

start

#### **DI Gerhard LOSENICKY**



- at APO since 1991
- Examiner for 15 years
- since 2006 in the technical central section

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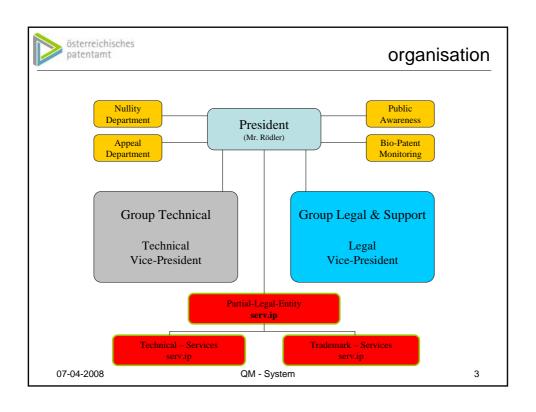
overview

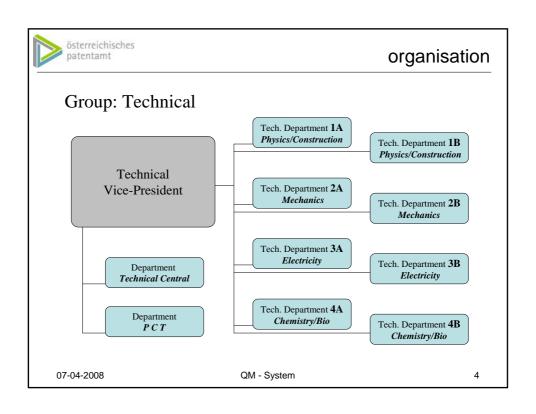
- 1.) Brief overview about the WIPO Guidelines concerning the Quality System (Part VII)
  - → Situation in the Austrian Patent Office
- 2.) Quality Assurance and Internal Review at the Austrian Patent Office for Search- and Examination Reports

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2







# PCT -guidelines

#### Quality Management System (21.03

- Resources
- Administration
- · Quality Assurance
- · Feedback Arrangements
- · Communications and Guidance to Users

#### Internal Review (21.10 - 21.15)

- · Monitoring and Measuring
- Analysis
- · Improvement

#### **Reporting Arrangement** (21.16 - 21.18)

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#### resources

6

#### 1.) Resources

- a) A quantity of qualified Examiners
- b) Administrative staff to support the technically qualified staff
- c) Appropriate equipment and facilities
- d) Possession or access to minimum documentation
- e) Work manuals (comprehensive and up-to-date)
- f) Training and development program for all staff
- g) Monitoring and identifying the resources



### administration

### 2.) Administration

- a) Control mechanisms for timely issue of SR and EX-R
- b) Control mechanisms for fluctuations in demand
- c) Handling complaints

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## quality assurance

## 3.) Quality Assurance

- a) Internal quality insurance system
- b) Measuring, recording, monitoring the performance of the QMS
- c) Verifying the effectiveness
- d) Ensuring the continuous improvement

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8



# feedback arrangements

## 4.) Feedback Arrangements

- a) Communication of the result of the internal quality insurance system
- b) Effective communication with WIPO

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### communications to users

9

### 5.) Communications and Guidance to Users

- a) Effective communication channel
- b) Clear, concise guidance and information for users



# 3 steps for quality assurance

# 3 Steps for **Quality Assurance at the Austrian Patent Office**

- 1) Quality assurance during the Search/Examination
- 2) Quality assurance in the department
- 3) Review/audit system for checking the Search/Examination

