

**U.S. Department of Commerce  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**



**Privacy Impact Assessment  
for the  
Information Dissemination Support System  
(IDSS)**

Reviewed by: Henry J. Holcombe, Bureau Chief Privacy Officer

- Concurrence of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer  
 Non-concurrence of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer

**CATRINA PURVIS** Digitally signed by CATRINA PURVIS  
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Signature of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer

Date

## U.S. Department of Commerce Privacy Impact Assessment Information Dissemination Support System

**Unique Project Identifier: PTOD-001-00**

### **Introduction: System Description**

*Provide a description of the system that addresses the following elements:*

*The response must be written in plain language and be as comprehensive as necessary to describe the system.*

*(a) Whether it is a general support system, major application, or other type of system*

The Information Dissemination Support System (IDSS) is a Major Application.

*(b) System location*

The system location is 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria Va. 22314.

*(c) Whether it is a standalone system or interconnects with other systems (identifying and describing any other systems to which it interconnects)*

IDSS interconnects with:

**Patent Capture and Application Processing System – Examination Support (PCAPS-ES):** A collection of tools that facilitates USPTO examiners' ability to process, examine and review patent applications.

**NSI (Network and Security Infrastructure System):** The NSI is an Infrastructure information system, and provides an aggregate of subsystems that facilitates the communications, secure access, protective services, and network infrastructure support for all United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) IT applications.

**RAM (Revenue Accounting and Management System):** RAM is a Master System that collects fees for all USPTO goods and services related to intellectual property. While the FPNG system provides secure web applications from which internet customers can pay these fees, FPNG forwards those payments to RAM to be processed and recorded. Fees submitted to the USPTO by mail are processed through the RAM Desktop application by designated USPTO staff. Collected payment information is shared with the U.S. Treasury's Pay.gov system for credit card and ACH verification and processing.

**SOI (Service Oriented Infrastructure):** The SOI provides a feature-rich and stable platform upon which USPTO applications can be deployed.

**ESS (Enterprise Software System):** Provides Enterprise Directory Services, Role-Based Access Control System, Email as a Service, PTO Exchange Services, Symantec Endpoint Protection, Enterprise SharePoint Services, etc.

**PTO-SIMS Storage Infrastructure Managed Service:** A Storage Infrastructure information system that provides access to consolidated, block-level data storage and files system storage. SIMS is primarily used to enhance storage devices, such as disk arrays, tape libraries, and optical jukeboxes.

**PTO-TPS-IS - Trademark Processing System (Internal Systems)** - includes 11 applications that are used to support USPTO staff through the trademark review process. TPS-IS features the ability to interface with related systems within USPTO.

*(d) The way the system operates to achieve the purpose(s) identified in Section 4*

IDSS implements a large, distributed and complex computing environment and each of its applications resides physically on a collection of hardware and software subsystems. IDSS uses the USPTO's network infrastructure to allow interaction between its subordinate subsystems.

*(e) How information in the system is retrieved by the user*

Users enter orders directly, receive the orders, and make inquiries via the Internet where bulk data can also be downloaded.

*(f) How information is transmitted to and from the system*

Information is transmitted to and from the system via the internet.

*(g) Any information sharing conducted by the system*

IDSS does conduct public information sharing through the search and retrieval of electronic texts and images concerning Patent and Trademark Applications, Patents and Trademarks by USPTO internal and external users.

*(h) The specific programmatic authorities (statutes or Executive Orders) for collecting, maintaining, using, and disseminating the information*

The citation of the legal authority to collect PII and/or BII is 5 U.S.C. 301, 15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq., 35 U.S.C. 2, 35 U.S.C. 115, and E.O.12862.

*(i) The Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 199 security impact category for the system*

IDSS is considered a business-essential system with a Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 199 security categorization of Moderate.

