



This monthly update will include information from the USPTO EFS-Web development team. This update focuses on the Beta testing of **EFS-Web**, the web-based patent filing system. Beta testing phases, training and the responsibilities of both Beta users and the USPTO will be highlighted. We consider Beta participants of the E-Filing Forum and their users part of the team that will make **EFS-Web** successful in IP offices, locally and worldwide. The following slides depict some of the proposed EFS-Web screens that will be in place when the Beta test begins.

USPTO-Beta Responsibilities

We have identified responsibilities for those involved in this important collaborative effort:

Responsibilities of the USPTO

- Provide a secure and easy-to-use electronic filing system
- Provide thorough training for using **EFS-Web**
- Listen to and consider all user feedback for improvement
- Support your technical and legal needs

Responsibilities of the Beta user

- To provide feedback regarding the operation of the system and its impact on workflow
- To provide the USPTO with valuable information on your computer profile and workplace environment that will enhance **EFS-Web** operation.
- Successfully file patent applications online using **EFS-Web**

Beta Training

Beta training will make the transition to the new system quick and simple. Formal training activities will begin on **November 29, 2005**, however, before that date, the **EFS-Web** Team will be providing Beta users with useful information. The types of training may include:

Webinars – Online, interactive presentations

CBT – Computer-based Training modules

On-site - One-on-one training with the **EFS-Web** Team

Two is Better than One

EFS-Web's Beta testing will be divided into two phases. By dividing users into two phases, we will be able to fully support the volume of users, questions, and detailed feedback expected. Users will get more individual attention and training on how to use **EFS-Web**.

Phase 1:

The first group to be able to test **EFS-Web** will be those who participated in previous E-Filing Forums. Forum participants will receive an invitation in mid-October and the Beta will open on **Friday, December 1, 2005**. During the Beta, digital certificate holders will authenticate using TruePass™ and their existing digital certificates. Phase 1 Beta users will be able to use the system during Phase 2 as well.

Phase 2:

The second group to test **EFS-Web** will be selected from individuals who have expressed an interest in the Beta but who were not E-Filing Forum participants. Phase 2 will begin on **Tuesday, January 17, 2006**. Digital certificate holders in this group will also authenticate using TruePass™ and their existing digital certificates.

Upon successful completion of the Beta, **EFS-Web** will move into production on **Friday, March 17, 2006**. We appreciate your anticipation and on-going support of this effort to improve the way customers conduct business at the USPTO.

Upcoming Events

- **October 17: Beta Invitations Sent**
- **November 30: Beta Packets Sent and Training Begins**
- **December 1: Beta Phase 1 Begins**
- **January 17: Beta Phase 2 Begins**
- **March 17: EFS-Web Production Begins**

Give Us Your Feedback

Your continued feedback is important to the EFS-Web development team. Please send your comments or feedback on the EFS-Web development program to:

EfilingForum@uspto.gov





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First Named Inventor	Bratt Simpson	
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