



# **Recent development of International Classifications**

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# Overviews

■ IPC

■ Nice

■ Locarno

■ Vienna

# IPC Workshop

(Feb. 21, 2017)

- IPC and other Classifications
- IPC Publication Platform and other IPC-Related Electronic Products and Services
- Classification Needs-User's Perspectives and their Involvement in the Revision
- Possibilities Offered by Automatic Text Categorization in the IPC

# IPC Committee of Experts

(Feb. 22-23, 2017)

- Renewal of IPC Revision roadmap adopted in 2013
  - Continuous application of streamlined revision procedure
  - Proactive approach based on candidate revision areas based on number of patent applications in emerging countries
- Ensure maximum coherence between IPC and other patent classifications
- New emerging technology (ex. IoT)
- Importance of industries' opinion
- Overly complex structures and divergence in classification practice (also in relation to AI etc.)

# Discussion on IoT and Industry 4.0 (New emerging technologies )

## ■ IP5WG1 in March :

Divergent views and necessity to harmonize the various positions of IP5

Agreed that work should be advanced enough so that a decision can be taken at the next session

## ■ IP5WG1 in October:

IoT, AI, 3D printing, autonomous vehicle

# Semiconductor (H01L)

(Overly complicated areas)

- Expert Group was established at CE48 in 2016 to address overly complicated and deeply subdivided structure
- Substantive discussion is being done through electric means and physical meeting will be held in conjunction with RWG in November

# IPC 2018.01

- Entry into force in Jan. 2018
- Available as Early publication at IPCPUB
- 1057 new subdivisions and 597 modifications through the discussion at RWG36 in Nov. 2016 and RWG37 in May 2017
- In particular, following areas
  - Healthcare informatics (G06F19/00, G16H)
  - Environmentally Sound Technologies (new subclasses F24S, F24T and F24V)
  - Horticulture; Cultivation of vegetables(A01G)

# IPC PUB7 as from 2017

## ■ Smart search

Combination of STATS, IPCCAT and term search in definition and catchword index

## ■ Archive mode

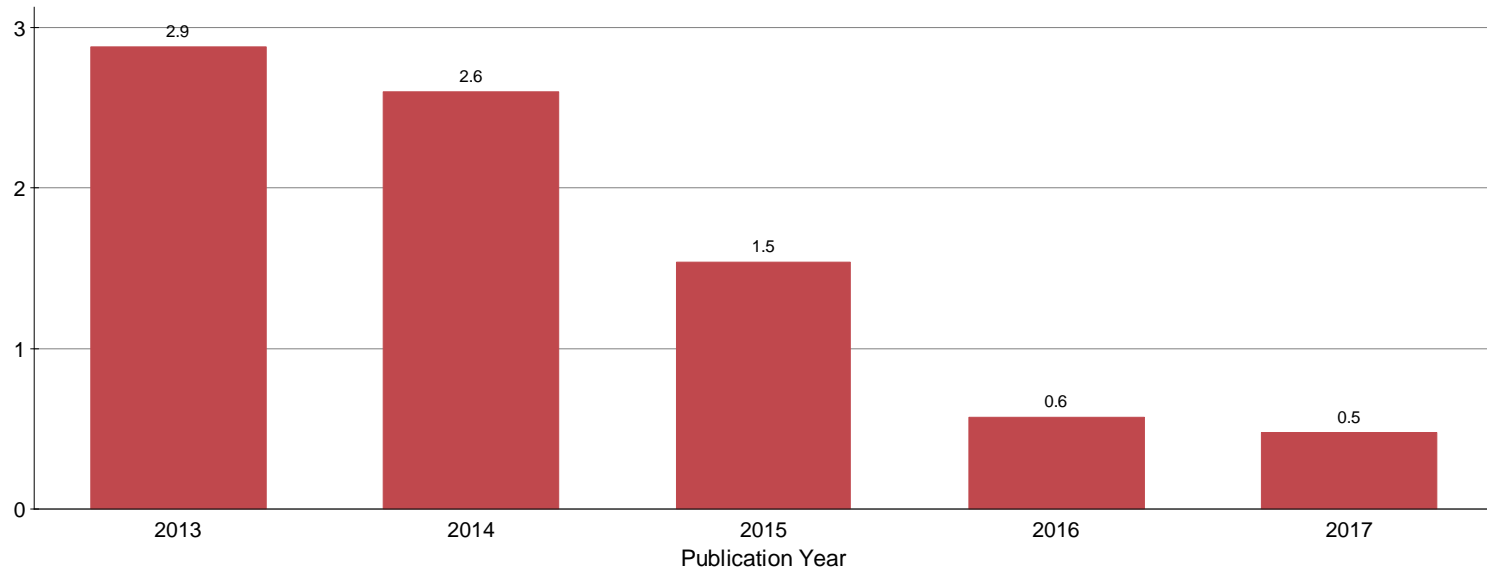
Freeze on presentation of legacy IPC versions as published while in force on the basis of PDF format



# Missing Classification in International Publications

- Circular C. PCT 1425 (Oct 2014) set out 2013 position
- Related issues taken up between IB and individual Authorities and discussed by Meeting of International Authorities
- Headline figure down from 2.9% in 2013 to 0.5% in 2017 so far

# Global Missing IPC Figures Down



*Data source: informal analysis by the International Bureau, October 2017  
2017 figures cover publications up to 23 October 2016*

# Summary on missing IPCs

- Significant improvements have been made
- More work still to be done
  - particularly with some ISAs and some technical fields
- IB continues to work with Offices on:
  - faster delivery of search copies
  - improvements in timeliness of ISRs
  - further strengthening processes for obtaining IPCs even when ISR is not ready in time for publication

# NCL (11-2018)

- 11th version from 2017.01
- Entry into force in Jan. 2018
- Available as Early publication at NCLPUB
- 884 modifications including 205 new entries
  - Cl. 9 - The “IT/electronics”
  - Cl. 30 - One of the food classes
  - Cl. 12 – Vehicles
  - Cl. 10 – Surgical, medical, dental and veterinary apparatus and instruments
  - Cl. 35 – Advertising, business

# LOC (11)

- Effective from 2017.01
- 141 new entries and 82 modifications
- New publication platform will come soon
- Committee of Experts for next revision will be held in Nov. 2017
  - Cl. 14 - Recording, communication and information retrieval equipment
  - Cl. 24 - Medical and laboratory equipment
  - Cl. 28 - Pharmaceutical and cosmetic products, toilet articles and apparatus
  - Cl. 2 - Articles of clothing and haberdashery

## VCL (8)

- Entry into force in 2018.01
- Data is available at e-forum (Project VC008)
- 156 modifications through the discussion at Committee of Experts in 2016
  - Category 3 (animals)
  - Category 26 (geometrical figures and solids)

**Thank you for your attention !**