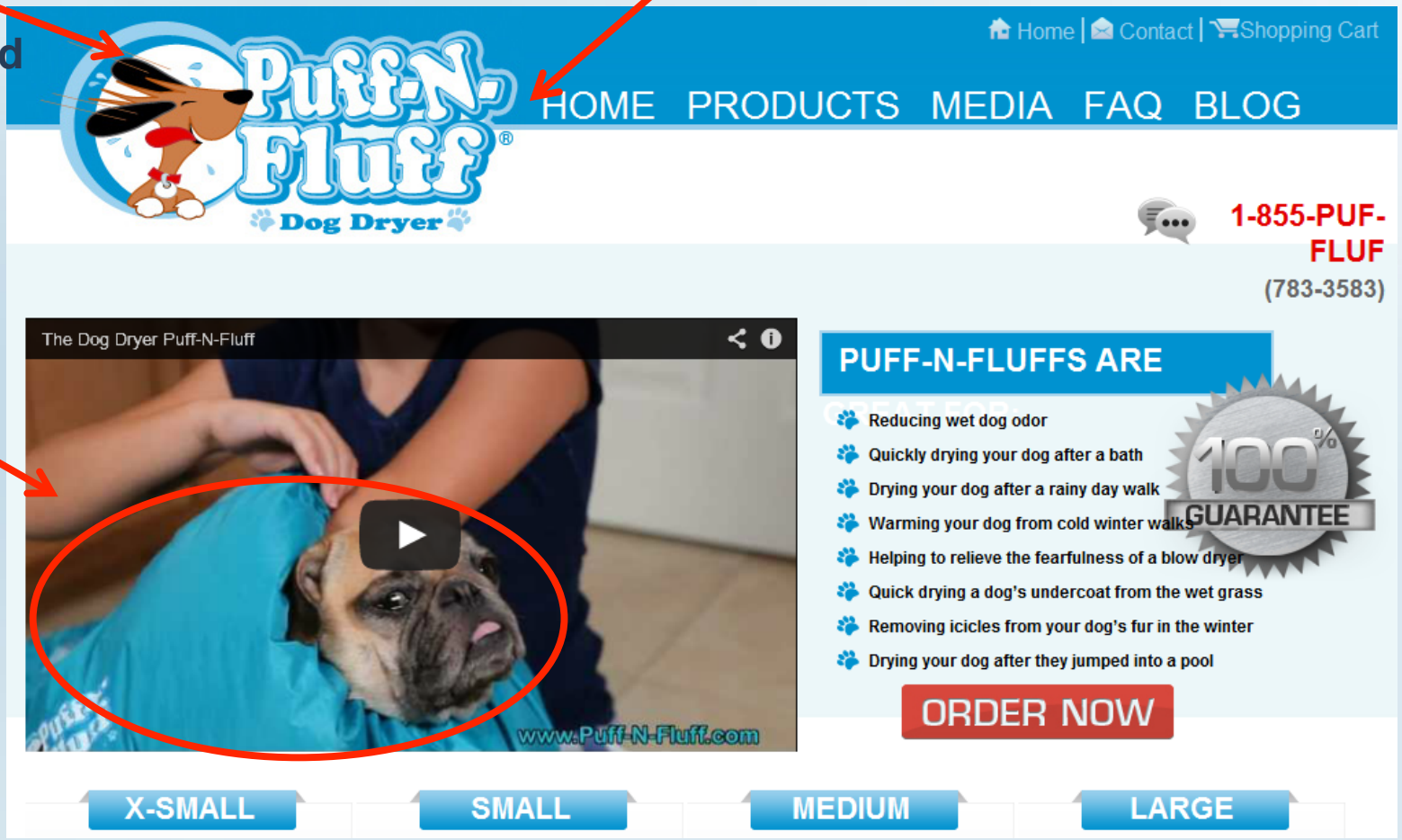
A pet-drying device including a flexible sheet material having four openings formed therein for receiving the legs of a four-legged animal. Each opening seals around the perimeter of a pet's leg. The sheet material includes first and second longitudinally disposed edges and first and second transversely disposed edges. A first hem in the first longitudinally disposed edge receives a first drawstring for loosely tightening the sheet material around the neck and a second hem in the second longitudinally disposed edge receives a second drawstring that tightens around the tail. The first and second transversely disposed edges are secured to one another with a releasable fastener when the device is wrapped into a tubular configuration around the trunk of a pet. Warm air from a hair dryer is delivered to the inside of the sheet material through an elongate hose that engages a large diameter opening formed in the sheet material.

