Europäisches
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des brevets

Description of EP Register data
in the ST.36 compatible XML structure

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1. PREFACE

This document will help you to process the data you download from the EP Register, either from the EP Register GUI or via OPS. It should be used in conjunction with the files register-documents-v1-0.dtd and register-document-v1.0.dtd which you can also download from our web site.

The file register-documents-v1-0.dtd is for downloading data for multiple documents in one request via OPS; it defines a wrapper root tag and includes the other file register-document-v1.0.dtd. By applying this dtd you will get a valid XML document for the total request which contains valid XML sub-documents for each of the requested cases.

The file register-document-v1.0.dtd must be used when downloading data from the GUI of the European Patent Register.

The data for an individual document from the European Patent Register will consist of all bibliographic and procedural data that you can see on the EP Register GUI; **excluded** are:

- INPADOC data as shown on the legal status data panel, and patent family data; these can be retrieved separately via OPS
- the file content as available in the "all documents" part of the EP Register; this may be a future extension if the requirement exists.

2. CHANGES SINCE PREVIOUS VERSION

The following changes / additions have been made since the previous version:

- dtd's: the name of the dtd has changed and a second dtd for processing multiple cases has been introduced
- root tag: the name of the root tag has been changed from "register-data" to "register-document", and a root tag "register-documents" has been introduced as a wrapper for processing multiple cases
- new section 3.1: a new section has been inserted here to describe the root tag used when processing multiple cases in one request
- section 3.2: the attribute xmlns has been added to allow for a namespace to be indicated
- section 3.3.6.1: the sequence attribute in the <applicant> tag has been made "required" in order to be consistent with ST.36
- section 3.3.6.3: the sequence attribute in the <agent> tag has been made "required" in order to be consistent with ST.36
- section 3.3.13: the tags <parent-doc> and <child-doc> inside the tag <relation> have been brought in line with ST.36; this may result in an "empty" <parent-doc> tag

- section 3.3.13: further explanation has been added about the use of the sub-element <child-status> and an example has been inserted
- section 3.4: in each of the subsections a <procedural-step-text> tag will be provided to describe the name of the procedural step
- section 3.4: the value "undefined" has been added to the list of allowed values for the attribute procedure-step-phase of tag <procedural-step>
- section 3.4: the element procedural-step-date is now indicated with "*" instead of "+" because there can be some procedural steps without any date
- section 3.4.2: a further possible value for the reason has been added
- section 3.4.27: the texts for the subject of the request for decision have been adapted to match the texts displayed on screen
- section 3.4.33: a further possible value for the reason has been added
- section 3.4.37: this new section has been added
- section 3.4.38: this new section has been added

3. EXPLANATION OF THE TAGS AND THEIR CONTENT

Please also refer to the dtd.

All dates are represented in the format *yyyymmdd*.

An entity has been included in the dtd to facilitate the use of particular attributes in multiple other elements:

```
<!ENTITY % register_attributes
"     change-date                   CDATA                #IMPLIED
      change-gazette-num            CDATA                #IMPLIED
      value-valid-for-publications  IDREFS               #IMPLIED">
```

The attribute value-valid-for-publications is intended for possible future use and will not yet be filled.
The attributes change-date and change-gazette-num can be used to indicate the from what date or week a data value was valid (i.e. made available to the public). The EPO will use the attribute change-gazette-num for this purpose (see below).

The EP Register will also deliver former values for those data that have appeared on the weekly EBD file. In a number of elements, the attribute change-gazette-num is present to indicate the year and week when a value was (first) published. This will enable you to reconstruct any past values of a data field if you should need this.

Example: suppose that there was a small typo in the English title at first publication of the application in week 2000/39, and this typo was corrected two weeks later; the xml would look like:

```
<invention-title change-gazette-num="2000/41" lang="en">An interlocking for
a railway system</invention-title>
<invention-title change-gazette-num="2000/39" lang="en">An interlocking fur
a railway system</invention-title>
```

The EP Register also contains data for international applications that have EP designation. For these applications, the data is available shortly after the international publication has been made. Until these applications have received an EP publication number. the attribute change-gazette-num will be absent, or will contain "N / P" ("Not Published"). Once the EP publication number is there for an international application, the week in which that EP publication number was published on the EBD file will be considered as the oldest possible value of change-gazette-num.

3.1.   THE ROOT ELEMENT REGISTER-DOCUMENTS

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT register-documents (register-document)+>
<!ATTLIST register-documents
     xmlns CDATA #IMPLIED
     date-produced CDATA #IMPLIED
     dtd-version CDATA #IMPLIED
     produced-by (applicant | RO | ISA | IPEA | IB | DO | EO) #REQUIRED
     ro CDATA #IMPLIED
     status CDATA #IMPLIED
>
```

NB This root tag is present only in the file register-documents-v1.0.dtd for downloading multiple cases in one request.

3.2.   THE ROOT ELEMENT REGISTER-DOCUMENT

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT register-document (bibliographic-data, procedural-data*, events-
data*,
                 file-wrapper-data*)>
<!ATTLIST register-document
     xmlns CDATA #IMPLIED
     date-produced CDATA #IMPLIED
     dtd-version CDATA #IMPLIED
     file CDATA #IMPLIED
     lang CDATA #IMPLIED
     produced-by (applicant | RO | ISA | IPEA | IB | DO | EO) #REQUIRED
     ro CDATA #IMPLIED
     status CDATA #IMPLIED
     file-reference-id CDATA #IMPLIED
>
```

