



Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Professional Training Seminars

Register at pctlearningcenter.org

PCT Basic Seminar

November 17 - 18, 2008

Alexandria, Virginia

Virginia CLE Units Applied For

Message From Mr. Gary Smith, Managing Director:



Welcome to PCT Learning Center!

The PCT Learning Center was founded to provide patent professionals the tools necessary to successfully use the PCT system and continuously maintain proficiency. Through our training seminars new users gain the confidence to use the PCT system, while experienced users refresh the finer points.

The PCT Basic Seminar to be held November 17-18 in Alexandria, Virginia - the first open seminar held in the Washington Metro Area since 2005 - has been proven effective worldwide and has contributed to the rapid growth of international applications. The seminar includes the recent changes to the PCT implemented over the past few years which have made the system safer and more user-friendly.

Our expert trainers, consultants to the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), bring you the most up-to-date instruction. Ms. Carol Bidwell combines years of experience working at the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with her extensive knowledge of the PCT, while Mr. David Reed brings his personal PCT strategies from practical career experiences with Proctor and Gamble.

I have been personally involved with the PCT for 18 years - first at the USPTO and later as the Director of the PCT at WIPO in Geneva. While I continue to work as a consultant to foreign intellectual property offices, I see first hand that information provided by the PCT is of critical importance to the patent granting process in many countries. In the US, the PCT System greatly benefits clients seeking to develop international patent portfolios.

The PCT Basic Seminar is an excellent opportunity to gain the skills or update your knowledge of the PCT, including recent changes and those scheduled to be implemented in 2009.

Recent Changes

- Supplemental international searches may be requested (from January, 2009)
- Brazil and India appointed as International Search Authorities (ISA)
- Applicant may request ISA to rely on earlier searches by other offices.
- A technique to reliably prevent international publication of the application

Did you know?

In 2007, there were 158,000 PCT international applications with 53,000 filed by US applicants.