## **Section 1: Status of the Information System**

1.1 Indicate whether the information system is a new or existing system.

- This is a new information system.
- This is an existing information system with changes that create new privacy risks.  
(Check all that apply.)

| Changes That Create New Privacy Risks (CTCNPR)            |                          |                        |                          |                                    |                          |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Conversions  | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. Significant Merging | <input type="checkbox"/> | g. New Interagency Uses            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Anonymous to Non-Anonymous                             | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. New Public Access   | <input type="checkbox"/> | h. Internal Flow or Collection     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Significant System Management Changes                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. Commercial Sources  | <input type="checkbox"/> | i. Alteration in Character of Data | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j. Other changes that create new privacy risks (specify): |                          |                        |                          |                                    |                          |

- This is an existing information system in which changes do not create new privacy risks, and there is not a SAOP approved Privacy Impact Assessment.
- This is an existing information system in which changes do not create new privacy risks, and there is a SAOP approved Privacy Impact Assessment (version 01-2015).
- This is an existing information system in which changes do not create new privacy risks, and there is a SAOP approved Privacy Impact Assessment (version 01-2017 or later).

## **Section 2: Information in the System**

2.1 Indicate what personally identifiable information (PII)/business identifiable information (BII) is collected, maintained, or disseminated. (Check all that apply.)

| Identifying Numbers (IN)  |                          |                       |                          |                          |                          |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Social Security*   | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. Driver's License   | <input type="checkbox"/> | j. Financial Account     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Taxpayer ID  | <input type="checkbox"/> | g. Passport           | <input type="checkbox"/> | k. Financial Transaction | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Employer ID  | <input type="checkbox"/> | h. Alien Registration | <input type="checkbox"/> | l. Vehicle Identifier    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Employee ID  | <input type="checkbox"/> | i. Credit Card        | <input type="checkbox"/> | m. Medical Record        | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. File/Case ID   | <input type="checkbox"/> |                       |                          |                          |                          |
| n. Other identifying numbers (specify):   |                          |                       |                          |                          |                          |
| *Explanation for the business need to collect, maintain, or disseminate the Social Security number, including truncated form: N/A – IDSS does not collect, store or process Social Security Numbers (SSNs). |                          |                       |                          |                          |                          |

| General Personal Data (GPD) |                                     |                     |                                     |                          |                          |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Name                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | h. Date of Birth    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | o. Financial Information | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Maiden Name              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | i. Place of Birth   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | p. Medical Information   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Alias                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | j. Home Address     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | q. Military Service      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. Gender                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | k. Telephone Number | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | r. Criminal Record       | <input type="checkbox"/> |

|   |                          |                  |                                     |                             |                          |
|---|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| e. Age                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | l. Email Address | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | s. Physical Characteristics | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. Race/Ethnicity                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | m. Education     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | t. Mother's Maiden Name     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Citizenship                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | n. Religion      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                             |                          |
| u. Other general personal data (specify): |                          |                  |                                     |                             |                          |

|                                       |                          |  |                          |  |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <b>Work-Related Data (WRD)</b>        |                          |  |                          |  |                          |
| a. Occupation                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. Work Email Address  | <input type="checkbox"/> | i. Business Associates                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Job Title                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. Salary  | <input type="checkbox"/> | j. Proprietary or Business Information | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Work Address                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | g. Work History  | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |                          |
| d. Work Telephone Number              | <input type="checkbox"/> | h. Employment Performance Ratings or other Performance Information | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |                          |
| k. Other work-related data (specify): |                          |  |                          |  |                          |

|  |                          |                          |                          |                      |                          |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Distinguishing Features/Biometrics (DFB)</b>        |                          |                          |                          |                      |                          |
| a. Fingerprints  | <input type="checkbox"/> | d. Photographs           | <input type="checkbox"/> | g. DNA Profiles      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Palm Prints   | <input type="checkbox"/> | e. Scars, Marks, Tattoos | <input type="checkbox"/> | h. Retina/Iris Scans | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. Voice Recording/Signatures                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | f. Vascular Scan         | <input type="checkbox"/> | i. Dental Profile    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| j. Other distinguishing features/biometrics (specify): |                          |                          |                          |                      |                          |

