

Quick Start Guide

EFS-Web

Updated August 17, 2008



Introduction

Welcome to EFS-Web, the United States Patent and Trademark Office's safe, simple, and secure means of electronically submitting patent applications and documents. This Quick Start Guide will provide you with the information you need in order to rapidly understand how to file patent applications electronically, including a brief overview of the process and screen shots that identify critical components of the product.

Before you file electronically there are a few important items you should know:

- EFS-Web is a web-based tool that can be accessed from any web-enabled computer anywhere in the world.
- EFS-Web is a patent application and document submission solution that utilizes standard webbased screens and prompts to enable you to submit a portable document format (PDF) file directly to the USPTO.
- EFS-Web is not a patent application authoring tool. It allows you to use the same tools and workflow processes used to produce paper-based patent application documents.
- EFS-Web is legally equivalent to paper-based patent application and document submission methods and provides filers with the same protections as traditional methods. EFS-Web provides you with a receipt that serves as legally binding proof of the date and time of your submission. (You still will receive a paper filing receipt mailed from the Office of Patent Application Processing).
- EFS-Web has been designed to be simple to use. In a matter of minutes, you can complete a submission and receive electronic confirmation that it has been received by USPTO. It incorporates important new safeguards that alert you to possible problems with your patent application before it is submitted, providing a flexible and forgiving platform that can ease the submission process.
- EFS-Web allows you to submit industry-standard PDF (portable document format) files. Although PDF is an open standard, not all PDF files are the same. There are important distinctions you must know about PDF files before you start the submission process. Information about compatible PDF files is detailed in the Quick Start Guide and in other documentation, and we strongly recommend that you read this information in its entirety.
- EFS-Web incorporates e-commerce capabilities that give you multiple options for paying for your patent application or document submission.

EFS-Web Sign On

EFS-Web allows both the Registered and Unregistered user to file patent applications electronically.

Web Access

A computer, an Internet browser and an Internet connection are your tickets to electronic filing. Users can access EFS-Web by navigating to the www.USPTO.gov website and clicking on "File online in EFS-Web" under "Patents".

Filing Types Accepted

EFS-Web accepts new Accelerated Exam, Design, Design Reissue, International Application for filing in the US receiving office, Provisional, Reexam (*Ex Parte and Inter Partes*), Utility, Utility Reissue and National Stage applications under 35 USC 371. Registered eFilers may also file follow-on documents for previously filed applications and Pre-Grant Publication under 37 CFR 1.211 to 1.221. Both Registered and Unregistered eFilers may file a Petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c) and a Petition to Make Special based on Age.

TIP! EFS-Web Sandbox is the online model of EFS-Web where you can practice going through the interface for submitting applications and documents: http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/portal/tutorials.htm

APPLICATION TYPES

A Registered eFiler may file the following:

New application types:

- Accelerated Exam
- Design
- Design Reissue
- International Application for filing in the US receiving office
- Provisional
- Reexam
- Utility
- Utility Reissue
- U.S. National Stage under 35 USC 371.

Follow-on document types:

- Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee in an Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(c))
- Petition to Make Special based on Age
- Pre-Grant Publication under 37 CFR 1.211 to 1.221.

An Unregistered eFiler may file the following:

New application types:

- Accelerated Exam
- Design
- Design Reissue
- International Application for filing in the US receiving office
- Provisional
- Reexam
- Utility
- Utility Reissue
- U.S. National Stage under 35 USC 371.

Follow-on document types:

- Petition to Accept Unintentionally Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee in an Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(c)
- Petition to Make Special based on Age.

United States Patent and Trademark Office

REGISTERED EFILER

A Registered eFiler has both an assigned Customer Number and a Digital Certificate for secure communication with the USPTO. You may be working as either the certificate holder or under the authority of the certificate holder.

User Authentication

User authentication is safe and secure which grants access to authorized eFilers for application submissions. Authentication is only successful if both the encrypted digital certificate and password are valid.

