

# **Patent Initiatives**

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uspto

### Track One – Prioritized Patent Examination Program

- Track One program applications are accorded special status during prosecution until a final disposition is reached
- The Office's goal is to provide a final disposition within twelve months of prioritized status being granted
  - Final disposition includes mailing of a notice of allowance or final Office action, filing of a notice of appeal, completion of examination as defined in 37 CFR 41.102, filing of ar USOLO abandonment of the application

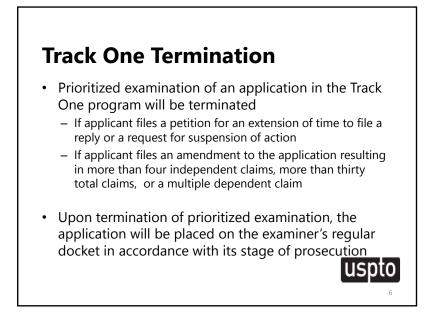
#### **Track One Requirements**

- Original utility or plant non-provisional applications filed under 35 USC 111(a), may be continuation or divisional applications
- Track One utility applications must be filed via EFS-Web
- Must contain four or less independent claims, thirty or less total claims, and no multiple dependent claims
- Applicants are advised to submit Prioritized Examination Request Form PTO\AIA\424 when filing the application

- Prioritized examination fee must accompany the re

### **Track One Requirements for RCEs**

- Requests for prioritized examination may be filed concurrently with or subsequently to the filing of a request for continued examination (RCE)
- The request for prioritized examination must be filed before the mailing of the first Office action after the filing of the RCE
  - Prioritized examination fee must accompany request
- The same claim limitations apply to RCEs as to other applications



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## Title search: Patent Initiatives

Also available as part of the eCourse 2017 Advanced Patent Law (USPTO) eConference

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Advanced Patent Law Institute session "USPTO Special Programs for Patent Prosecution"