4 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

Federally registered Trademark

Web site Copyrighted 2011

Patent Protected Invention



First Office Action
U.S. Patent application
13/039916

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	13/039,916	STRENG, MARISSA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	LISA TSANG	3643	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *03 March 2011*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on _____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.

4)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

5)☒ Claim(s) *1-5* is/are pending in the application.

5a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

6)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

7)☒ Claim(s) *1-5* is/are rejected.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

9)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

10)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

11)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *03 March 2011* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4/11/2011*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(A)

Oct. 29, 1963 R. E. WHITNEY ETAL 3,108,568

DRYING BAG FOR PETS

Filed Aug. 22, 1962

FIG 1

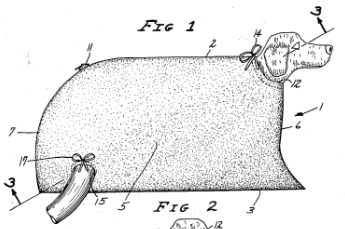


FIG 2

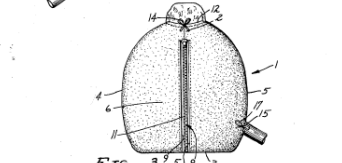
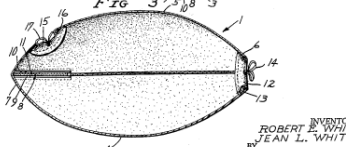


FIG 3



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ATTORNEYS

(B)

US008371246B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Streng

(10) **Patent No.: US 8,371,246 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent: Feb. 12, 2013**

(54) **DEVICE FOR DRYING PETS**

(75) Inventor: **Marissa Streng**, Indian Rocks Beach, FL (US)

(73) Assignee: **MTS Innovations, LLC**, Indian Rocks Beach, FL (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 22 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/039,916**

(22) Filed: **Mar. 3, 2011**

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A01K 13/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **119/606**; 119/678; 119/668; 119/671

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 119/602, 119/603, 604, 614, 616, 665, 668, 671, 677, 119/678, 606, 654, 725, 850, 856
See application file for complete search history.

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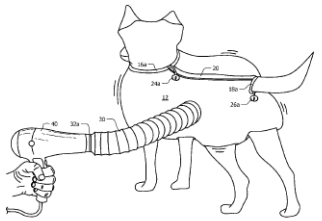
Assistant Examiner — Lisa Tsang
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Ronald E. Smith; Smith & Hopen, P.A.

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A pet-drying device including a flexible sheet material having four openings formed therein for receiving the legs of a four-legged animal. Each opening seals around the perimeter of a pet's leg. The sheet material includes first and second longitudinally disposed edges and first and second transversely disposed edges. A first hem in the first longitudinally disposed edge receives a first drawstring for loosely tightening the sheet material around the neck and a second hem in the second longitudinally disposed edge receives a second drawstring that tightens around the tail. The first and second transversely disposed edges are secured to one another with a releasable fastener when the device is wrapped into a tubular configuration around the trunk of a pet. Warm air from a hair dryer is delivered to the inside of the sheet material through an elongate hose that engages a large diameter opening formed in the sheet material.