User Authentication
Select Digital Certificate C:\JaneDoe.epf Browse Enter Password: ••••••••••••
☑ I understand that technology and/or software included in patent applications may be subject to U.S. dual-use export controls, which are set out in the Export Administration Regulations (15 C.F.R. parts 730-774). Access to such technology and/or software by any person located outside the United States or by a foreign national inside the United States constitutes an export that may require a license from the U.S. Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS). I affirm that I am not accessing or permitting access by others to technology or software in a manner that would violate or circumvent the Export Administration Regulations.
Information regarding U.S. dual-use export controls and their application to technology and software included in patent applications is available from BIS. Please see BIS's website, available at www.bis.doc.gov, or contact BIS's Office of Export Services at 202-482-4811.
Authenticate Reset

NOTE! BIS (Bureau of Industry and Security) Statement must be accepted and checked prior to authentication.

Certify Identity/Certificate Holder

As the certificate holder you must:

- · Certify you are the certificate holder
- Indicate if this is a new or existing application
- If a new application, select type

Your Digital Certificate has been authenticated - please certify your ident	ity:
● I certify that I am the certificate holder: Jane Doe	
\bigcirc I certify that I am working under the authority of the certificate holder: Jane Doe	
*Main Functions	
New application (This includes new filings of continuation, divisional, and continuation-in-part applications and continued prosecution application (CPA) are considered existing documents and mus	
Existing application/patent	
O My Workplace	
Privacy Cancel Continue	

TIP! Clicking 'Continue' allows you to move forward through the submission process, as well as saves any information you have entered to that point

WARNING! If you click 'Cancel' on any screen during any part of the filing process a message will inform you that you are about to delete all of your entered information to that point, and ask if you really want to cancel. Upon clicking OK, you will be returned to the login screen.

Certify Identity: Working under authority of certificate holder

NOTE! The asterisks denote required information.

If you are working under the authority of the certificate holder you must:

- Certify your status
- Provide your name and e-mail address
- Indicate if this is a new or existing application

 I certify that I am the certificate holder : Jane Doe I certify that I am working under the authority of the certificate holder: Jane Doe I certify that I am working under the authority of the certificate holder: Jane Doe
* Your First Name
* Your Last Name
* Your e-Mail Address
*Main Functions
 New application (This includes new filings of continuation, divisional, and continuation-in-part applications. A request for continued examination (RCE)
and continued prosecution application (CPA) are considered existing documents and must be filed as a registered eFiler.)
Existing application/patent
O My Workplace
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UNREGISTERED EFILER

As an Unregistered eFiler, you must provide your contact information and select the type of application you are filing before proceeding through the application process.

NOTE! The asterisks denote required information.

EFS Unregistered							
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Welcome to Electronic Pa	tent Filing	for UNREGISTERED eF	ILERS				
A submission has not been filed officially at the USPTO until the e-filer executes the Submit function and the documents are received at the USPTO Eastern Time. The Acknowledgement Receipt is evidence of this submission.							
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EFS-Web eFiling

APPLICATION PROCESS

Once you have signed on and begun the application process, the tab structure at the top of the screen expands to show you the components of the application process. The first tab indicates whether you are filing as a registered or unregistered user and the white tab indicates where you are within the process.

EFS Unregistered					
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* Title of Invention					
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First Named Inventor: 👔					
*First Name					
Middle Name					
*Last Name					
Correspondence Address: 👔					
Enter a customer number for correspond	lence or provide an address w	here USPTO should send corre	spondence for this applica	ation.	
• Customer Number	Please enter a valid Customer I	Number			
OR		U III			
C Correspondence Address					

NOTE! Tabs allow you to move forward and backwards within EFS Web pages. However you can only move forward if you have been on that page. If you use tabs to go back **and make changes**, you must click **Continue** to save those changes – if you simply Tab forward the changes will be lost.

APPLICATION DATA

You must specify the title of your invention, the first named inventor, and a correspondence address.

EFS Registered	- 8
Registered Please Read Application Attach Review Data Documents Documents Calculate Confirm & Pay Receipt	
Application Data	
A submission has not be on filed officially at the USPTO until the e-filer executes the Submit function and the documents are received at the USPT Acknowledgement Receipt is evidence of this submission. All terms denoted by * are required.	O Eastern Time. The
* Title of Invention	
Attorney Docket Number	
First Named Inventor: 1	
*First Name	
Middle Name	
*Lact hame	
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encer a customer number for correspondence or provide an address where USPTO should send correspondence for this application.	
Customer Number Please enter a valid Customer Number	
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TIP! You can use the Tab key on your keyboard to move from one input field or button to the next available field or button. Shift-Tab will reverse the direction of the Tab key.

