



Patent Work-Sharing Initiative

WIPO 27th SCP

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ASEAN Patent Examination Cooperation (ASPEC) Programme

ASPEC is a regional patent work-sharing programme among 9 participating ASEAN Member States.

Features:

- Free service
- Operates in English
- Online Filing: aseanip.org/e-aspec

Benefits:

- Accelerate patent examination
- Reduce duplication through work-sharing
- Improve quality of S&E report



Brunei



Cambodia



Indonesia



Laos



Malaysia



Philippines



Singapore



Thailand



Viet Nam

How Does ASPEC Work?

ASEAN Member State
“first IP Office”



Search & Examination
Request



Final Examination
Report



Can Refer
(Not bound
by reference)



ASPEC Request



ASPEC Member State
“second IP Office”
[any other AMS]



Expedited Processes
(Advanced out-of-
turn until grant)

ASPEC vs PPH

	Origin of Report	Mode of Acceleration	Time of request
PPH	Report from the Office of first filing (OFF)/ Office of Earlier Examination (OEE)	Expedited examination of PPH applications (typical PPH) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced out-of-turn 	PPH request is required to be filed at a specific point in time
ASPEC	S&E report(s) from any participating AMS IP Office	Expedited S&E work as an IP Office can refer to the S&E work of another participating AMS IP Office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced out-of-turn until grant 	ASPEC request can be filed at any time before the final decision of grant or refusal

Requests in each AMS

			2nd AMS								
											
			BN	KH	ID	LA	MY	PH	SG	TH	VN
1st AMS		BN									
		KH									
		ID					4			5	1
		LA									
		MY			1					13	9
		PH			1		1		1	7	3
		SG			9		69	10		74	34
		TH									
		VN								1	

(Source: www.aseanip.org)

ASPEC Pendency Statistics

274

Total number of
ASPEC requests

6.5

Average pendency
to 1st office action
(months)

156

Number of ASPEC
requests with a 1st &
final office action

100

Allowance rate at
final decision
(percent)

(Source: www.aseanip.org)

ASPEC Taskforce

- Set up in 2011 to enhance cooperation between the offices in the area of patent S&E
- ASPEC Focal Points meet twice a year
- Aim to improve quality and efficiency of S&E practices through initiatives such as Community of Practice for patent examiners
- Engage stakeholders to raise awareness of ASPEC



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Thank you for your attention!

More information about ASPEC can be
found at the ASEAN IP Portal

