



Electronic patents soon introduced in Russia



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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, RUSSIA

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An amendment to the current legislation envisaging significant developments of patent registration has been tabled for review and adoption by the Russian parliament. The current electronic system of the Russian PTO provides for the opportunity to file applications for designs, patents, industrial models and trademarks in electronic form and exchange correspondence with the PTO in the same way. In accordance with the project, an applicant will also have an option of attaching 3D models of IP objects to the materials of the application. Such 3D models will be used only for searches of similar registered intellectual property rights in the examination process and will not be published.

Besides, the proposed amendment introduces the electronic format of registration certificates/patent letters for all intellectual property objects registered by the Russian PTO (excluding secret inventions) and leaving the issuance of hard copy certificates as an option for right holders, at their request. The electronic form of registration documents is a normal practice in the EU, but Russian right holders will need to get accustomed to electronic certificates and patent letters replacing paper documents.

The Russian PTO reported to have the technical opportunities in place to upload 3D models, use them for examination purposes and issue electronic registration documents as soon as the relevant amendment to the Russian Civil Code comes into force.





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