EFS-Web News *Program Update*

EFS-Web - The New Web-Based Patent Electronic Filing System

November 2005

This monthly update includes information from the USPTO EFS-Web development team. This update focuses on the Beta orientation, browser information, PDF drivers, e-filing forms, and support news.

Beta is only the Beginning

With Beta testing only a month away, we want you to know that this is only the beginning of a world-class patent submission tool. In addition to the ability to pay fees online, submit PDFs, and use a wide array of browsers, we have more features planned for future releases of EFS Web. We will be conducting an online orientation for Beta users on November 15th and 17th during the day. The orientation will include: detailed training information, beta procedures, computer configuration tips, feedback methods, and support information.

Candidate Browsers

Instead of making users tailor their systems, EFS-Web has been designed to better represent our users configurations. Our goal is to support as many browsers as possible and we are currently testing EFS-Web against an extensive set of popular browsers. A full list of supported browsers will be available in the Beta packet. Please note that browsers will need Javascript enabled. Currently, EFS-Web has been successfully tested with certain versions of Safari, Internet Explorer, and the family of Mozilla/Netscape products.

PDF Drivers for Creating Forms

One of the key features of EFS-Web is the ability to electronically file PDF documents. This will allow users to create their documents with a popular and easy-to-use technology, independent of any proprietary software. Users can choose which PDF driver they would like to use to create their PDF documents. Detailed PDF Guidelines will be included as a part of the Beta packet. Currently, the EFS-Web team has tested the following PDF Drivers:

Adobe products	OpenOffice Writer
CutePDF	PrimoPDF
Pdf995	Easy Office
PDF Redirect	

Remaining Communications

The EFS development team would like to thank you for your continuing support of this Beta program. We encourage open communication throughout this process and would like to advise you of the remaining communications that will occur before Beta begins.

In November, we will:

➢ Send orientation details, including webinar url, conference phone number and exact times
➢ Send an On-Site Training schedule
➢ Confirm Mailing Addresses

We expect to receive:

➢ Finished Profile Questionnaires
➢ On-Site Training RSVPs
➢ Names associated with Digital Cert. for Beta access

USPTO Fillable Forms

Along with the new Electronic Filing System, USPTO will be releasing two PDF fillable forms: the Application Data Sheet and the Information Disclosure Statement. These forms include a rich array of features including pre-populated drop-down lists, a data import capability, and the ability to save and reuse the document. The forms currently contain minimal validation of required fields. The EFS-Web development team is working on incorporating additional server-side validation in upcoming versions. The development team will be periodically releasing additional PDF fillable forms to aid in the patent application process.

Superior Support

Even though EFS-Web is extremely easy to use, you may occasionally have a question for our support staff. When calling the Electronic Business Center (EBC), please identify yourself as an EFS-Web Beta Participant in order to receive support specialized for the new release.

Upcoming Events

➢ **November 15, 17: Beta Orientation Webinars**
➢ **November 29: On-line Webinar Training**
➢ **November 30: Beta User Training at USPTO**
➢ **December 1: Commence Beta Phase 1**
➢ **January 17: Commence Beta Phase 2**

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**