This is the container of the data for an individual patent application.
It can contain following elements, explained further down this document:
- bibliographic-data
- procedural-data
- events-data
- file-wrapper-data (currently not used for the EP Register)

It can have the following attributes:
- date-produced   -   the date of production of this XML file
- dtd-version   -   the version of the dtd used for this file
- file   -   currently not used for the EP Register
- lang   -   language, always set to "en" for the EP Register
- produced-by   -   indication of the Office that produced the data always set to "RO" (Receiving Office) for the EP Register
- ro   -   currently not used for the EP Register
- status   -   status of the application
- file-reference-id   -   not used

Example:
```
<register-document date-produced="20100324" dtd-version="1.0" lang="en"
produced-by="RO" status="published">
```

3.3.   THE ELEMENT BIBLIOGRAPHIC-DATA

Definition in the dtd (the sub-elements not used in the EP Register have been struck through):
```
<!ELEMENT bibliographic-data
        (plain-language-designation*, publication-reference+,
        classification-ipc*, classifications-ipcr*,
        classification-national*, classification-locarno*,
        classification-udc*, application-reference+,
        language-of-filing*, language-of-publication*, priority-claims*,
         parties,
        designation-of-states*, invention-title+, assignees*,
        licensee-data*, date-of-earliest-priority*,
        date-complete-specification-filed*,
        dates-of-public-availability*, term-of-grant*,
        dates-rights-effective?, patent-family*, field-of-search*,
         figures*,
        references-cited*, examiners*, number-of-claims*,
        related-documents?, st50-republication*,
        date-exhibition-filed*,
        date-pct-article-22-39-fulfilled*,
        pct-application-no-longer-effective*, bio-deposit*,
        pct-or-regional-filing-data*,
        pct-or-regional-publishing-data*,
        defer-publication-of-search-report*,
```

```
              date-application-refused*, date-rights-reestablished*,
              date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant*,
              date-application-deemed-withdrawn*, date-of-revocation*,
              emea-havana-agreement*,
              date-application-partially-withdrawn*,
              office-specific-bib-data*, opposition-data*, text*,
              search-reports-information?)>
<!ATTLIST bibliographic-data
              country CDATA #IMPLIED
              id ID #IMPLIED
              lang CDATA #IMPLIED
              status CDATA #IMPLIED
>
```

This is the container for the bibliographic data for a patent application.
As ST.36 is a standard for different purposes, the dtd defines many elements that can be contained within this tag, the elements used in the EP Register are:

- publication-reference   -   the publication number, date and kind of this application
- classifications-ipcr   -   the classification given to the application
- application-reference   -   the application number and filing date
- language-of-filing   -   the language in which the application was filed
- priority-claims   -   references to priority patent applications
- parties   -   contains data about applicants, inventors and representatives
- designation-of-states   -   the EPC contracting states designated in the application
- invention-title   -   the title of the invention
- licensee-data   -   the licensee and kind of license
- term-of-grant   -   contains lapse information
- dates-rights-effective   -   contains dates relating to various steps in the procedure (see element description)
- references-cited   -   the patent documents and non-patent literature cited during the granting procedure
- related-documents   -   contains information about division / continuation of the application
- bio-deposit   -   indicates the fact that the application mentions biological material
- date-application-refused   -   indicates the refusal of the application
- date-rights-reestablished   -   used in case of a re-establishment of rights
- date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant
    -    date when the applicant withdrew his application

- date-application-deemed-withdrawn
  - date when the application was deemed to be withdrawn
- date-of-revocation   -   date when the patent was revoked
- office-specific-bib-data   -   contains elements concerning appeals, revocation by applicant, petition for review, limitation of the patent
- opposition-data   -   data concerning the (non-)filing of opposition
- text   -   free text
- search-reports-information -   information about the search report(s)

This element can have the following attributes:

- country   -   always = "EP" for the EP Register
- id   -   contains the application number + "P"
- lang   -   always "en" for the EP Register
- status   -   the status of the application

Example:
```
<bibliographic-data country="EP" id="00302165P" lang="en"
status="published">
```

3.3.1. The element publication-reference

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT publication-reference
        (document-id+)>
<!ATTLIST publication-reference
        id ID #IMPLIED
        %register_attributes;
>
```

This element contains the publication number, date and kind for the patent application (R.143(l) EPC). The element can occur more than once.

The element contains only one element document-id, which can contain the following elements:

- country   -   always "EP" or "WO"
- doc-number   -   the publication number
- kind   -   the kind of published document, eg "A1"
- date   -   the publication date

The element document-id van have the attribute:
- lang   -   the language of the publication

The element publication-reference can have the attribute:
- change-gazette-num   -   the year and week when this publication
                                                      was made

Example:
```
<publication-reference change-gazette-num="2001/46">
<document-id lang="en">
<country>EP</country>
<doc-number>1152708</doc-number>
<kind>A2</kind>
<date>20000803</date>
</document-id>
</publication-reference>
<publication-reference change-gazette-num="2000/31">
<document-id>
<country>WO</country>
<doc-number>2000044304</doc-number>
<kind>A2</kind>
<date>20000803</date>
</document-id>
</publication-reference>
```

3.3.2.   The element classifications-ipcr

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT classifications-ipcr
        (classification-ipcr*)>
<!ATTLIST classifications-ipcr
        id ID #IMPLIED
                            %register_attributes;
>

<!ELEMENT classification-ipcr
        ((ipc-version-indicator, classification-level?,section,
         class, subclass, main-group?, subgroup?,symbol-position?,
         classification-value?, action-date?,
         generating-office?,classification-status?,
         classification-data-source?) | text)>
<!ATTLIST classification-ipcr
        id ID #IMPLIED
        sequence CDATA #IMPLIED
>
```

The element classifications-ipcr contains 0 - n elements classification-ipcr.
The element can occur more than once in case changes have been made to the classification, and makes use of the attribute change-gazette-num to indicate when the occurrences appeared in the EBD file.

