

PATENT RESEARCH SERVICE

THE SERVICE

The objective of the service is to identify patents that will help the requestor assess the patentability of an invention or review the state of the art in a research and development effort.

THE SEARCH

To ensure accurate search results please provide the best information possible, including sketches or drawings and useful keywords or technical terms. The sources searched usually begin with the U.S. databases. The searcher will develop search strategies using the Canadian, U.S. or International Patent Classification systems.

THE LIMITATIONS

Most of the commercially available databases only cover the last 25 years of patent literature. In many instances there may be relevant expired patents that are not retrievable in the on-line search that could affect the patentability of an invention. If a search of older patents is necessary, it is advisable to arrange a manual search of printed records in the Canadian or U.S. Patent Office.

THE COSTS

All prices are in Canadian dollars.

The basic costs charged by PATEX are for labour and computer access time.

Fees vary depending on the length and difficulty of the search, but the bill for a:

- U.S. patents search ranges from **\$450 to \$500**.
- A combined U.S. and Canadian search usually costs approximately **\$550 to \$600**.
- International searches covering 30 countries start at **\$650 and up**.

Please note, courier, patent copies and GST have not been included in the above mentioned estimates.

Kindly bring cash, cheque, VISA or MASTERCARD when coming for your search appointment. A deposit of \$200 or a credit card number and expiry date is required for searches sent to clients out of the office.

THE CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT

In order to insure you that your information or idea shall at all times be maintained in confidence, and set out the terms on which the search and search results are provided we will provide you with our form of confidentiality agreement. We require you to return a signed copy of the agreement us along with particulars of your invention or idea before we can start performing the search and provide you with the search results.

A PATEX nondisclosure agreement is available upon request. Delivery of search results is contracted to bonded couriers for a \$10 to \$20 fee.

PATENT SEARCH REQUEST

GENERAL INFORMATION

First Name:

Last Name:

Business Name:

Courier Address:

City:

Province/State

Postal/Zip Code

Home:

(____) _____ - _____ (____) _____ - _____

Work:

Cell:

(____) _____ - _____ (____) _____ - _____

Fax:

PAYMENT INFORMATION

VISA MASTERCARD

Cardholder Name:

Card Number:

Expiry Date:

___ / ___ (MM/YY)

SEARCH TYPE

US (\$450 - \$500)

Canadian & US (\$550 - \$600)

International (start at \$650)

Are you interested in receiving a general information package with your completed search?

___ Yes ___ No

DISCLOSURE

Title of Request or Proposal:

List novel aspects of the device, process or material that is important in the search.

Give background information relevant to the request. Eg. list any patents, inventors or patent assignees (companies, etc.) pertinent to the technology of your request. List trademarks of similar products below.

PLEASE ATTACH A DETAILED DESCRIPTION AND ANY SKETCHES THAT WOULD HELP IN UNDERSTANDING THE FUNCTION OR OPERATION OF THE INVENTION. EMPHASIZE THE FEATURES YOU THINK ARE IMPORTANT OR PATENTABLE.

Applicant's Signature

Date