4 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



(C)

US006234117B1

(12) **United States Patent**
Spatt

(10) **Patent No.: US 6,234,117 B1**
(45) **Date of Patent: May 22, 2001**

(54) **QUADRUPED PROTECTIVE GARMENT**

(76) Inventor: **Joel F. Spatt**, 1440 Larchmont Dr., Buffalo Grove, IL (US) 60084

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **09/349,555**

(22) Filed: **Jul. 8, 1999**

(51) **Int. Cl.**[7] **A01K 13/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **119/850**; 54/79.2

(58) **Field of Search** 119/850; 54/79.1, 54/79.2, 79.3, 79.4; D30/145

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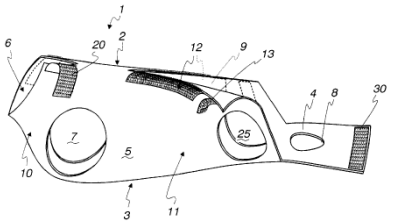
Primary Examiner—Charles T. Jordan
Assistant Examiner—Yvonne R. Abbott
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Fitch, Even, Tabin & Flannery

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention is directed to a protective garment for quadrupeds that prevents the quadruped from licking or disturbing a treated area or disrupting stitches or sutures. The garment is constructed of a four-way stretch fabric and is designed to allow for easy partial removal of the garment.

18 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets



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- Law School Clinical Programs and pro bono assistance available in some areas

Pro Bono Requirements

- Determined by regional programs
- Income < 300% of federal poverty level
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  - Pending application
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- Possession of an actual invention
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Pro Bono Assistance

- **An online portal for placing inventors in the curre regional pro bono patent legal programs has been developed. This portal serves as a clearinghouse a operated by the Federal Circuit Bar Association.**
  - **Alternatively, go directly through state link**

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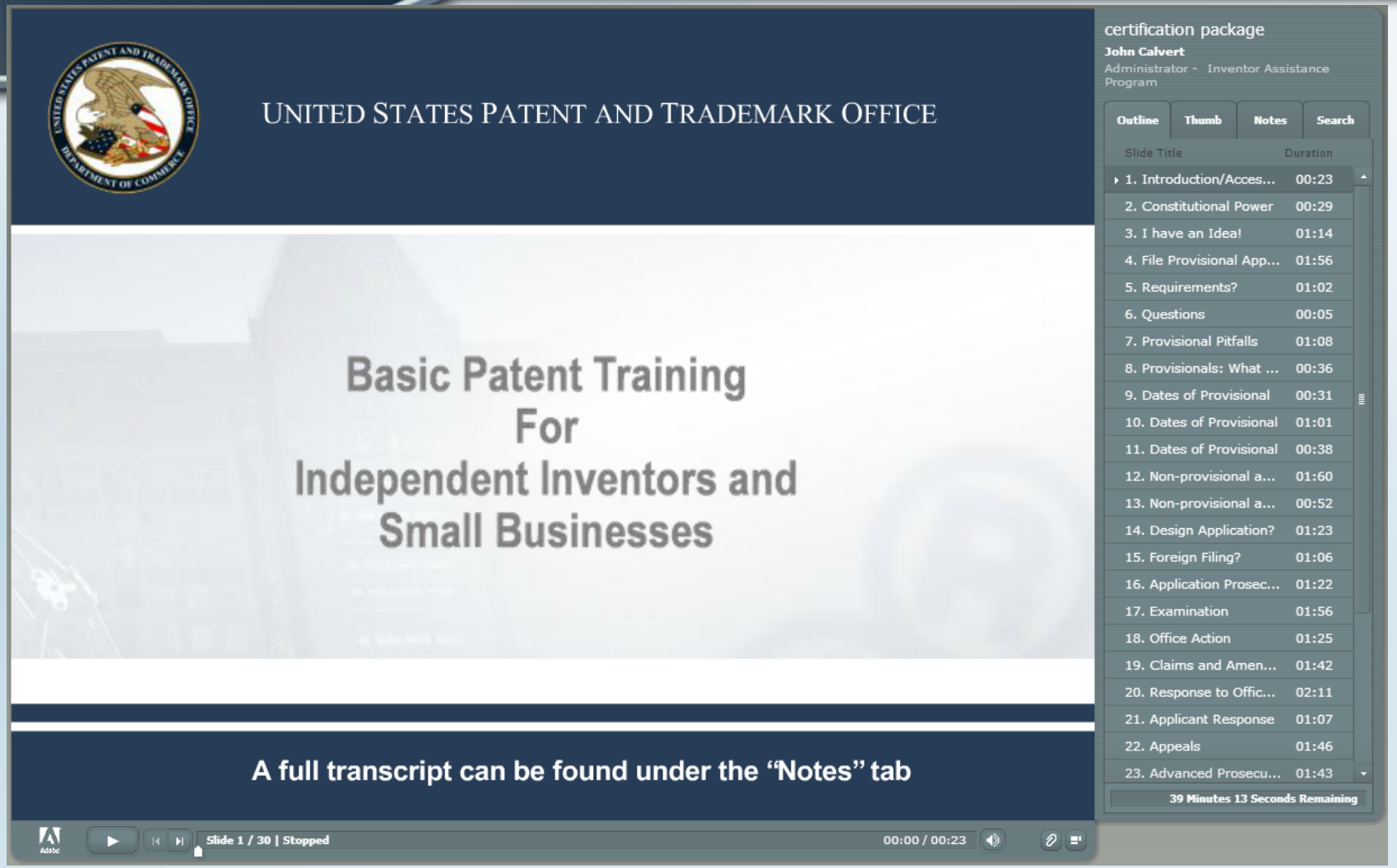