|  |                                     |                        |                                     |                      |                          |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>System Administration/Audit Data (SAAD)</b>       |                                     |                        |                                     |                      |                          |
| a. User ID   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | c. Date/Time of Access | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | e. ID Files Accessed | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. IP Address  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | d. Queries Run         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | f. Contents of Files | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Other system administration/audit data (specify): |                                     |                        |                                     |                      |                          |

|                                    |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Other Information (specify)</b> |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                    |  |  |  |  |  |

2.2 Indicate sources of the PII/BII in the system. (Check all that apply.)

|   |                          |                     |                                     |        |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Directly from Individual about Whom the Information Pertains</b> |                          |                     |                                     |        |                                     |
| In Person   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Hard Copy: Mail/Fax | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Online | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Telephone   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Email               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |        |                                     |
| Other (specify):  |                          |                     |                                     |        |                                     |

|                           |                                     |                   |                          |                        |                          |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Government Sources</b> |                                     |                   |                          |                        |                          |
| Within the Bureau         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Other DOC Bureaus | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other Federal Agencies | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| State, Local, Tribal      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Foreign           | <input type="checkbox"/> |                        |                          |
| Other (specify):          |                                     |                   |                          |                        |                          |

| Non-government Sources             |                          |                |                          |                         |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Public Organizations               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Private Sector | <input type="checkbox"/> | Commercial Data Brokers | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Third Party Website or Application |                          |                | <input type="checkbox"/> |                         |                          |
| Other (specify):                   |                          |                |                          |                         |                          |

2.3 Describe how the accuracy of the information in the system is ensured.

From a technical implementation, USPTO implements security and management controls to prevent the inappropriate disclosure of sensitive information. Security controls are employed to ensure information is resistant to tampering, remains confidential as necessary, and is available as intended by the agency and expected by authorized users. Management controls are utilized to prevent the inappropriate disclosure of sensitive information. In addition, the Perimeter Network (NSI) and EMSO provide additional automated transmission and monitoring mechanisms to ensure that PII/BII information is protected and not breached by external entities.

2.4 Is the information covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act?

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <p>Yes, the information is covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act.<br/>Provide the OMB control number and the agency number for the collection.</p> <p>0651-0012 Admittance to Practice<br/>0651-0017 Practitioner Conduct and Disc<br/>0651-0040 TTAB Actions<br/>0651-0063 PTAB Actions<br/>0651-0069 Patent Review and Derivation<br/>0651-0081 Law School Clinic Program</p> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | No, the information is not covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act.   |

2.5 Indicate the technologies used that contain PII/BII in ways that have not been previously deployed. (Check all that apply.)

| Technologies Used Containing PII/BII Not Previously Deployed (TUCPBNPD) |                          |  |                          |
|---|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Smart Cards   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Biometrics                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Caller-ID   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Cards | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (specify):  |                          |  |                          |

There are not any technologies used that contain PII/BII in ways that have not been previously deployed.

**Section 3: System Supported Activities**

3.1 Indicate IT system supported activities which raise privacy risks/concerns. *(Check all that apply.)*

| Activities         |                          |                                  |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Audio recordings   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Building entry readers           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Video surveillance | <input type="checkbox"/> | Electronic purchase transactions | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (specify):   |                          |                                  |                          |

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | There are not any IT system supported activities which raise privacy risks/concerns. |
|-------------------------------------|--|