The element classifications-ipcr can have the attribute:

- change-gazette-num - the year and week when this classification was published in the EBD file

The element classification-ipcr contains the IPC classification of the patent application as a class string (R.143(1)(d) EPC).

The element contains the following element:
- text - the classifications as a string

Example:
```
<classifications-ipcr change-gazette-num="2000/39">
<classification-ipcr id="CLASSIFICATION_590072">
<text>B61L19/06, B61L21/08</text>
</classification-ipcr>
</classifications-ipcr>
```

3.3.3.   The element application-reference

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT application-reference
        (document-id+)>
<!ATTLIST application-reference
        appl-type CDATA #IMPLIED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        %register_attributes;
>
```

The element contains the application number, filing date and authority where filed (R.143(1)(a) and (b) EPC). The element can occur more than once: in case of an international application there will be a separate occurrence for the international application number and in the case of a correction to the filing date there will be a separate occurrence for the correction, making use of the attribute change-gazette-num.

The element contains only one element document-id, which can contain the following elements:
- country - always "EP" or "WO"
- doc-number - the application number
- date - the filing date

The element application-reference can have the attribute:
- change-gazette-num - the year and week when this application / correction to the filing date appeared in the EBD file

This attribute is not used for the international application number.

Example:
```
<application-reference change-gazette-num="2001/46">
<document-id>
<country>EP</country>
<doc-number>00909889</doc-number>
<date>20000127</date>
</document-id>
</application-reference>
<application-reference>
<document-id>
<country>WO</country>
<doc-number>US2000000498</doc-number>
</document-id>
</application-reference>
```

3.3.4.   The element language-of-filing

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT language-of-filing
          (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST language-of-filing
          %register_attributes;>
```

The element contains the ICIREPAT code of the language in which the application was filed (A.14(2) EPC). There can be more than one occurrence in case of a correction, making use of the attribute change-gazette-num.

The element language-of-filing can have the attribute:
- change-gazette-num   -   the year and week when this language appeared in the EBD file

Example:
```
<language-of-filing change-gazette-num="2001/46">en</language-of-filing>
```

3.3.5.   The element priority-claims

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT priority-claims
          (priority-claim*, incorporation-by-reference?)>
<!ATTLIST priority-claims
          %register_attributes;>

<!ELEMENT priority-claim
          (country, doc-number?, date, office-of-filing?,
           (priority-doc-attached | priority-doc-requested)?,
          restore-rights?)>
<!ATTLIST priority-claim
          id ID #IMPLIED
          kind (national |  regional |  international) #REQUIRED
```

```
            sequence CDATA #REQUIRED
>
```

The element priority-claims (A.88 EPC) will contain 0 to n elements priority-claim. It can occur more than once in case of corrections to the priority data, making use of the attribute change-gazette-num. A case of a priority-claims element with 0 priority-claim elements inside can occur if all priority rights were lost.

The element priority-claim will contain the filing country, application number and filing date of the priority application. It has the attributes:
- kind - always set to "national"
- sequence - the ordinal number of the priority in the application where it is claimed.

Example:
```
<priority-claims change-gazette-num="2001/46">
<priority-claim kind="national" sequence="0001">
<country>US</country>
<doc-number> USA      238415</doc-number>
<date>19990128</date>
</priority-claim>
</priority-claims>
```

3.3.6.   The element parties

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT parties
        (applicants+, inventors*, correspondence-address*, agents*)>
```

The element parties contains elements for the applicant(s), inventor(s) and agent(s). For examples, see the 3 paragraphs below.

3.3.6.1.   The element applicants

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT applicants
        (applicant+)>
<!ATTLIST applicants
        %register_attributes; >
<!ELEMENT applicant
        (addressbook+, nationality, residence, us-rights*,
         designated-states?, designated-states-as-inventor?)>
<!ATTLIST applicant
        app-type (applicant | applicant-inventor | proprietor) #REQUIRED
        designation (all | all-except-us | us-only | as-indicated)
                                                    #REQUIRED
        sequence CDATA #REQUIRED
>
```

The element applicants contains 1 or more elements applicant (R.41(2)(c) EPC). It can occur more than once in case of changes / corrections, making use of the change-gazette-num attribute.

The element applicant contains following elements:

- addressbook   -   the id attribute provides the internal identification of the applicant as used in the EPO
- nationality   -   supplied with an empty country element inside, as the EPO does not register the nationality
- residence   -   idem
- designated-states   -   will be supplied if the applicant seeks protection in a subset of the states designated in the application, and will contain country elements

The element applicant can have the following attributes:

- app-type   -   always set to "applicant"
- designation   -   this indicates the countries in which the applicant will acquire patent protection; values can either be "all" for all countries designated in the application, or "as-indicated" which will result in a designated-states element
- sequence   -   the sequence number of the applicant

Example:
```
<parties>
<applicants change-gazette-num="2001/20">
<applicant app-type="applicant" designation="as-indicated" sequence="1">
<addressbook>
<name>Schott Glas</name>
<address>
<address-1>Hattenbergstrasse 10</address-1>
<address-2>55122 Mainz</address-2>
<country>DE</country>
</address>
</addressbook>
<nationality>
<country/>
</nationality>
<residence>
<country/>
</residence>
<designated-states>
<country>AT</country>
<country>BE</country>
```