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Pro Bono Assistance

- By the end of 2014, we anticipate at least part or all of 47 states to have a program
  - Including Michigan
- Online clearinghouse to connect inventors to regional pro bono programs
  - http://www.fedcirbar.org/ptoprobono
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- Always check the reputation of invention promoters/promotions firms before making any commitments
  - View published complaints
  - Request required information disclosures
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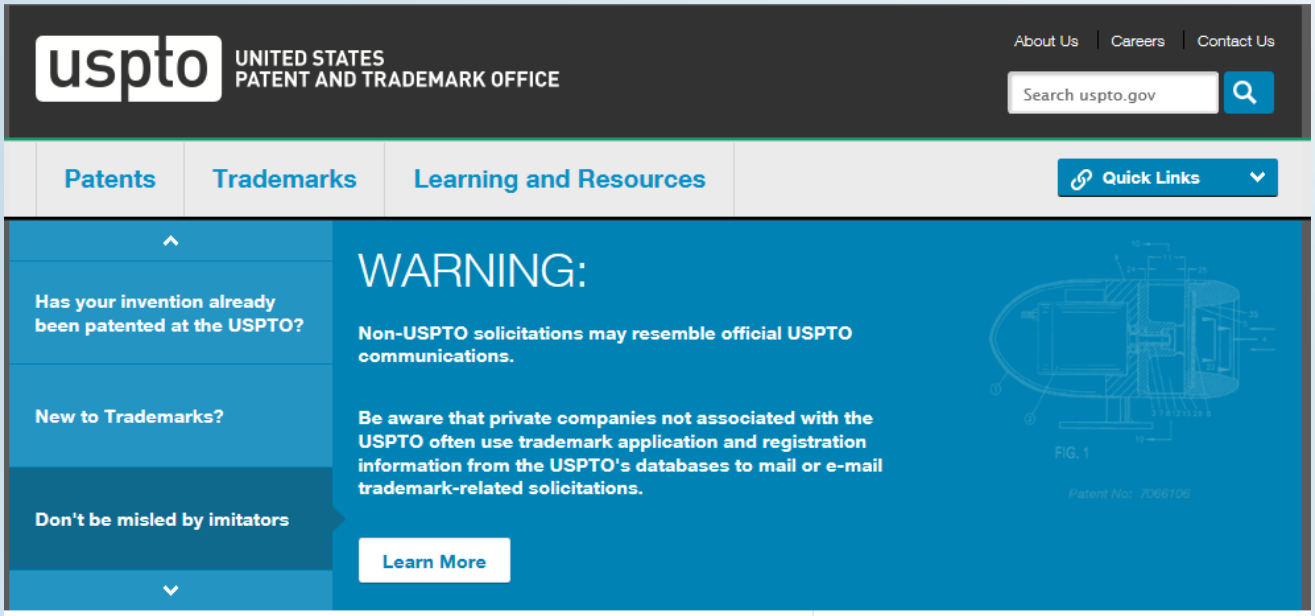

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