**Section 4: Purpose of the System**

4.1 Indicate why the PII/BII in the IT system is being collected, maintained, or disseminated. *(Check all that apply.)*

| Purpose  |                                     |   |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| For a Computer Matching Program                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | For administering human resources programs                          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| For administrative matters   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | To promote information sharing initiatives                          | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| For litigation   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | For criminal law enforcement activities                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| For civil enforcement activities                                     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | For intelligence activities   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| To improve Federal services online                                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | For employee or customer satisfaction                               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| For web measurement and customization technologies (single-session ) | <input type="checkbox"/>            | For web measurement and customization technologies (multi-session ) | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| Other (specify):   |                                     |   |                                     |

**Section 5: Use of the Information**

5.1 In the context of functional areas (business processes, missions, operations, etc.) supported by the IT system, describe how the PII/BII that is collected, maintained, or disseminated will be used. Indicate if the PII/BII identified in Section 2.1 of this document is in reference to a federal employee/contractor, member of the public, foreign national, visitor or other (specify).

Information collected is used to process transactions, manage customer orders, document delivery, retrieve data, and capture documents related to the ownership of intellectual properties for both patents and trademarks. The intended use is to carry out the duties of the USPTO as outlined in 35 U.S.C. concerning the dissemination of information, and more specifically, to provide for public customer call center services. This includes tracking responses to customer requests. Data is used to ensure quality customer service for general agency information and assistance. This includes quality control purposes. In addition, the information may be used to conduct surveys of customer experience and satisfaction, and to obtain customer service recommendations.

- 5.2 Describe any potential threats to privacy as a result of the bureau’s/operating unit’s use of the information, and controls that the bureau/operating unit has put into place to ensure that the information is handled, retained, and disposed appropriately. (For example: mandatory training for system users regarding appropriate handling of information, automatic purging of information in accordance with the retention schedule, etc.)

Inadvertent private information exposure is a risk and USPTO has policies, procedures and training to ensure that employees are aware of their responsibility of protecting sensitive information and the negative impact on the agency if there is a loss, misuse, or unauthorized access to or modification of sensitive private information. USPTO requires annual security role-based training and annual mandatory security awareness procedure training for all employees. The following are USPTO current policies; Information Security Foreign Travel Policy (OCIO-POL-6), IT Privacy Policy - (OCIO- POL-18), IT Security Education Awareness Training Policy (OCIO-POL-19), Personally Identifiable Data Removal Policy (OCIO-POL-23), USPTO Rules of the Road (OCIO-POL- 36). All offices of USPTO adhere to USPTO Records Management Office's Comprehensive Records Schedule that describes the types of USPTO records and their corresponding disposition authority or citation.

**Section 6: Information Sharing and Access**

- 6.1 Indicate with whom the bureau intends to share the PII/BII in the IT system and how the PII/BII will be shared. (Check all that apply.)

| Recipient                           | How Information will be Shared |                          |                          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                     | Case-by-Case                   | Bulk Transfer            | Direct Access            |
| Within the bureau                   | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| DOC bureaus                         | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Federal agencies                    | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| State, local, tribal gov’t agencies | <input type="checkbox"/>       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

|                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Public              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Private sector      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Foreign governments | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Foreign entities    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other (specify):    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | The PII/BII in the system will not be shared. |
|--------------------------|---|

6.2 Indicate whether the IT system connects with or receives information from any other IT systems authorized to process PII and/or BII.

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Yes, this IT system connects with or receives information from another IT system(s) authorized to process PII and/or BII.<br>Provide the name of the IT system and describe the technical controls which prevent PII/BII leakage: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No, this IT system does not connect with or receive information from another IT system(s) authorized to process PII and/or BII.   |

6.3 Identify the class of users who will have access to the IT system and the PII/BII. *(Check all that apply.)*

| Class of Users   |                          |                      |                                     |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| General Public   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Government Employees | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Contractors      | <input type="checkbox"/> |                      |                                     |
| Other (specify): |                          |                      |                                     |

## **Section 7: Notice and Consent**

7.1 Indicate whether individuals will be notified if their PII/BII is collected, maintained, or disseminated by the system. *(Check all that apply.)*