```
<country>CH</country>
<country>LI</country>
<country>CY</country>
<country>DE</country>
<country>DK</country>
<country>ES</country>
<country>FI</country>
<country>FR</country>
<country>GR</country>
<country>IE</country>
<country>IT</country>
<country>LU</country>
<country>MC</country>
<country>NL</country>
<country>PT</country>
<country>SE</country>
</designated-states>
</applicant>
....
</parties>
```

3.3.6.2. The element inventors

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT inventors
          (deceased-inventor | inventor)+>
<!ATTLIST inventors
          %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT inventor
          (addressbook+, nationality?, residence?, designated-states?)>
<!ATTLIST inventor
          designation (all | all-except-us | us-only | as-indicated)
                                        #IMPLIED
          wishes-to-be-published (yes|no) #IMPLIED
          sequence CDATA #REQUIRED
>
```

The element inventors (A.81 EPC) can contain one or more inventor elements. It can occur more than once in case of changes / corrections, making use of the attribute change-gazette-num.
The element inventor can contain only an element addressbook with an empty id attribute.
The element inventor can have attributes:

- wishes-to-be-published   -   if set to "no", the address will not be supplied in the addressbook element
- sequence   -   the ordinal number of the inventor in this application; note that ordinal number 20 is used to indicate that the inventor(s) = the applicant(s), in that case the name element will contain "see applicant"

Example 1:
```
<parties>
.....
<inventors change-gazette-num="2000/31">
<inventor wishes-to-be-published="no" sequence="01">
<addressbook id="">
<name>* * *</name>
<address>
<address-1>...</address-1>
<country/>
</address>
</addressbook>
</inventor>
</inventors>
....
<parties>
```

Example 2:
```
<parties>
....
<inventors change-gazette-num="2000/42">
<inventor wishes to be published="yes" sequence="01">
<addressbook id="">
<name>Rebeaud, Jean-Claude</name>
<address>
<address-1>Ch. de la Valleyre 67</address-1>
<address-2>1052 Le Mont</address-2>
<country>CH</country>
</address>
</addressbook>
</inventor>
</inventors>
....
</parties>
```

3.3.6.3. The element agents

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT agents
        (agent* | customer-number)>
<!ATTLIST agents
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT agent
        (addressbook+)>
<!ATTLIST agent
        rep-type (agent | attorney | common-representative) #REQUIRED
        sequence CDATA #REQUIRED
        et-al (yes | no) #IMPLIED
>
```

The element agents (R.41(2)(d) EPC) can contain 0 to n agent elements, and can occur more than once in case of changes / corrections, making use of the change-gazette-num attribute. The situation of 0 agent elements can happen in case of a deletion of the agent without immediate nomination of a successor.

The element agent contains the information about the representative nominated by an applicant or an opponent. It can only contain an addressbook element with an id attribute that contains the internal identification number of the agent as used at the EPO. The element agent can have the following attributes:

- rep-type   -   the type of representative, always set to "agent"
- et-al   -   indication that the normal name of the agent has been extended with ", et al"

Example:
```
<parties>
....
<agents change-gazette-num="2001/24">
<agent rep-type="agent" sequence="1" et-al="yes">
<addressbook>
<name>Rohmann, Michael, et al</name>
<address>
<address-1>Andrejewski - Honke Patent- und Rechtsanwälte P.O. Box 10 02
54</address-1>
<address-2>45002 Essen</address-2>
<country>DE</country>
</address>
</addressbook>
</agent>
</agents>
</parties>
```

3.3.7.   The element designation-of-states

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT designation-of-states
        (designation-pct,
         (precautionary-designation-statement?,
          exclusion-from-designation?))>
<!ATTLIST designation-of-states
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT designation-pct
        (regional*, national?, new-designation-country*)>
<!ELEMENT regional
        (region,
         (country, protection-request*)+, any-other-state?)>
```

The element designation-of-states contains the information about the EPC contracting states designated in the patent application (R.143(1)(e) EPC). It has a single sub-element designation-pct. There can be more than one occurrence of the element designation-of-states in case of a change / correction, making use of the attribute change-gazette-num.

The element designation-pct contains a single element regional, which contains the elements

- region   -   this contains a single country element whose content will always be "EP"
- country   -   can occur 0 to n times, each containing the ICIREPAT country code of a designated state

Example:

```
<designation-of-states change-gazette-num="2003/03">
<designation-pct>
<regional>
<region>
<country>EP</country>
</region>
<country>AT</country>
<country>BE</country>
<country>CH</country>
<country>CY</country>
<country>DE</country>
<country>DK</country>
<country>ES</country>
<country>FI</country>
<country>FR</country>
<country>GB</country>
<country>GR</country>
<country>IE</country>
<country>IT</country>
<country>LI</country>
<country>LU</country>
<country>MC</country>
<country>NL</country>
<country>PT</country>
<country>SE</country>
</regional>
</designation-pct>
</designation-of-states>
```

3.3.8.   The element invention-title

Definition in the dtd:

```
<!ELEMENT invention-title
        (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST invention-title
        id ID #IMPLIED
        lang CDATA #IMPLIED
        %register_attributes;
>
```

The element invention-title will contain the titles of the patent application in the official languages of the EPO as far as available at the time (R.143(1)(c) EPC). It can occur multiple times due to this, and also due to changes / corrections.
There are no sub-elements.

