

## CASE STUDY

WIPO

[www.wipo.int](http://www.wipo.int)**CHALLENGE**

To streamline the patent application process.

**SOLUTION**

A special version of XMetaL Author tailored for patent filers.

**RESULT**

- Reduction in data entry work
- Decrease in time spent processing applications
- Patents meet strict PCT formatting standards
- Improved patent searchability

# World Intellectual Property Organization

## Electronic Patent Filing Streamlines Global Intellectual Property Protection

**Profile**

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) streamlines international electronic patent filing by using a custom XMetaL editor that ensures patent applications are submitted in an acceptable format, are easily searchable, and rapidly digitized.

XMetaL is at the heart of the PCT-SAFE electronic patent application process. WIPO selected XMetaL because XML is its native format and as a mature, standalone product, it is not affected by the multitude of word processor-platform combinations used by the Organization's international user base. This makes it possible for WIPO to deploy and support the PCT-SAFE editor to thousands of users worldwide.

**International Patent Filing System: Reducing Mountains of Paper**

In today's highly competitive and increasingly internationalized marketplace, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) offers a range of services that help innovators protect their intellectual capital in multiple countries using a one-stop approach.

WIPO receives over 110,000 patent filings a year with applications ranging from 10 to more than 1,000 pages. The volume and increasing complexity of applications, in particular, from the biotechnology sector, has prompted WIPO to implement business solutions that enable the organization to meet the needs of PCT users by continuing to deliver cost-effective and quality services.

XML (extensible mark-up language)-based technologies offer a dynamic solution to the constant challenges of data searchability, exchange and storage associated with the patenting process.

By incorporating XML technologies into PCTSAFE, WIPO has been able to develop a tool that is versatile, consistent, easy to use, highly flexible, and can be easily adapted to most information system environments.

During its lifecycle, a patent application can move around a number of different national, regional or international patent systems depending on the strategy and needs of its owner. As these authorities do not use uniform computer systems, XML technologies offer a widely recognizable format that makes it easier to cross the boundaries of different patent systems.

**A New Era: WIPO Streamlines with XMetaL**

Instead of filing separate patent applications with the office of each of the countries in which a patent is sought, WIPO's Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) enables an applicant to file one "international" application in one language and to seek protection simultaneously in all states that have signed up to the PCT. Until recently, international patent applications could only be filed on paper.

## CASE STUDY

## WIPO

Applicants now have access to a fully electronic filing system, PCT-SAFE (Secure Applications Filed Electronically), engineered by WIPO and XMetaL. PCT-SAFE allows companies and inventors from all 123 PCT member states to file their PCT applications electronically with the PCT receiving office at WIPO and several other PCT receiving offices around the world.

### New Technology. New Structure

The WIPO technology team contracted the XMetaL professional services team to engineer the new system. Using XMetaL Developer, the development team created a custom version of XMetaL Author that patent filers download from the WIPO Web site (<http://www.wipo.int>). This customized version guides the process of creating a patent application and produces it in a format guaranteed to be acceptable for filing. PCT-SAFE promises to generate significant benefits for everyone involved in the use and administration of the international patent system.

In the process, WIPO adopted a technical standard based on XML. With a standard agreed upon by member countries, and which describes the structure for patents, the basis is now there to implement the system across all patent filing offices. The XML structure built into the PCT-SAFE Editor could eventually be used as part of electronic patent filing for up to 123 member countries.

### Familiarity Means High Adoption, Easy Training

The customized version of XMetaL Author, known as the PCT-SAFE Editor, looks and acts like a simple word-processor template requiring minimal or no training. Patent filers simply enter text relating to their application and, the PCT-SAFE Editor transparently produces valid XML. Furthermore, users do not require a knowledge of XML to create applications that conform to the standard. It appears that as PCT patent filers become more familiar with the possibilities of electronic filing that this new tool will grow in its use. Already, over 4,000 downloads were seen within the first three months of its release.

If needed, PCT-SAFE can evolve to meet emerging needs of patent applicants. The XMetaL platform enables WIPO to add functionality or make changes to the editor interface in response to user feedback to make filing easier and quicker.

#### JUSTSYSTEMS.

<http://www.justsystems.com>

#### North America:

+1.866.793.1542

[contactsales-na@justsystems.com](mailto:contactsales-na@justsystems.com)

#### Europe:

+44.0.1462.889.082

[contactsales-emea@justsystems.com](mailto:contactsales-emea@justsystems.com)

**International:** +1.604.697.8705

#### About JustSystems

JustSystems is a leading global software provider with three decades of successful innovation in office productivity, information management, and consumer and enterprise software. With over 2,500 customers worldwide, the company is continuing a global expansion strategy based on its xfy enterprise software, XMetaL content lifecycle solutions, and its pioneering work in enabling XBRL financial reporting technologies. JustSystems is one of the 2008 KMWorld 100 Companies that Matter in Knowledge Management, a 2008 EContent 100 member, and was recognized on the 2008 KMWorld Trend-Setting Product list for XMetaL. Major strategic partnerships include IBM, Oracle and EMC.

© Copyright JustSystems

All rights reserved. JustSystems, the JustSystems logo, and xfy are trademarks or registered trademarks of JustSystems Corporation in the United States and other countries. XMetaL is a trademark of JustSystems Canada, Inc in the United States and other countries. Other company, product and service names may be trademarks or service marks of others.