WARNING! If you don't enter a customer number then the submitted application will not be associated with your digital certificate. If this relationship is not made then you will not be able to view your application in Private PAIR.

ATTACHING DOCUMENTS

After the eFiler clicks 'Continue', the bibliographic data entered by the user is echoed back. If any errors are found the user can go back and correct them by clicking 'Application Data'.

Next attach your PDF.

- Browse and select the PDF file to be submitted
- Indicate whether the PDF file has multiple documents by clicking Yes or No
- Enter the document description for the file or its parts
- If you need to attach additional documents, click 'Add File' and repeat these steps
- And, if you need to delete any one of the attached files, click "Delete" corresponding to that file row

TIP! There is a 25MB size limit per file.

Attach Documents		· · · ·
A submission has not been	filed officially at the USPTO unt	I the e-filer executes the Submit function and the documents are received at the USPTO Eastern Time. The Acknowledgement
Receipt is evidence of this		ng. If any information is incorrect, please edit the Application Data
Title of Invention	This is the title of my invention	
First Named Inventor	John C. Patent	
Customer Number or Correspondence Address	MyCompany Inc 1 Main Street Anyplace VA 0123 US 123-345-6789 Jane.Doe@uspto.gov	
Filed By	RegAtty1 Tester/Jane Done	
Attorney Docket Number		
Application Type	Utility under 35 USC 111(a)	
Files to be Subr	mitted 🗛 Catego	ory 👔 Document Description 👔
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Users are advised not to sub or trademark records open fo	omit credit card payment form PTO or public inspection. Users choosing	-2038 via EFS-Web. Submission of the credit card payment form via EFS-Web may result in the form being included among the patent to pay with a credit card should instead utilize the on-line payment method available through EFS-Web.
		Prese Upload & Validate Review Prease Upload & Validate before Review

Click 'Upload & Validate' to automatically check for compliance and to be notified of errors and warnings before submission.

WARNING! EFS-Web can validate a maximum of 20 files uploaded at one time. Up to 60 documents can be uploaded per submission.

WARNING! EFS-Web can upload one sequence listing (txt) file up to 100 MB per submission. The sequence listing file must be uploaded separately from other types of files. If the sequence listing does not conform to the ST.24 or ST.25 format, a warning will display.

WARNING! You must click Upload and Validate prior to 'Review' or the attached files will be deleted.

TIP! If your document could not be validated, an error message will appear informing you of the reason for the validation failure. Attaching a document that is not a PDF, TXT or PCT ZIP will cause a failure to validate, as will not choosing a document description. This field is equipped with a drop down list of choices. If you cannot see the drop down, please scroll right and make your selection.

REMEMBER! You can correct any errors by clicking the 'Attach Files' button.

MULTI-DOC PDF

PDF files that contain multiple documents must be separately indexed to be labeled properly in the USPTO Image File Wrapper. For example, a patent application PDF file may contain a specification, claims, abstract, and drawings that should be listed as separate documents in the IFW. Enter the page ranges for each section so that the documents are properly displayed in the IFW. Amendments should be separated as well.

Files to be Submitted 👔	Category 👔	Document Description 👔
1 Browse Does your PDF file contain multiple documents?	⊛ Yes 🔘 No	
Category Document Description View All Categories View All Categories	Page Start	Page End Add Document Add File

At this point you can either, add additional sections of documents by clicking 'Add Document, additional documents by clicking 'Add File or 'Upload & Validate' these documents.

REMEMBER! For new submissions, there must be at least one attachment other than the EFS-Web generated fee sheet.

TIP! You are limited to 60 documents per submission at 25MB per file. (or 60 lines if multi-doc included)_

WARNING! If you file a new submission and do not include a PDF file with a document description of "specification", it could result in a delay in processing of your submission.

