



<http://guides.libraries.psu.edu/patents>

MISSION STATEMENT

Penn State University Libraries is one of three Patent and Trademark Resource Centers (PTRC) in Pennsylvania along with the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and the Free Library of Philadelphia. As an official affiliate of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), we provide assistance to the public in the use of patent and trademark information resources. Librarians and library staff are familiar with searching and can show you how to use online databases, books, and other information sources. With campus locations throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the University Libraries offers this outreach service as part of Penn State University's land grant mission.

<https://libraries.psu.edu/hours-and-locations>
(for hours and maps)

FOR APPOINTMENTS OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

John Meier, Patent and Trademark Resource Center Librarian
Physical and Mathematical Sciences Library, University Park
e-mail: meier@psu.edu phone: (814) 867-1448

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DISCLAIMER

PTRCs are neither required nor encouraged to conduct patent and trademark searches for their patrons as that activity may be interpreted as rendering a legal judgment or opinion. PTRCs are required to instruct patrons in the use of the search tools available at the PTRCs for patrons conducting their own patent and trademark searches.

— USPTO Guidelines for Patent and Trademark Resource Centers (PTRCs)



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Patent Searching

A patent is an exclusive right granted to an inventor for a limited time to exclude others from making, using or selling their invention. Patent searching is important to determine if an idea is already patented or potentially patentable.

U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

<http://patft.uspto.gov>

The PatFT (Patent Full-Text) Database is the official search engine of the United States Patent Office. Only U.S. patents issued since 1976 are completely searchable. For U.S. patents from 1790-1976 there is limited searching, though all U.S. patents are available as PDF files.

esp@cenet EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE DATABASE

<http://worldwide.espacenet.com>

A truly 'worldwide' patent search. Includes documents from almost 100 patent agencies with machine translation available for most information. Original patent documents are available in the language of the country of origin. Dates of coverage for patent data vary by country.

GOOGLE PATENT SEARCH

<http://www.google.com/patents/>

Full text searching of U.S. patents since 1836, with a growing collection of international patents. Some errors due to digitization and links to official patent offices for most current information. Use the Advanced Search to find by inventor, dates, assignee, and other parts of the patent.

Trademark Searching

A trademark is a word, symbol, phrase, or design that is used to identify a business, service, or product to distinguish it in the marketplace. U.S. registration is available for current use in interstate commerce.

TRADEMARK ELECTRONIC SEARCH SYSTEM (TESS)

<http://www.uspto.gov/ebs/tess/index.html>

Provides for online searching of existing trademark application and registration information. TESS has both text and image based searching for active and dead marks in the U.S.

Penn State Libraries' Resources

BOOKS ON PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

These are some of the many books available through any Penn State campus to our users and PA residents.

Patent Searching Made Easy is a guide to patent searching on the Internet and in the library.

Patent it Yourself and **Patent Pending in 24 Hours** written by patent attorneys

BROCHURES AND FORMS

Print brochures from the USPTO are available at the University Park campus or by email request to any PA resident.

- General Information Concerning Patents
- Basic Facts About Trademarks
- A Guide to Filing a Design Patent and Utility Patent Application
- Provisional Application For Patent
- Revised Fee Schedules.

Information for Inventors and Entrepreneurs

U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

<http://www.uspto.gov>

The comprehensive site from the United States Department of Commerce that offers an overview of this agency as well as help for individual inventors on filing for a patent or trademark in the U.S.

PENN STATE OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT (OTM)

<http://www.research.psu.edu/otm>

The Office of Technology Management (OTM) is responsible for managing, protecting, and licensing the intellectual property owned by Penn State created by faculty, graduate students, and staff.

INVENT PENN STATE

<http://invent.psu.edu>

The Invent Penn State website is a clearinghouse for the many support networks available for Penn State and Pennsylvania resident entrepreneurs. Look for the local Penn State Launchbox incubator in your region of the state.

PENN STATE LAW CLINICS (ENTREPRENEURSHIP and INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY)

<http://pennstatelaw.psu.edu/practice-skills/clinics/>

The Penn State Law Entrepreneur Assistance Clinic and Intellectual Property Clinic provide pro bono (free) counseling services throughout Pennsylvania to individuals, start-ups and early-stage businesses with limited financial resources. Students at Penn State Law staff the Clinics and perform services under the supervision of the lawyer-directors of the Clinics, who screen requests from potential clients.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SBDC)

<http://www.pasbdc.org/centers>

Pennsylvania SBDCs provide entrepreneurs with training and information needed to start a business, including intellectual property, contracts and financials.



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