



Europäisches  
Patentamt  
European  
Patent Office  
Office européen  
des brevets

# Search Matters 2020

Online conference for patent search professionals  
14-16 October 2020

Organised by  
the European Patent Academy

[epo.org/search-matters](https://epo.org/search-matters)



## Introduction

Search Matters goes digital!

Search Matters offers participants a unique opportunity to gain an insight into the search strategies and techniques used by EPO examiners. This year's event focuses on industry-specific searches in the fields of additive manufacturing and artificial intelligence.

Participants can also find out how to search Asian prior art more efficiently, as well as how to get the most out of the new Espacenet.

Join the plenary sessions and choose from a range of parallel workshops for your chance to interact with EPO examiners about their approaches to searching.

Find out more: [epo.org/search-matters](https://epo.org/search-matters)

## Wednesday, 14 October 2020

### 09.00 Introduction

*Gemma Mitchell, Chairperson of the Search Matters Committee, EPO*

### 09.20 Welcome speech

*Stephen Rowan, Vice-President, Patent Granting Process, EPO*

### 9.30 Plenary 1

#### **Additive manufacturing, space missions and IP: latest developments**

*Tommaso Ghidini, Head, Structures, Mechanisms and Materials Division, ESA*

### 10.30 Workshop session I

#### **WS01**

##### **Artificial intelligence – one of the most disruptive technologies in history**

*Elena Virnik, examiner, EPO*

#### **WS02**

##### **Advanced features in Espacenet**

*Johannes Schaaf, administrator, Patent Knowledge Promotion, EPO*

#### **WS03**

##### **The problem-solution approach – a powerful search tool**

*Anne-Cécile Derrien, examiner, EPO*

### 11.30 Workshop session II

#### **WS04**

##### **Patent insight reports: frontiers of additive manufacturing**

*Nigel Clarke, research manager, Patent Knowledge Promotion, EPO*

*Björn Jürgens, Senior Analyst, CITPIA patent information centre, Innovation and Development Agency of Andalusia (IDEA)*

#### **WS05**

##### **The ABC of search engines**

*Andrew Thean, examiner, EPO*

*Stefan Ziegler, examiner, EPO*

#### **WS06**

##### **Lost in machine translation?**

*Maxime Delaitre, examiner, EPO*

### 12.30 Closing remarks day 1

*Gemma Mitchell, Chairperson of the Search Matters Committee, EPO*

## Thursday, 15 October 2020

**09.00** Welcome to the day

**09.15** **Plenary 2a**

**Finding the way in the maze of disruptive technologies/1:  
exploiting the CPC**

*Pierre Held, administrator, Directorate Classification and  
Documentation EPO*

**Plenary 2b**

**Finding the way in the maze of disruptive technologies/2:  
exploiting Espacenet, GPI and PATSTAT**

*Johannes Schaaf, administrator, Patent Knowledge Promotion,  
EPO*

**10.30** **Workshop session III**

**WS07**

**Searching cross-technology inventions**

*Anna Kajzar, examiner, EPO*

**WS08**

**CPC international and Asian documentation**

*Bart Degroote, examiner/team manager, EPO  
Yann Aubry, examiner, EPO*

**WS09**

**Forward search: a complementary tool to keyword-  
and class-based prior art searches**

*Marion Sigrist, examiner, EPO*

**11.30** **Workshop session IV**

**WS10**

**Beyond patent families – interrelated patents and  
applications**

*Alain Materne, examiner, EPO*

*Gershom Sleightholme-Albanis, senior expert/examiner, EPO*

*Nigel Clarke, research manager, Patent Knowledge Promotion,  
EPO*

**WS02**

**Advanced features in Espacenet**

*Johannes Schaaf, administrator, Patent Knowledge Promotion,  
EPO*

**WS03**

**The problem-solution approach – a powerful search tool**

*Anne-Cécile Derrien, examiner, EPO*

**12.30** **Closing remarks day 2**

*Gemma Mitchell, Chairperson of the Search Matters Committee,  
EPO*

## Friday, 16 October 2020

**09.00** Welcome to the day

**09.15** Plenary 3

**Trends in industrial additive manufacturing and the relevance of patents**

*Mike Shellabear, Director, IP & Technical Services, EOS*

**10.30** Workshop session V

**WS11**

**Computer-implemented inventions for additive manufacturing**

*Boyan Radev, examiner, EPO*

**WS02**

**Advanced features in Espacenet**

*Johannes Schaaf, administrator, Patent Knowledge Promotion, EPO*

**WS12**

**Access to Japanese prior-art using classification, indexing and citation information**

*Adam Cohen, examiner, EPO*

*Christoph Wirner, examiner, EPO*

**11.30** Plenary 4

**On the trail of disruptive technologies, clues from patent analysis**

*Nigel Clarke, Patent Knowledge research manager, Patent Knowledge Promotion, EPO*

**12.15** Conference closing remarks

*Gemma Mitchell, Chairperson of the Search Matters Committee, EPO*