The element invention-title can have the following attributes:
- lang   - the ICIREPAT code for the language of the title
- change-gazette-num   - the year and week when this title was published in the EBD file

Example:
```
<invention-title change-gazette-num="2007/40" lang="fr">Assemblage avec un
plan de travail de cuisine et un élément de cuisine encastré</invention-
title>
<invention-title change-gazette-num="2007/40"
lang="DE">Kücheneinbauanordnung mit einer Arbeitsplatte und einem
Kücheneinbauteil</invention-title>
<invention-title change-gazette-num="2007/40" lang="en">Assembly with a
kitchen work top and a kitchen fitting element</invention-title>
<invention-title change-gazette-num="2000/28"
lang="de">Kücheneinbauanordnung und Kücheneinbauteil</invention-title>
<invention-title change-gazette-num="2000/28" lang="fr">Assemblage pour
l'encastrement d'éléments de cuisine et éléments associés</invention-title>
<invention-title change-gazette-num="2000/28" lang="en">Kitchen fitting
assembly and fitting element therefor</invention-title>
```

3.3.9.   The element licensee-data

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT licensee-data
        (licensee)+>
<!ATTLIST licensee-data
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT licensee
        (addressbook?, attorney-or-agent?, effective-in?, date?)>
<!ATTLIST licensee
     type-license (exclusive | not-exclusive | right-in-rem) #IMPLIED
     designation (all | as-indicated) #IMPLIED
     sequence CDATA #REQUIRED
>
```

The element licensee-data contains the information about licenses and rights in rem (R.23 and R.24 EPC).
The element contains 0 to n licensee elements, and can occur more than once in case of changes / corrections making use of the attribute change-gazette-num.

The element licensee can contain the elements:
- addressbook   - the address of the licensee; this is not used for a right in rem

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- effective-in   -   the countries where the license is valid in case it is not for all designated states
- date   -   date when the license became valid

The element licensee can have the following attributes:

- type-license   -   the type of the license: exclusive, not exclusive or right in rem
- designation   -   the EP contracting states for which the license is valid, if the value is = "as-indicated", an element effective-in with one or more country elements will follow
- sequence   -   ordinal number of the license in this application

Example 1:

```
<licensee-data change-gazette-num="2001/47">
<licensee designation="all" sequence="01" type-license="right-in-rem">
<date>20010831</date>
</licensee>
</licensee-data>
```

Example 2:

```
<licensee-data change-gazette-num="2005/47">
<licensee designation="as indicated" sequence="0100" type-
license="exclusive">
<addressbook>
<name>Socketstrate, Inc.</name>
<address>
<address-1>3099 Orchard Drive</address-1>
<address-2>San Jose, CA 95134</address-2>
<country>US</country>
</address>
</addressbook>
<date>20050826</date>
<effective-in>
<country>AT</country>
<country>BE</country>
<country>CH</country>
<country>CY</country>
<country>DE</country>
<country>DK</country>
<country>ES</country>
<country>FI</country>
<country>FR</country>
<country>GB</country>
<country>GR</country>
<country>IE</country>
<country>IT</country>
<country>LU</country>
<country>MC</country>
<country>NL</country>
<country>PT</country>
<country>SE</country>
```

```
</effective-in>
</licensee>
</licensee-data>
```

3.3.10. The element term-of-grant

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT term-of-grant
         (disclaimer | lapse-of-patent | length-of-grant | lapsed-in-
country | text)*>
<!ATTLIST term-of-grant
         %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT lapsed-in-country
         (country, date, text?)>
```

The element term-of-grant is used to contain the information about lapses of the patent during the opposition phase or during the period when opposition can be filed (R.143(1)(p) EPC).
The EPO is not the "owner" of any lapses in the national phase of a patent, therefore this information cannot be included).

The element term-of-grant contains 0 to n elements lapsed-in-country which contains a combinations of country and date elements to indicate the country code where and date when a lapse occurred in one of the designated states.
The element term-of-grant can occur more than once, each time containing the complete list of countries at the time of publication in the EBD file, making use of the change-gazette-num attribute.

Example:
```
<term-of-grant change-gazette-num="2006/27">
<lapsed-in-country>
<country>FI</country>
<date>20051221</date>
</lapsed-in-country>
<lapsed-in-country>
<country>SE</country>
<date>20060321</date>
</lapsed-in-country>
</term-of-grant>
<term-of-grant change-gazette-num="2006/23">
<lapsed-in-country>
<country>FI</country>
<date>20051221</date>
</lapsed-in-country>
</term-of-grant>
```

3.3.11.   The element dates-rights-effective

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT dates-rights-effective
        (date-entering-into-force |
         first-examination-report-despatched |
         notification-of-rights-after-appeal |
         patent-maintained-as-amended | proceedings-interrupted |
         proceedings-resumed | proceedings-suspended |
         request-for-conversion-to-national-application |
         request-for-examination)+>
<!ELEMENT request-for-examination
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST request-for-examination
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT first-examination-report-despatched
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST first-examination-report-despatched
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT patent-maintained-as-amended
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST patent-maintained-as-amended
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT request-for-conversion-to-national-application
        (date, country)>
<!ATTLIST request-for-conversion-to-national-application
        %register_attributes;>