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes, notice is provided pursuant to a system of records notice published in the Federal Register and discussed in Section 9.   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes, notice is provided by a Privacy Act statement and/or privacy policy. The Privacy Act statement and/or privacy policy can be found at: <a href="https://www.uspto.gov/privacy-policy">https://www.uspto.gov/privacy-policy</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Yes, notice is provided by other means. Specify how:   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | No, notice is not provided. Specify why not:   |

7.2 Indicate whether and how individuals have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII.

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes, individuals have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII. Specify how: Information is provided on a voluntary basis. While providing this information is voluntary, if the requested |
|-------------------------------------|--|

|                          |   |   |
|--------------------------|---|---|
|                          |   | information is not provided in whole or part, USPTO may not be able to complete the identity or registration process or complete it in a timely manner. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | No, individuals do not have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII. | Specify why not:  |

7.3 Indicate whether and how individuals have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII.

|                                     |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes, individuals have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII.       | Specify how: All information requested is provided on a voluntary basis. |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | No, individuals do not have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII. | Specify why not:   |

7.4 Indicate whether and how individuals have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them.

|                                     |   |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Yes, individuals have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them.       | Specify how:   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No, individuals do not have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them. | Specify why not: There is not an external interface for customers to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them. |

**Section 8: Administrative and Technological Controls**

8.1 Indicate the administrative and technological controls for the system. *(Check all that apply.)*

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | All users signed a confidentiality agreement or non-disclosure agreement.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | All users are subject to a Code of Conduct that includes the requirement for confidentiality.   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Staff (employees and contractors) received training on privacy and confidentiality policies and practices.  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Access to the PII/BII is restricted to authorized personnel only.   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Access to the PII/BII is being monitored, tracked, or recorded.<br>Explanation: Suspicious system log behavior and log failures are reported to the appropriate personnel to troubleshoot and remediate the issue   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The information is secured in accordance with FISMA requirements.<br>Provide date of most recent Assessment and Authorization (A&A): <u>1/29/2020</u><br><input type="checkbox"/> This is a new system. The A&A date will be provided when the A&A package is approved. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 199 security impact category for this system is a moderate or higher.  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-122 and NIST SP 800-53 Revision 4 Appendix J recommended security controls for protecting PII/BII are in place and functioning as intended; or have an approved Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M).                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A security assessment report has been reviewed for the supporting information system and it has been determined that there are no additional privacy risks.   |

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Contractors that have access to the system are subject to information security provisions in their contracts required by DOC policy. |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Contracts with customers establish ownership rights over data including PII/BII.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Acceptance of liability for exposure of PII/BII is clearly defined in agreements with customers.                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other (specify):   |

8.2 Provide a general description of the technologies used to protect PII/BII on the IT system. *(Include data encryption in transit and/or at rest, if applicable).*

The information is protected in accordance with the NIST 800-53, Revision 4 control set. Security Assessment and Authorization activities are routinely conducted for IDSS. Secured technical architecture is incorporated into the system to prevent any unauthorized access to pending cases. Data is maintained in areas accessible only to authorized personnel who are required to use two-factor authentication.

Management Controls:

- a. The USPTO uses the Life Cycle review process to ensure that management controls are in place for IDSS. During the enhancement of any component, the security controls are reviewed, re-evaluated, and updated in the Security Plan. The Security Plans specifically address the management, operational and technical controls that are in place, and planned, during the operation of the enhanced system. Additional management controls include performing national agency checks on all personnel, including contractor staff.
- b. The USPTO Personally Identifiable Data Extracts Policy

Operational Controls:

