EPO Mailbox API

WIPO API Day
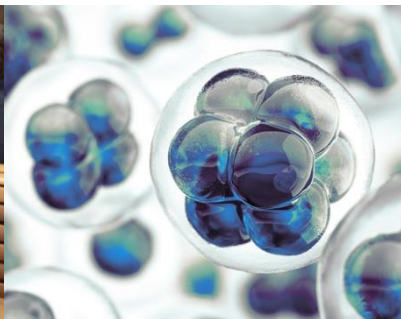
New B2B API services for MyEPO

■ The European Patent Office has launched MyEPO, a new platform for electronic services, including Online Filing 2.0 and MyEPO Portfolio.

■ Our aim is to develop new B2B APIs that complement MyEPO browser-based applications.

■ Scope of the first B2B service : **EPO Mailbox API**

■ Mid-term goal : Provide further API services in line with user priorities, including the functionality that will replace the current OLF PMS Gateway (e.g. filing).

Some guiding principles

■ MyEPO API services are built with a strong user and vendor feedback

- *A call for interest has been launched earlier this year, involving vendors*

- *The Mailbox API is launched in the context of the Phase 2 of MyEPO Pilot*

■ The EPO Mailbox API is consistent with the functionality offered by the MyEPO Portfolio browser-based Mailbox application

- *Consistency of functional features (read / unread, handled)*

- *Traceability (activity log)*

- *Users can complementarily use the web app and the API channel*

Some guiding principles

■ A "state of the art" cloud native architecture is built to support the new EPO API services

– *Third party market leader authentication provider (Okta)*

– *API management solution to cover the entire API lifecycle*

– *…*

■Alignment with ST90 (WIPO)

– *Standard approach to processing and exchanging intellectual property data through APIs, with useful technical guidelines for RESTFUL API services.*

– *Tangible benefits for the users and for the software delivery process*

Scope of the first API: EPO Mailbox

■ The EPO Mailbox API allows MyEPO Portfolio users to integrate their IP management systems with EPO systems in order to :

- *Download a list of incoming EPO communications from their EPO Mailbox and associated meta data.*

- *Download each communication one by one (and optionally set it as "handled").*

- *Mark a list of communications as handled.*

EPO Mailbox API functionality

■ Get a list of unhandled communications from mailbox

GET /latest/communications/unhandled Get a list of unhandled communications from mailbox.

Parameters

Name	Description
fields *string* *(query)*	Fields to retrieve in the response in the format: field1, field2 `fields`
page *integer* *(query)*	Zero-based page index (0..N) `0`
size *integer* *(query)*	The size of the page to be returned `20`
sort *array[string]* *(query)*	Sorting criteria in the format: property,(asc|desc). Default sort order is ascending. Multiple sort criteria are supported. Add string item

EPO Mailbox API functionality: metadata

Request URL

```
https://api-osa.apps-staging.epo.org/latest/communications/unhandled?page=0&size=20
```

Server response

Code	Details
200	**Response body**

```json
{
  "content": [
    {
      "id": "le2zwcm1luu2922",
      "applicantName": null,
      "title": "Communication regarding possible amendment of the application/payment of claims fee",
      "dispatchDate": "2023-02-15",
      "applicationNumber": "EP 20 842 543",
      "userReference": "EP102394",
      "document": "https://api-osa.apps-staging.epo.org/latest/communications/download/le2zwcm1luu2922",
      "digitalFile": "https://my-o.epo.org/user-area/mailbox-osa/applications/20842543",
      "documentCode": "1226CC",
      "read": true,
      "links": [
        {
          "rel": "download",
          "href": "https://api-osa.apps-staging.epo.org/latest/communications/download/le2zwcm1luu2922?markAsHandled=false",
          "title": "Download communication",
          "type": "GET"
        },
        {
          "rel": "handle",
          "href": "https://api-osa.apps-staging.epo.org/latest/communications/handle",
          "media": "application/json",
          "title": "Handle communication",
          "type": "POST"
        }
      ]
    }
```

Response headers

```
cache-control: no-cache,no-store,max-age=0,must-revalidate
content-type: application/json
correlation-id: 646b16cfc2204629a9556500ed6f068a
date: Mon,22 May 2023 07:16:33 GMT
expires: 0
```