07-04-2008 QM - System 11

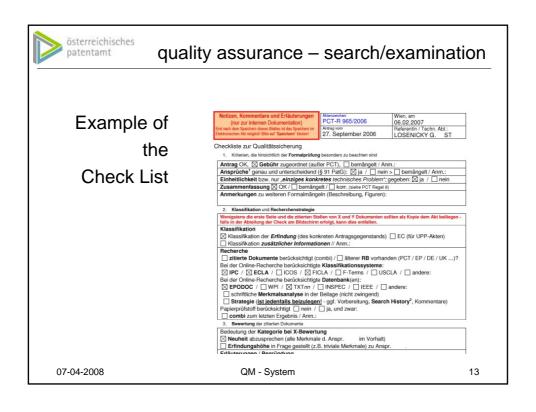


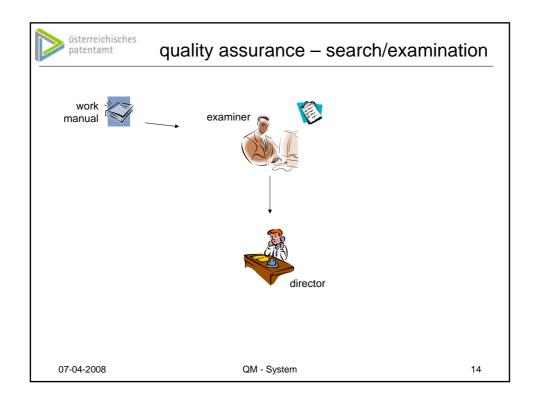
# quality assurance - search/examination

#### 1). Quality assurance during the Search/Examination

Examiner has to fill in a Check List:

- ı. Formal requirements: fees, unity, claims clear, ....
- II. About classification: IC, EC
- III. Search strategies: databases, full-text-db, means-list,
- IV. Document assessement: category (X,Y,A), novelty, inventive step
- v. Able to relate the process of search/report







# quality assurance - department

### 2). Quality assurance in the department

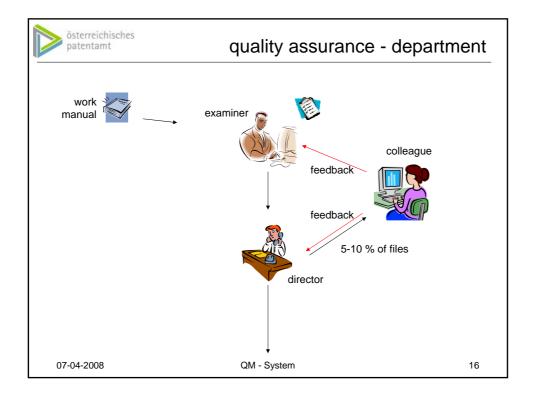
Two groups of reports:

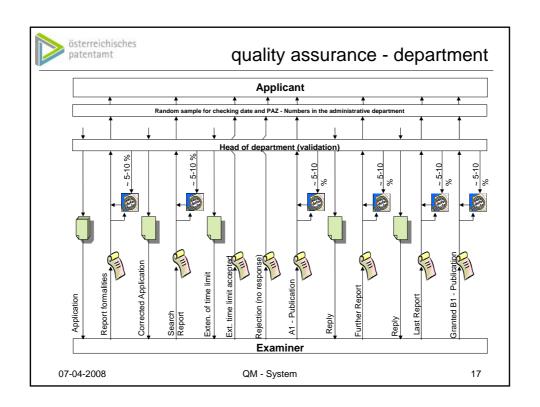
- Easy formal Reports: in most cases only to fill in a form
  Report is directly delivered to the administrative department
- Basic Reports: all PCT files, Searches, Examination, Written Opinion, Rejection, ...

Head (director) of a department takes a sample of 5-10%

→ to a colleague of the examiner for checking the result

 $(2007: \sim 900/7200)$ 







# quality assurance - review/audit

# 3). Review / Audit system for checking the Search/Examination → *QM Board*

Every quater of a year 1 PCT and 1 nat.appl. file of each department

- 5 Directors (one of each group Me, Ch, El, Ph, t.c.section)
- > Checking search strategy and the content of the report
- Feedback to the examiner, director
- > Corrective and preventive action to eliminate the cause of non-compliance
- > Checking the effectiveness of the QMS
- > Report to WIPO (21.15 21.18)

