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**SPECIAL UNION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASSIFICATION
(IPC UNION)**

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

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REVISION OF THE GUIDE TO THE IPC

Document prepared by the International Bureau

1. The Annex to this document contains a proposal, approved by the PCIPI Working Group on Search Information at its twenty-first session, for the revision of the Guide to the IPC.

2. *The Committee of Experts is invited to adopt the proposal contained in the Annex to this document.*

[Annex follows]

ANNEX

REVISION OF THE GUIDE TO THE IPC

Paragraphs	Approved changes
6.	The first edition of the Classification was in force from September 1, 1968, to June 30, 1974, the second from July 1, 1974, to December 31, 1979, the third from January 1, 1980, to December 31, 1984, the fourth from January 1, 1985, to December 31, 1989, the fifth from January 1, 1990, to December 31, 1994, and the sixth from January 1, 1995, to December 31, 1999. This edition (the seventh) entered into force on January 1, 2000.
10.	--- of the sixth edition --- were established in the Chinese, Czech, German, Hungarian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Russian and Spanish languages.
11.	--- a first list (published in 1980) relates to the revision of the second edition, a second list (published in 1984) relates to the revision of the third edition, a third list (published in 1989) relates to the revision of the fourth edition, a fourth list (published in 1994) relates to the revision of the fifth edition and, finally, a fifth list (published in 1999) relates to the revision of the sixth edition. These publications may serve as an aid to the users using the second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh editions of the Classification.
12.	--- available through the IPC:CLASS CD-ROM, which has been --- The IPC:CLASS CD-ROM relating to the seventh edition of the Classification, which can be obtained from WIPO, contains: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh editions of the Classification in English and French; --- <i>to be completed in due time</i>- the Catchword Indexes in English, French --- <i>to be completed in due time</i>- the revision concordance data relating to the second/third, third/fourth, fourth/fifth, fifth/sixth and sixth/seventh editions of the Classification;- the data relating to all symbols having been used in the Classification.
23.	--- levels, subgroup A 63 H 3/40 would ---
24.	---

Paragraphs	Approved changes
28. --- (d) In the printed version of the Classification a reference from one group ---mentioning the subclass. Example: B 62 L 3/00	Brake-actuating mechanisms (actuating mechanisms for back-pedalling brakes 5/00; Bowden mechanisms F 16 C 1/10); Arrangements thereof.

INDICATION OF CHANGES WITH RESPECT TO PREVIOUS EDITIONS

30. In order to assist the user, the text of the Classification is presented in such a way as to give some indication of the kind of changes it has undergone with respect to previous editions.

The following indications are used in this edition of the Classification:

(a) Text in italics means that the entry in question, in relation to the sixth edition, either
(i) is new, or
(ii) has been changed (in wording or in hierarchical position) so that the scope (see paragraphs 43 to 48) of one or more groups was affected, or
(iii) has been deleted (see under (c) below).

In cases (i) or (ii), above, the entry in italics is followed by an Arabic numeral in square brackets (see under (b) below).

(b) An Arabic numeral in square brackets (for example [4] or [7]), at the end of an entry, indicates the edition of the Classification where the entry was, in relation to the preceding edition, either
(i) new, or
(ii) changed (in wording or hierarchical position) so that the scope of one or more groups was affected.

One and the same entry may be followed by two or more Arabic numerals in square brackets (for example [4,7] or [2,4,6]), which means that in each of the editions referred to by these numerals, the entry, in relation to the preceding edition, has undergone one of the changes set forth in (i) or (ii), above.

An entry which has existed since the first edition of the Classification and has been changed only in the seventh edition (in wording or hierarchical position) so that the scope of one or more of the groups was affected, is followed by [1,7].

A note which is new with respect to the previous edition is followed by an Arabic numeral in square brackets indicating the edition in which it was introduced.

(c) The symbols of groups that have been deleted, i.e. groups that existed in the sixth edition of the Classification but do not exist in the seventh edition, are printed with an indication in italics of where the subject matter concerned is transferred to, or covered in, the seventh edition.

Paragraphs	Approved changes
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Examples:	
50/02	(covered by 43/06, 43/10)
57/32	(transferred to 57/05)
13/10	(transferred to 19/015, covered by 17/14)
The symbols of groups which have been deleted in the sixth or previous editions do not appear in the seventh edition.	
37	--- Carriages for children; Perambulators ---
40.	---
Example:	
	--- with semiconductor detectors is covered by group H 01 L 31/00 and is classified in group G 01 T 3/08 when the subject matter ---
44	--- Examples: (i) The Notes following the ---
47	--- subject matter which falls within its ---
56.	--- e.g. golf clubs (A 63 B 53/00), hand hammers (B 25 D 1/00).
59.	---
	(a) --- the essential technical characteristic of the subject ---
81.	---
Examples:	
	1. --- classified in group B 01 J 23/36, containing ---
90.	--- a pleated hose.
3.	B 42 D 15/10 // B 42 D 111:00, 203:00, 213:00
	These symbols and codes indicate
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– one classification symbol representing invention information, B 42 D 15/10, concerning identity, credit, cheque or like information-bearing cards;– three unlinked indexing codes, B 42 D 111:00, 203:00, 213:00, which indicate, respectively, that the card is made of paper or cardboard and that the one data feature is the picture of the user and the other in form of a relief or indentation.
99.	---
monitor (V)	= maintain a continuous ---