EPO Mailbox API functionality

- Download single communication file
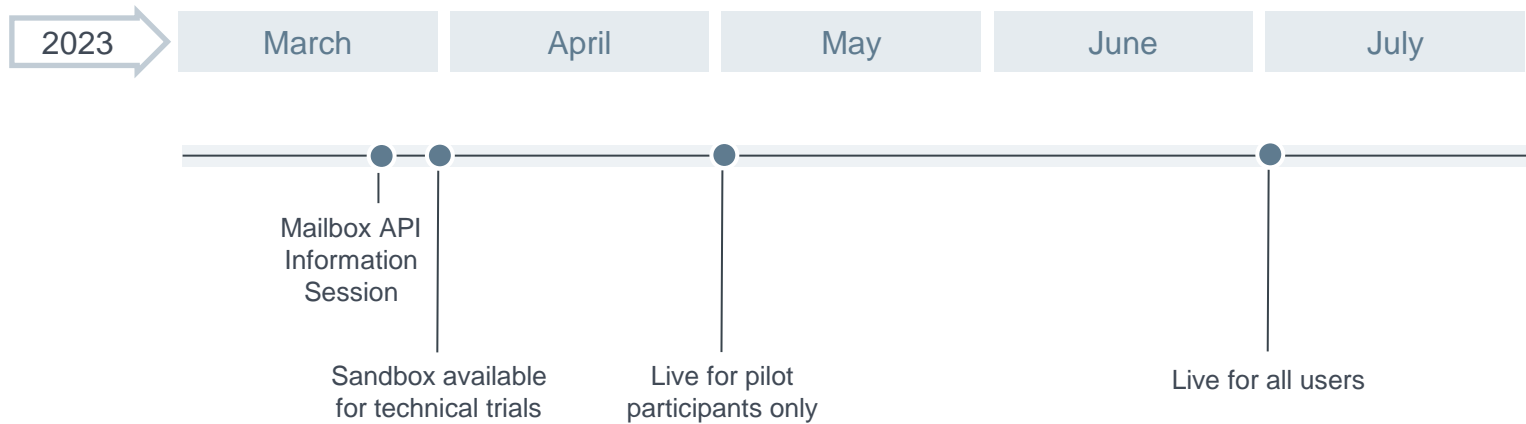

- Mark communication as handled

Authentication mechanisms

- Authentication mechanisms rely on the same software used by other EPO online services (Okta)

- Upon completion of the registration process, specific credentials are provided for each "*system account*"

- The system account can be viewed in the MyEPO Portfolio administration screens, among all user accounts within a company.

- Authentication to EPO services require an access token generated by Okta.

Authentication Provider

Okta Authorisation Server

(1) authenticate ASA service user

(2) ID token

API Key (ID & Secret)

User IP Management System

(3) Okta Access token

EPO Service

Mailbox API Authentication
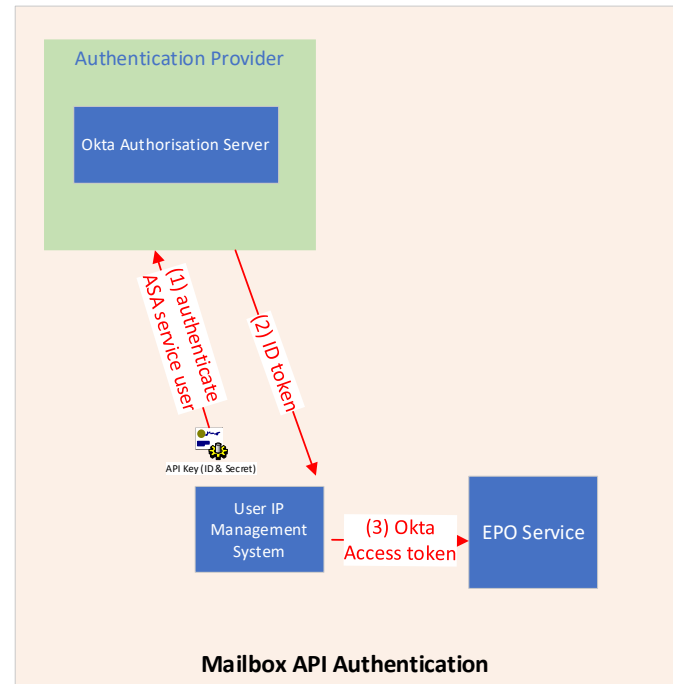
EPO Mailbox API timeline

2023 | March | April | May | June | July

Mailbox API Information Session

Sandbox available for technical trials

Live for pilot participants only

Live for all users

Thank you

for more information about the EPO Mailbox API :

https://www.epo.org/applying/online-services/improving/myepo-portfolio-api.html