CALCULATE FEES

Fees are dynamically generated based on the values entered by the user.

- Indicate the business size (large or small entity)
- Select all applicable fees

NOTE! You may submit your application without generating fees at this time by clicking the 'Confirm/Submit' link or the 'Continue' button, remembering that extra fees may be incurred.

If you are not paying fees for this filing at this time, you may continue to confirm/Submit							
Failure to pay these fees on filing a new application will result in a surcharge. See <u>37_CFR_1.16 (f) and (q)</u> .							
A submission has not been filed officially at the USPTO until the e-filer executes the Submit function and the documents are received at the USPTO Eastern Time. The Acknowledgement F	Receipt is evidence of this submission.						
Lurrent Business Size: Large Entity Small Entity 1							
	Total Fees Due: \$ 0						
Utility Patent Application Filing Fees (select all that apply)							
Filing Search Exam							
Amount \$300 \$500 \$200							
Fee Code 1011 1111 1311	Sub-Total \$						
- Application Size Fee - Number of Pages in the Specification (including any external tables) and drawings 🕧							
Was this application originally filed in paper? 0 0 Yes No							
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Claims (select all that apply)							
Claims in excess of twenty 0 * \$50 - \$							
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Miscellaneous Fees: (select all that apply)							
Non-English Specification (\$ 130)							
🗌 Publication Fee for early, voluntary or normal publication (\$ 300) 🚺 🐘 👘							
The publication fee for normal publication is not due until the application is allowed. Reguests for early publication must include a separate statement requesting early publication.							
Surcharge - Late filing fee, search fee, examination fee or oath or declaration (\$ 130)	Sub-Total \$						
Petition Filing Fees (select all that apply)							
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Click 'Calculate' to see fees and 'Continue' to proceed to the next section.

WARNING! If you click 'Cancel' on any screen during this process a message will inform you that you are about to delete your entered information, and ask if you really want to cancel. Upon clicking OK, you will be returned to the login screen.

SUBMIT APPLICATION

Confirm and Submit marks the last time before submission that the user will be able to:

- Review and confirm or edit application data
- · Edit fees associated with the application and
- Remove or edit the documents associated with the application

EFS Registered								-8
Registered Please Read	Application Attach Review Data Documents Documents	Calculate	Confirm & I Submit F	Pay Receipt]			
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This is the application	data associated with your	submiss	sion. If any infe	ormation is inc	correct, please edit the Appli	cation Data		
Title of Invention	This is the title of my invention							
First Named Inventor	John C. Patent							
Customer Number or Correspondence Address	99999 MyCompany Inc. 1 Main Stree							
	Anyplace VA 01234 US Jane.Doe@uspto.gov							
cited pu	866 217 9197							
Filed By								
Attorney Docket Number								
Application Type	Utility							
This is the fee data as	sociated with your submiss	ion. If th	e following ar	nount is incor	rect, please out the Fee Care	lation		
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Submit Application							
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This is the application	data associated with your	submissi	on. If any information is inc	orrect, please edit the Applic	ntion Data		
Title of Invention	This is the title of my invention	n					
First Named Inventor	John C. Patent						
Customer Number or Correspondence Address	99999						
	MyCompany Inc. 1 Main Stree Anyplace VA 01234 US Jane.Doe@uspto.gov						
Filed By	866 217 9197						
Attorney Docket Number							
Application Type	Utility						
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CONGRATULATIONS (with EFS-Web generated fee sheet)

Once you have successfully submitted your application, you will be provided with this screen. Congratulations screen providing you with:

- Your Application Number
- Your Confirmation Number associated with your Application Number
- EFS ID

You will also have the opportunity to either pay your fees at this time or indicate that you would like to pay them later and acknowledge that additional charges may be incurred.

