



API Taskforce Status Report

For CWS/9 November 1 – 5, 2021

Derek Spero ISED/CIPO, plus UKIPO
API TF Co-Leads

Purpose of the API taskforce

- Forum for discussions, knowledge sharing, and initiate tasks/studies related to Intellectual Property API development.
 - Eliminate the guess work, and result in common look, feel, behavior and shared practices for IP related APIs.
 - Taskforce members are IP Web Service developers and related IP data technical experts elected by their Taskforce member offices in response to CWS Circular CWS 127-03 “Establishment of the API Task Force”.
 - Discussions are held via periodically scheduled online discussions as well as potentially in-person discussions.
 - Material and discussions are recorded and made available via the TF wiki hosted by WIPO-IB.
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Background Of The Draft Standard And Establishment of the API Taskforce

- Oct 2016 - Began as a discussion within XML4IP task force (TF).
- CWS 2017 - 'task' within the XML4IP taskforce - "prepare API recommendation".
- 2017 - Documented proposal from the USPTO for "Web Service Design Rules".
- 2019 - XML4IP task force proposed the creation of a new API taskforce.
- CWS/7 2019 - WIPO-IB prepared the first 'formal' draft of the API standard, taskforce was approved.
- Nov 2019 – Activation of API taskforce and WIKI-space with CIPO and UKIPO volunteering to co-lead. Drafts of the standard then went through 3 rounds.
- June 2020 – First API TF "API Day". Discuss use/guidance of the standard, walk through examples and demonstrations of APIs by volunteer participants.
- CWS 2020 – New API Standard ST.90 Approved

Current Status

- Recent Webex to discuss TF members API evolutions included participants from CIPO and UKIPO as TF Leaders overseen by IB, along with participants from JPO, USPTO, KIPO, EPO and IPA.
- All participants have live FTP based transaction exchange such as for Madrid and Hague.
- Some IPOs have recently gone live with API evolutions which have been aligned with ST.90 guidance. Some IPOs have plans for new APIs and are aligning with ST.90.
- Use of JSON was discussed. A formal JSON standard draft from XML4IP is in the works. This is being lead by the USPTO and EUIPO.
- There are no changes to ST.90 being tabled at this time.

Next Steps

- WIPO-IB has offered to host a second API Day.
- Participants have expressed interest in tabling API plans, evolutions from their IPOs.

Questions ?