

STANDARD ST.15

Version 1.0

GUIDELINES FOR THE WORDING OF TITLES OF INVENTIONS IN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Standard adopted during the 1980's

Editorial note

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Titles of inventions in patent documents form a useful secondary source of information, provided that they are reasonably informative. They are as a rule printed on the first page of patent documents and normally also included in the entries in Official Gazettes.

Titles of inventions convey to the user of patent documents a first impression of the main content of the invention.

In order to give guidance for making titles of inventions as informative as possible, WIPO elaborated "Guidelines for the Wording of Titles of Inventions in Patent Documents".

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Introduction
- Guidelines
- Notes
- **APPENDIX:** Collection of examples annexed to the guidelines for the wording of titles of inventions in patent documents

Introduction

1. Titles of inventions are of considerable importance to users who are desirous of keeping abreast of patented developments in a particular art and who rely for that purpose on the titles listed in Official Gazettes. The informative value of the titles may also be very useful in Industrial Property Offices for indexing or preliminary classifying purposes.
2. The Guidelines for the wording of titles of inventions in patent documents and in announcements concerning published patent documents in Official Gazettes contain general indications on how titles of inventions could be made as useful as possible to readers. They have been prepared to provide guidance for Industrial Property Offices contemplating the establishment of rules in this respect.
3. The Guidelines are especially intended for applicants since the applicant is in general responsible for the first wording of the title of his purported invention.

Guidelines

4. The title of the invention should be meaningful.
5. The title should clearly, concisely and as specifically as possible indicate the subject to which the invention relates.
6. If the patent document contains claims in different categories (product, process, apparatus, use), this should be evident from the title.
7. The word "patent", personal names, fancy names, trade names, trademarks or abbreviations or terms such as "etc." which do not serve to identify the invention should not be used in the title.

Notes

8. Attention is drawn to the fact that several industrial property offices publish the title of an invention or give access to it by way of their public registers before the actual application itself is published. If that is the case, the said industrial property offices may choose not to apply these Guidelines for this kind of title.
9. When wording titles of inventions, it should be borne in mind that the title belongs to the bibliographic data, which in many cases will be transferred onto a machine-readable data carrier. The title should therefore preferably only contain characters and signs which can be read and printed by computer.

10. A collection of good examples, based on titles appearing in Official Gazettes, to illustrate the principles stated in the guidelines and of non-informative examples, not acceptable according to the guidelines, is appended hereto.

APPENDIX: Collection of examples annexed to the guidelines for the wording of titles of inventions in patent documents

EXAMPLE N°	GOOD EXAMPLES TO ILLUSTRATE THE PRINCIPLES STATED IN THE GUIDELINES	NON-INFORMATIVE EXAMPLES, NOT ACCEPTABLE ACCORDING TO THE GUIDELINES	RELEVANT PARAGRAPHS OF THE GUIDELINES FOR THE REJECTION OF THE NOT ACCEPTABLE EXAMPLES
1	Indwelling vein catheter assemblies	Medical assemblies	4, 5
2	Stuffed bendable dolls	Improvements in or relating to toys	4
3	Metal cold-forming process and lubricant composition therefor	Metal forming	4, 6
4	Pressure intensifier unit for vehicle braking system	Pressure intensifier unit for the braking system of motor cars, lorries, etc.	7
5	Water-insoluble monoazo pyridine dyes	Dyes	4
6	Process for preparing cyclohexanediones – (1,3)	Chemical process	4, 6
7	Process for coloring acrylic fibers	Treating fibers	4, 6
8	Needle bed for flat knitting machines	Knitting	4, 5
9	Method of removing tar sands from subterranean formations using wetting techniques	Mineral extraction	4, 5, 6
10	Gas storage well safety-valve apparatus	Apparatus more specifically designed to improve safety valve devices when used in affording protection against leakage of gas when stored in a well	5, 6
11	Outlet diffusor for centrifugal compressors	Arrangements giving improvements in compressors	5
12	Method and apparatus for making artificial snow	The invention of "Arcticificial"	7
13	Ultrasonic apparatus for testing welds	Apparatus in which ultra-sonic waves are used to assess the correct joining of components by welding	4, 5
14	Pilot operated mud-pulse valves	Valves	4
15	Spacer damper for overhead power transmission line	Line spacer	4
16	Connecting devices for co-axial cables	Cable connectors	4, 5