<!ELEMENT proceedings-suspended
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST proceedings-suspended
        %register_attributes;
        cause CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT proceedings-interrupted
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST proceedings-interrupted
        %register_attributes;
        cause CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT proceedings-resumed
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST proceedings-resumed
        %register_attributes;>
```

The element dates-rights-effective is a wrapper for a number of data items. It can contain the following elements:

- request-for-examination   -   the date when the request for examination was validly made (in a date element) (R.70(1) EPC)
- first-examination-report-despatched -   the date of dispatch of the first communication from the examining division, in a date element

- patent-maintained-as-amended - the date of publication of the B2 document in a date element (R.82 EPC)
- request-for-conversion-to-national-application

  - the date on which the application was converted into a national application, in a date element, with the country to which it was converted in a country element (A.135 EPC)

- proceedings-suspended - the date as of when the procedure was suspended, in a date element, with the reason for the suspension in the cause attribute (the text will always be "suspension") (R.14 EPC)

- proceedings-interrupted - the date as of when the procedure was interrupted, in a date element, with the reason for the interruption in the cause attribute; the possible values are:
  "interruption: applicant died"
  "interruption: legal incapacity of applicant"
  "interruption: legal prevention of applicant"
  "interruption: representative died"
  "interruption: legal incapacity of representative"
  (R.142 EPC)

- proceedings-resumed - the date of resumption of the procedure, in a date element (R.14 and R.142 EPC)

All these sub-elements can use the change-gazette-num attribute to indicate the year and week when the information was published in the EBD file.

Example 1:
```
<dates-rights-effective>
<request-for-examination change-gazette-num="2003/21">
<date>20030325</date>
</request-for-examination>
<first-examination-report-despatched>
<date>20031124</date>
</first-examination-report-despatched>
</dates-rights-effective>
```

Example 2:
```
<dates-rights-effective>
<proceedings-interrupted cause="interruption: legal prevention of
applicant" change-gazette-num="2003/34">
<date>20020501</date>
</proceedings-interrupted>
</dates-rights-effective>
```

3.3.12.   The element references-cited

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT references-cited
        ((citation+, date-search-completed?,
          date-search-report-mailed?, place-of-search?,
          search-report-publication?, searcher?) | text)>
<!ATTLIST references-cited
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT citation
        ((nplcit | patcit),
         (rel-passage*, category*, rel-claims*)*, corresponding-docs*,
         classification-ipc?, classifications-ipcr?,
         classification-national?, doi?)>
<!ATTLIST citation
        id ID #IMPLIED
        srep-phase CDATA #IMPLIED
        cited-in (description | search | international-search-report |
                supplementary-international-search-report |
                international-type-search-report |
                national-search-report |
                supplementary-national-search-report | examination |
                international-examination | national-examination |
                opposition | other | undefined | limitation) #IMPLIED
        cited-by (applicant | examiner | opponent | third-party ) #IMPLIED
        office CDATA #IMPLIED
>
<!ELEMENT patcit
        ((document-id+, rel-passage*) | text)>
<!ATTLIST patcit
        dnum CDATA #IMPLIED
        dnum-type CDATA #IMPLIED
        file CDATA #IMPLIED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        num CDATA #IMPLIED
        url CDATA #IMPLIED
>
<!ELEMENT nplcit
        ((article | book | online | othercit | text), rel-passage*)>
<!ATTLIST nplcit
        file CDATA #IMPLIED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        lang CDATA #IMPLIED
        medium CDATA #IMPLIED
        npl-type CDATA #IMPLIED
        num CDATA #IMPLIED
```

```
        url CDATA #IMPLIED
>
<!ELEMENT category
        (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT doi
        (#PCDATA)>
```

The element references-cited contains the identifications of the cited patent documents and non-patent literature, with the phase of the procedure during which they were cited and the category ("relevance"). The information is present in four sub-elements:

- patcit   -   a cited patent document, in a document-id element; the url attribute is the address in Esp@cenet where the document can be found
- nplcit   -   cited non-patent literature, in a text element
- category   -   the category of the citation, as indicated e.g. on the search report
- doi   -   the internet address where a citation can be found (only used for non-patent literature)

Example:
```
<references-cited>
<citation id="cit_001" cited-in="search" office="EP">
<patcit
url="http://v3.espacenet.com/textdoc?DB=EPODOC&IDX=US5305235&CY=US">
<document-id>
<country>US</country>
<doc-number>5305235</doc-number>
</document-id>
</patcit>
<category>A</category>
</citation>
<citation id="cit_002" cited-in="search" office="EP">
<nplcit>
<text>RESEARCH DISCLOSURE, No. 18309 July 1979, pages 361-362 "The
production of interferon by genetic engineering"</text>
</nplcit>
<category>XD</category>
<doi>http://some.internet.address.com</doi>
</citation>
</references-cited>
```

3.3.13. The element related-documents

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT related-documents
```

```
        (addition | continuation | continuation-in-part |
        continuing-reissue | correction | division |
        previously-filed-application | reexamination | reissue |
        related-publication | substitution | utility-model-basis)+>

<!ELEMENT division
        (relation)>
<!ATTLIST addition
        %register_attributes;>

<!ELEMENT continuation
        (relation)>
<!ATTLIST continuation
        %register_attributes;>

<!ELEMENT relation
        (parent-doc, child-doc)>

<!ELEMENT parent-doc
        (document-id+, parent-status?, parent-grant-document?,
         parent-pct-document?)>
<!ELEMENT child-doc
        (document-id+, child-status?, child-grant-document?,
         child-pct-document?)>
<!ELEMENT child-status
        (#PCDATA)>