1. Automated operational controls include securing all hardware associated with IDSS in the USPTO Data Center. The Data Center is controlled by access card entry and is manned by a uniformed guard service to restrict access to the servers, their Operating Systems and databases. Contingency planning has been prepared for the data. Backups are performed on the processing databases. Backups are stored on tape and are secured off-site. Additional operation controls include (1) Logical edit checks to ensure proper sequence of actions; (2) Physical terminal identification; (3) Database User ID; (4) Restricted data display, as required; and (5) Restricted access.
2. Manual procedures shall be followed for handling extracted data containing sensitive PII which is physically transported outside of the USPTO premises. In order to remove data extracts containing sensitive PII from USPTO premises, users must:
  - a. Maintain a centralized office log for extracted datasets that contain sensitive PII. This log must include the date the data was extracted and removed from the facilities, a description of the data extracted, the purpose of the extract, the expected date of disposal or return, and the actual date of return or deletion.

- b. Ensure that any extract which is no longer needed is returned to USPTO premises or securely erased and that this activity is recorded on the log.
- c. Obtain management concurrence in the log, if an extract aged over 90 days is still required.
- d. Store all PII data extracts maintained on a USPTO laptop in the encrypted My Documents directory. This includes any sensitive PII data extracts downloaded via the USPTO Virtual Private network (VPN).
- e. Encrypt and password-protect all sensitive PII data extracts maintained on a portable storage device (such as CD, memory key, flash drive, etc.). Exceptions due to technical limitations must have the approval of the Office Director and alternative protective measures must be in place prior to removal from USPTO premises.

USPTO has not developed a centralized logging system for PII data extracts. Such a system would track the following categories of information:

- a. Who performed the extract,
- b. When the extract was done,
- c. What was the extract,
- d. Where was the extract taken from,
- e. Has the extract been deleted and,
- f. If not deleted after 90 days, to monitor that it is still needed in 90-day intervals.

Until a system is implemented, USPTO is using the following compensating controls to protect PII data:

- a. No extracts of sensitive data may be copied on to portable media without a waiver approved by the DOC CIO. The request for a waiver must include specifics as to how the data and device are protected, how long the data will be maintained, and how the data on the device will be deleted when no longer required.
- b. All laptop computers allowed to store sensitive data must have full disk encryption.
- c. All remote access to public USPTO systems containing sensitive data must be encrypted. All remote access to internal USPTO systems containing sensitive data must fully comply with DOC Remote Access Policy requirements.
- d. All Flexi-place/telework agreements for working off-site require that adequate data protection is in place.

Encrypt and password-protect prior to transmission any sensitive PII data extracts that are sent to an external e-mail address via the Internet. The password key should be forwarded to the recipient in a separate e-mail from the attached file.

## **Section 9: Privacy Act**

- 9.1 Indicate whether a system of records is being created under the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a. (*A new system of records notice (SORN) is required if the system is not covered by an existing SORN.*)

As per the Privacy Act of 1974, "the term 'system of records' means a group of any records under the control of any agency from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual."

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes, this system is covered by an existing system of records notice (SORN).<br>Provide the SORN name and number ( <i>list all that apply</i> ):<br>COMMERCE/PAT-TM-7 Patent Application Files<br><br>COMMERCE/PAT-TM-20 Customer Call Center, Assistance and Satisfaction Survey Records, March 2013<br>COMMERCE/PAT-TM-23 User Access for Web Portals and Information Requests March 2009 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Yes, a SORN has been submitted to the Department for approval on <u>(date)</u> .   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | No, this system is not a system of records and a SORN is not applicable.   |

## **Section 10: Retention of Information**

10.1 Indicate whether these records are covered by an approved records control schedule and monitored for compliance. (*Check all that apply.*)

