

[Home](#) / [About Us](#)

About Us

As a mechanism that protects new ideas and investments in innovation and creativity, the USPTO is at the cutting edge of the nation's technological progress and achievement.

- [▶ News & Updates](#)
- [▶ Events](#)
- [▶ Vendor Information](#)
- [▶ Performance and Planning](#)
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The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is the federal agency for granting U.S. patents and registering trademarks. In doing this, the USPTO fulfills the mandate of Article I, Section 8, Clause 8, of the Constitution that the legislative branch "promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries." The USPTO registers trademarks based on the commerce clause of the Constitution (Article I, Section 8, Clause 3). Under this system of protection, American industry has flourished. New products have been invented, new uses for old ones discovered, and employment opportunities created for millions of Americans. The strength and vitality of the U.S. economy depends directly on effective mechanisms that protect new ideas and investments in innovation and creativity. The continued demand for patents and trademarks underscores the ingenuity of American inventors and entrepreneurs. The USPTO is at the cutting edge of the nation's technological progress and achievement.

The USPTO advises the president of the United States, the secretary of commerce, and U.S. government agencies on intellectual property (IP) policy, protection, and enforcement; and promotes the stronger and more effective IP protection around the world. The USPTO furthers effective IP protection for U.S. innovators and entrepreneurs worldwide by working with other agencies to secure strong IP provisions in free trade and other international agreements. It also provides training, education, and capacity building programs designed to foster respect for IP and encourage the development of strong IP enforcement regimes by U.S. trading partners.

Careers

Interested in a career with the USPTO? We're always looking for committed citizens interested in helping us with our mission.

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The USPTO headquarters occupies five interconnected buildings located at 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia. The office employs more than 10,000

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Executive Biographies

Learn more about the USPTO leadership by reading members' biographies.

Organizational Offices

The various offices within the United States Patent and Trademark Office serve specific functions, both to the general public and the organization itself.

USPTO Locations

The USPTO has multiple offices located throughout the United States.

News & Updates

Remarks by Director K. Lee at Iowa STEM Day

Remarks as prepared for delivery at the Iowa State Capitol Des Moines, IA

Remarks by Director K. Lee at the State of the Valley Conference

Remarks as prepared for delivery at the State of the Valley Conference San Jose, CA

House Judiciary Committee Statement

Statement of Mary Boney Denison, Commissioner for Trademarks of the USPTO, before the House Judiciary Committee February 11, 2016.

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- [National Inventors Hall of Fame and Museum](#)

Upcoming Events

Midwest Regional Office Patent — "Lunch and Learn"

Feb. 18, 2016 12:30 PM ET
Detroit, MI

Patent Brown Bag "Lunch and Learn"

Feb. 18, 2016 12:00 PM PT
San Jose, CA

Copyright Basics and

Remarks by Director K. Lee at the State of the Valley Conference

Remarks as prepared for delivery at the State of the Valley Conference San Jose, CA

House Judiciary Committee Statement

Statement of Mary Boney Denison, Commissioner for Trademarks of the USPTO, before the House Judiciary Committee February 11, 2016.

Remarks by Director Michelle K. Lee at Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting

Remarks as prepared for delivery at the Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting in Alexandria, VA

JANUARY 28, 2016

U.S. Department of Commerce Recommends Amendments to Statutory Damages Provisions in Copyright Act

Washington, D.C.—A report issued today by the U.S. Department of Commerce recommends amendments to copyright law that would provide both more guidance and greater flexibility to courts in awarding statutory damages. The recommended amendments would ensure continued meaningful protection for...

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USPTO Designates San José Library a Patent and Trademark Resource Center

Washington – The U.S. Department of Commerce's United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on Tuesday announced the opening of a new Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) at the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library of the San José Public Library system located in San José,...

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Patent Brown Bag "Lunch and Learn"

Feb. 18, 2016 12:00 PM PT
San Jose, CA

Copyright Basics and Considerations for Entrepreneurs

Feb. 18, 2016 7:00 PM ET
New York, NY

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- [About the USPTO](#)
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- [Careers](#)
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