



Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) Professional Training Seminars

Register at: pctlearningcenter.org

Comprehensive PCT Seminar

May 11 - 12, 2009

San Diego, California

Approved for 12 California MCLE Credits

Message From Gary Smith, Managing Director:

Welcome back to PCT Learning Center!



As I highlighted in our Winter Newsletter (see our website), the PCT introduced the **Supplemental International Search (SIS)** that allows applicants to receive additional searches from several participating International Searching Authorities. Currently, the ISAs of Sweden, Russia and the Nordic Patent Institute provide this service.

A major benefit of SIS is the opportunity to supplement the primary international search with a search by examiners having access to and language skills in prior art differing from that of the primary search. It is expected that other Searching Authorities (Austria, European Patent Office and Finland) will provide this service in the near future. Our upcoming Comprehensive PCT Seminar in San Diego, May 11-12 will provide details on this new feature.

New Short Courses

In addition to our two-day seminars, PCT Learning Center is now providing firms and organizations onsite, short courses on the PCT. The most popularly received program consists of a two hour (CLE being requested) presentation on the new SIS, strategies for using the PCT, the Patent Prosecution Highway and ways these can work together. This program also includes a brief overview of the PCT process and is directed towards patent attorneys and agents, as well as patent portfolio managers.

The second program focuses on the "PCT basics" and is designed for people who want to get started on the PCT or who need a refresher on the basics. This three-hour primer offers a basic understanding of PCT terminology, the timeline for PCT actions, how to fill the request (application) form and fundamentals of the

PCT-SAFE electronic filing system. This is ideal for paralegals, legal assistants, legal secretaries and legal administrators.

For complete details and pricing for short courses, contact us at contact@pctlearningcenter.org.

We know that the economic downturn has not escaped any firm or industry. Because knowledge gained through training is key to your success, we now offer our former PCT Seminar participants the same price reduction as the multiple-participant firm discount. To take advantage of the \$600 price for the San Diego seminar, register before April 15.

And lastly, immediately following our two-day seminar in May, I have the opportunity to travel to WIPO Headquarters to discuss the PCT with the PCT Legal and Operations staff. If you have questions or issues you would like me to discuss with the WIPO/PCT staff, please contact me through our website

Alert!

➔ USPTO has published a Notice at: http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/20090313_epo-ipau.pdf regarding limited competencies of some International Searching Authorities. To avoid searching delays, please review this memorandum.

➔ Chile and Peru became the 140th and 141st PCT Contracting States and will be in force June 2 and June 6, 2009, respectively.

Coming this Fall. . .

➔ PCT Learning Center is exploring sites in two cities - **Philadelphia and New Orleans** - to host Comprehensive PCT Seminars this Fall. If you are interested in attending a seminar in either location, please let us know.