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | There is an approved record control schedule.<br>Provide the name of the record control schedule: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment Historical Database (AHD) - N1-241-05-2:1d USPTO Non-Core Products and Publications (NARA Copy).</li> <li>• Assignments on the Web (AOTW) - Non-record; Destroy when no longer needed.</li> <li>• Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS) - N1-241-05-2:1d USPTO Non-Core Products and Publications (NARA Copy).</li> <li>• Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS) - N1-241-05-2:1d USPTO Non-Core Products and Publications (NARA Copy).</li> <li>• File Tracking System (FTS) - N1-241-05-1:7a Administrative Services Correspondence.</li> <li>• On-Line Access Card (OLAC) - N1-241-05-2:6g Search Room Online Service Accounts.</li> <li>• Order Entry Management System (OEMS) - N1-241-05-1:5d Customer Order Transaction Reports; N1-241-05-2:3 USPTO Non-Core Products and Publications (Extra Copies).</li> <li>• Patent and Trademark Assignment System (PTAS) - N1-241-5-2:1d USPTO Non-Core Products and Publications (NARA Copy); N1-241-5-2:4 Preliminary Input Files for Dissemination Products and Publications.</li> <li>• Trademarks Daily XML File (TDXF) - Non-record; Destroy when no longer needed.</li> <li>• Universal Public Workstation (UPWS) - GRS 3.2:010 Systems and data security records.</li> <li>• USPTO Customer Contact Management System (UCCMS) - N1-241-05-2:6d Public Search Room Production and Services; N1-241-05-1:5d Customer Order Transaction Reports.</li> <li>• Bulk Data Storage System (BDSS) – N1-241-05-2:5 Information Dissemination Product Reference.</li> </ul> |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | No, there is not an approved record control schedule.<br>Provide the stage in which the project is in developing and submitting a records control schedule:   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes, retention is monitored for compliance to the schedule.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | No, retention is not monitored for compliance to the schedule. Provide explanation:   |

10.2 Indicate the disposal method of the PII/BII. (*Check all that apply.*)

| <b>Disposal</b> |                                     |             |                          |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Shredding       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Overwriting | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Degaussing      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Deleting    | <input type="checkbox"/> |

|                  |
|------------------|
| Other (specify): |
|------------------|

### **Section 11: NIST Special Publication 800-122 PII Confidentiality Impact Levels**

11.1 Indicate the potential impact that could result to the subject individuals and/or the organization if PII were inappropriately accessed, used, or disclosed.

*(The PII Confidentiality Impact Level is not the same as the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 199 security impact category.)*

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Low – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a limited adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Moderate – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a serious adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.            |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | High – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a severe or catastrophic adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals. |

11.2 Indicate which factors were used to determine the above PII confidentiality impact levels.

*(Check all that apply.)*

|                                     |                                       |   |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Identifiability                       | Provide explanation:<br>Name, Address, Phone, Email   |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Quantity of PII                       | Provide explanation:  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Data Field Sensitivity                | Provide explanation:  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Context of Use                        | Provide explanation:  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Obligation to Protect Confidentiality | Provide explanation:<br>This is done in accordance to USPTO policy (IT Security Handbook)                                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Access to and Location of PII         | Provide explanation: Due to the PII, measures are taken to ensure data is protected during processing, storage and transmission |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Other:                                | Provide explanation:  |

### **Section 12: Analysis**

12.1 Identify and evaluate any potential threats to privacy that exist in light of the information collected or the sources from which the information is collected. Also, describe the choices that the bureau/operating unit made with regard to the type or quantity of information collected and the sources providing the information in order to prevent or mitigate threats to privacy. (For example: If a decision was made to collect less data,

include a discussion of this decision; if it is necessary to obtain information from sources other than the individual, explain why.)

|  |
|--|
| None. Any potential threats to privacy that exist in light of the information collected or the sources from which the information is collected have been identified. |
|--|

12.2 Indicate whether the conduct of this PIA results in any required business process changes.

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Yes, the conduct of this PIA results in required business process changes.<br>Explanation: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No, the conduct of this PIA does not result in any required business process changes.      |

12.3 Indicate whether the conduct of this PIA results in any required technology changes.

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Yes, the conduct of this PIA results in required technology changes.<br>Explanation: |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No, the conduct of this PIA does not result in any required technology changes.      |