<!ELEMENT previously-filed-application
        (document-id+)>
<!ATTLIST previously-filed-application
        id ID #IMPLIED
        %register_attributes;
>
```

The element related-documents can be used to indicate information about divisional and parent applications (A.76 EPC), new applications (A.61(1)(b) EPC), and previously filed applications (R.40(1)(c) and R.40(2) EPC).
The element can contain following elements:

- division   -   contains elements concerning the divisional / parent application in sub-elements as described in the dtd
- continuation   -   contains elements concerning the new / former application in case of A.61 EPC
- previously-filed-application   -   contains information about the reference to a previously filed application in the sense of R.40 EPC

Each of these categories will provide one or more document-id element(s) which will indicate the "type of document" information in the attribute document-id-type, e.g. "D" for divisional application.

The element child-status is used to indicate whether the granting procedure for a divisional application has come to a premature end before publication. The content can be "Application refused", "Application withdrawn" or "Application deemed to be withdrawn", followed by the date when this end of the procedure took effect.

Example 1:
```
<related-documents>
<division>
<relation>
<parent-doc>
<document-id>
<country/>
<doc-number/>
</document-id>
</parent-doc>
<child-doc>
<document-id document-id-type="application number">
<country>EP</country>
<doc-number>00114764</doc-number>
<kind>D</kind>
<date/>
</document-id>
<document-id document-id-type="publication number">
<country>EP</country>
<doc-number>1045458</doc-number>
<kind>D</kind>
<date/>
</document-id>
</child-doc>
</relation>
</division>
</related-documents>
```

Example 2:
```
<related-documents>
<division>
<relation>
<parent-doc>
<document-id>
<country/>
<doc-number/>
</document-id>
</parent-doc>
<child-doc>
<document-id document-id-type="application number">
<country>EP</country>
<doc-number>00114764</doc-number>
<kind>D</kind>
<date/>
</document-id>
<child-status>Application refused 20.03.2011</child-status>
</child-doc>
</relation>
```

```
</division>
</related-documents>
```

Example 3:
```
<related-documents>
<previously-filed-application change-gazette-num="2010/14">
<document-id document-id-type="previously filed application">
<country>DE</country>
<doc-number>102007058594</doc-number>
<kind>A</kind>
<date>20071204</date>
</document-id>
</previously-filed-application>
</related-documents>
```

3.3.14.   The element bio-deposit

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT bio-deposit
        (depositary, bio-accno, date?, term?, dtext?)>
<!ATTLIST bio-deposit
        dnum CDATA #IMPLIED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        num CDATA #REQUIRED
        url CDATA #IMPLIED
        access-limited-to-expert (yes | no) #IMPLIED
        %register_attributes;
>
```

The element bio-deposit as used in the EP Register will only indicate the fact that one or more deposits of biological material have been made (R.31 EPC).
The year and week when this fact was published in the EBD file are indicated in the attribute change-gazette-num.

Example:
```
<bio-deposit change-gazette-num="2010/12" num="">
<depositary>
<address/>
</depositary>
<bio-accno/>
<dtext>one or more deposits</dtext>
</bio-deposit>
```

3.3.15.   The element date-application-refused

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT date-application-refused
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST date-application-refused
        %register_attributes;>
```

The element date-application-refused contains the legal effect date of the refusal (A.97(2) EPC) of the application in a single date element. The element can occur more than once in case of change / correction.
In case of a deletion of the refusal date, the date element will be empty, so: `<date/>` .

The element date-application-refused uses the attribute change-gazette-num to indicate the year and week when this information appeared in the EBD file.

Example:
```
<date-application-refused change-gazette-num="2006/23">
<date>20051221</date>
</date-application-refused>
```

3.3.16. The element date-rights-reestablished

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT date-rights-reestablished
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST date-rights-reestablished
        %register_attributes;>
```

The element date-rights-reestablished gives the date of legal effect of a re-establishment of rights (A.122 EPC) in a date element. In case of a deletion of the date of legal effect, the date element will be empty, so `</date>` .

The element date-rights-reestablished uses the attribute change-gazette-num to indicate the year and week when this information appeared in the EBD file.

Example:
```
<date-rights-reestablished change-gazette-num="2005/42">
<date>20050701</date>
</date-rights-reestablished>
```

3.3.17. The element date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant
        %register_attributes;>
```

The element date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant contains the date when the applicant withdrew is application (R.143(1)(n) EPC) in a single date element. The element can occur more than once in case of change / correction.
In case of a deletion of the withdrawal date, the date element will be empty, so:
`<date/>` .

The element date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant uses the attribute change-gazette-num to indicate the year and week when this information appeared in the EBD file.

Example:
```
<date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant change-gazette-num="2004/39">
<date>20040729</date>
</date-application-withdrawn-by-applicant>
```

3.3.18.   The element date-application-deemed-withdrawn

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT date-application-deemed-withdrawn
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST date-application-deemed-withdrawn
        %register_attributes;>
```

The element date-application-deemed-withdrawn contains the date of legal effect when the application was deemed to be withdrawn (R.143(1)(n) EPC), in a single date element. The element can occur more than once in case of change / correction. In case of a deletion of the date when the application was deemed to be withdrawn, the date element will be empty, so: `<date/>` .

The element date-application-deemed-withdrawn uses the attribute change-gazette-num to indicate the year and week when this information appeared in the EBD file.