EFS Registered			-8			
Registered Please Read eFilers M Announcements	Application Attac Data Docume	h Review Calculate Confirm & Pay Receipt Protection Provided Action ProvidedA				
Congratulations! You a	ire ready to pay	r fees associated with your submission.				
14:28:03 Eastern Time on	01-AUG-2008		E-mail Receipt Info			
The USPTO has received your submission. An Acknowledgement Receipt will be received in due course. Prior to receiving the Acknowledgement Receipt, registered users may check "My Workplace" to confirm receipt by the USPTO of their submission and access Private PAIR to view the actual documents filed. You may continue by paying fees. For questions, contact the EBC. See the EBC Web Page for contact info and hours.						
The following identification of the following identification o	ation numbers a	are associated with your submission.				
Application Number	59956065					
Confirmation Number	1634					
EFS ID	1104359					
The following fees are	due.					
		Total Fees Due: \$ 820				
The USPTO's RAM payment server is ready to accept your fee payments using a <u>USPTO Deposit Account</u> , an <u>Electronic Funds Transfer</u> , or one of the following credit cards: <i>American Express</i> , <i>Discover</i> , <i>MasterCard</i> , or <i>Visa</i> . Please have all access codes, account numbers and account holder information ready to ensure a successful online payment experience.						
YES! I want to	pay now	NO - I will pay later (additional charges may be incurre	ed)			

TIP! Your confirmation number is tied to your application. This pair of numbers decreases the mismatching of submissions with their existing applications. This pair of numbers is required for submitting documents and/or fees to existing applications.

E-mail Receipt Info

eFilers are able to launch their e-mail programs by clicking the "Email Receipt Info" link to send information about Acknowledgement Receipts and Pre-Acknowledgement Receipts. eFilers must specify and include email address(es) for each recipient.

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PAY FEES

Fees may be paid to USPTO via one of three means:

- By charging the filer's USPTO Deposit Account
- By charging their Credit Card
- Or via an Electronic Funds Transfer

Once you have selected your payment type, click 'Start online payment process".

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Application Number	59962462				
confirmation Number	1403				
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inst Named Inventor	John C. Patent				
Customer Number or Correspondence Address	99999				
Filed By	Jane Doe				
Attorney Docket Number					
Application Type	Utility under 111 (a)				
The following fees will	be collected for this application.				
Fee Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Fee Amount	Fee Total	
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USPTO Deposit Account

- Enter Deposit Account Number
- Enter Deposit Account Access Code
- Click "Choose an Authorized User for this Deposit Account"

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* Deposit Account N	umber			
* Deposit Account Access				
Choose	Choose an Authorized User for this Deposit Account			
NO - I do not wish to use	Deposit Account:			
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This is the application EFS ID	for which you are paying fees: 1042911			
Application Number	59962462			
Confirmation Number	1403			
	Ne of Invention This is the title of my invention			
First Named Inventor	John C. Patent			
Customer Number or Correspondence Address	99999			
Filed By	Jane Doe			
Attorney Docket Number				
Application Type	Utility under 111(a)			
The following fees will	I be collected for this application:			
Fee Description	Fee Code	Amount		
Utility application filing	1011	300		
Ublity Search Fee	1111	500		
Utility Examination Fee	1311	200	Total Payment: \$1000	

Choose an authorized user of the Deposit Account from the drop-down menu.

- Click "Yes" to certify you have the right to use the account.
- Check if any Additional Fees required
- Click "Yes charge deposit account now"

Pay fees by USPTO Deposit Account	review fees make payment fee receipt
Your Acknowledgement Receipt (evidence of this submission) will be provided upon completion of this payment transaction, or,	
Identify the USPTO Deposit Account to be charged: Select an authorized user for this account (all items are required): AIS TESTING	
To pay fees by the identified deposit account, you must certify that you are the selected authorized user or are making payment under the o required certification.Choose an option from " NO- I do not wish to use this Deposit Account " to abort the Deposit Account transaction.	irrection of the selected authorized user.Please read the following certification statement.Select "YES" to make the
■ YES I certify that I am or I am acting on behalf of the selected authorized user for the referenced U.S. Patent and Trademark Of the Calcil ate Fees section from my deposit account and that sufficient funds are maintained in this account to satisfy said charges; I cover the 18.	
Fee Preauthorization:	
You may preauthorize the Director of the USPTO to charge the following fees to this Deposit Account. The Director of the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayment as follows:	
Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.16 (National application filing, search, and examination fees)	
Charge any Additional Fees required under 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17 (Patent application and reexamination processing fees)	
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