

WIPO Circular C.9141

Contribution of Germany to a document compiling information relating to the expedited examination programs of IP offices

Expedited examination at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office (DPMA) by means of the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) system

Since 2008, the German Patent and Trade Mark Office has concluded several bilateral PPH agreements with various national partner offices. In July 2015, the DPMA joined the multilateral Global PPH (GPPH). The (G)PPH enables the applicant to file a request for accelerated examination of an application whose claims have already been found patentable by one (G)PPH partner office (Office of Earlier Examination, OEE). This applies as long as the German Patent and Trade Mark Office – as the other partner office – has not yet begun examination (Office of Later Examination, OLE).