Example:
```
<date-application-deemed-withdrawn change-gazette-num="2004/01">
<date>20030301</date>
</date-application-deemed-withdrawn>
```

3.3.19.   The element date-of-revocation

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT date-of-revocation
        (date)>
<!ATTLIST date-of-revocation
        %register_attributes;>
```

The element date-of revocation contains the date of legal effect of the revocation of the patent (A.101(2) EPC) in a single date element. The element can occur more than once in case of change / correction.
In case of a deletion of the revocation date, the date element will be empty, so:
`<date/>` .

The element date-of revocation uses the attribute change-gazette-num to indicate the year and week when this information appeared in the EBD file.

Example:
```
<date-of-revocation change-gazette-num="2006/08">
<date>20050930</date>
</date-of-revocation>
```

3.3.20.   The element office-specific-bib-data

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT office-specific-bib-data
        (ep-appeal-data*, ep-revocation-procedure*,
        ep-petition-review*, ep-limitation-procedure*)>
<!ATTLIST office-specific-bib-data
        file CDATA #REQUIRED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        lang CDATA #IMPLIED
        office CDATA #REQUIRED
        office-dtd CDATA #REQUIRED
        status CDATA #IMPLIED
>
```

The element office-specific-bib-data in ST.36 is meant to be used for any special data a Patent Office may have that do not fit into the standard elements.
The EPO uses this element to wrap the following elements:
- ep-appeal-data   -   data concerning the appeal(s)
- ep-revocation-procedure   -   data concerning the revocation of the patent on request of the proprietor
- ep-petition-review   -   data concerning a petition for review of an appeal
- ep-limitation-procedure   -   data concerning the request for limitation of the patent

The element office-specific-bib-data uses the following attributes:
- file   -   will be left empty
- id   -   will contain "bib" + the application number + "P"
- lang   -   will always contain "en"
- office   -   will always contain "EPO"
- office-dtd   -   will contain the version number of the dtd
- status   -   will be left empty

For examples of this element with content, please see the sub-paragraphs below.

3.3.20.1. The element ep-appeal-data

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT ep-appeal-data (date?, ep-date-statement-of-grounds-filed?,
          ep-date-interlocutory-revision?, ep-appeal-result?)>
<!ATTLIST ep-appeal-data
      appeal-phase (examination | opposition | revocation | limitation )
                        #IMPLIED
      appeal-num CDATA  #IMPLIED
>

<!ELEMENT ep-date-statement-of-grounds-filed (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-date-interlocutory-revision (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-appeal-result (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST ep-appeal-result date CDATA #IMPLIED>
```

The element ep-appeal-data contains the data concerning an appeal (A.108 - A.111 EPC). It can occur more than once in case of multiple appeals relating to this application.
It can contain the following elements:

- date   -   date when the appeal was filed
- ep-date-statement-of-grounds-filed
                                     -         date when the statement of grounds
                                               for the appeal was file in a date sub-
                                               element
- ep-date-interlocutory-revision   -   date when an interlocutory revision
                                               of the appeal took place in a date
                                               sub-element
- ep-appeal-result   -   outcome of the appeal in clear text
                                               with the date of the outcome in a
                                               date attribute

The element ep-appeal-data can have the following attributes:

- ep-appeal-phase   -   indicates in clear text in which phase
                                               of the patent procedure this appeal
                                               was filed
- appeal-num   -   the appeal number allocated to this
                                               appeal

Example:
```
<office-specific-bib-data file="" id="bib00100122P" lang="en" office="EPO"
office-dtd="1.0" status="">
<ep-appeal-data appeal-num="T0073/07-3204" appeal-phase="opposition">
<date>20070112</date>
<ep-date-statement-of-grounds-filed>
<date>20070314</date>
</ep-date-statement-of-grounds-filed>
<ep-appeal-result date="20090713">APPEAL OF PROPRIETOR REJECTED</ep-appeal-
result>
</ep-appeal-data>
</office-specific-bib-data>
```

3.3.20.2. The element ep-revocation-procedure

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT ep-revocation-procedure (ep-revocation-procedure-date?,
        ep-revocation-procedure-kind?, ep-revocation-procedure-decision?,
        ep-revocation-procedure-paid?, ep-revocation-date-dispatch?,
        ep-revocation-legal-effect?)>
<!ATTLIST ep-revocation-procedure
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT ep-revocation-procedure-date (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-revocation-procedure-decision (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT ep-revocation-procedure-paid (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-revocation-date-dispatch (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-revocation-legal-effect (date)>
```

The element ep-revocation-procedure contains the data concerning the handling of the request for revocation of the patent filed by the proprietor (R.90 - R.95 EPC). The element could in theory occur more than once if an earlier request was not successful.

The element ep-revocation-procedure can contain the following elements:
- ep-revocation-procedure-date   -   the date of request for revocation in a date element
- ep-revocation-procedure-decision-   the decision on the request in clear text, the values can be "admissible", "inadmissible" and "deemed not to be filed"
- ep-revocation-procedure-paid   -   the date of payment of the fee in a date element
- ep-revocation-date-dispatch   -   the date of dispatch of the decision to revoke the patent, in a date element
- ep-revocation-legal-effect   -   the date of legal effect of the revocation, in a date element

The element ep-revocation-procedure can use the attribute change-gazette-num to refer to a year and week when the revocation information was available in the EBD file.

Example:
```
<office-specific-bib-data file="" id="bib00110995P" lang="en" office="EPO"
office-dtd="1.0" status="">
<ep-revocation-procedure change-gazette-num="2009/04">
<ep-revocation-procedure-date>
<date>20081016</date>
</ep-revocation-procedure-date>
<ep-revocation-procedure-decision>admissible</ep-revocation-procedure-
decision>
```

```
<ep-revocation-procedure-paid>
<date>20081030</date>
</ep-revocation-procedure-paid>
<ep-revocation-date-dispatch>
<date>20090408</date>
</ep-revocation-date-dispatch>
<ep-revocation-legal-effect>
<date>20090424</date>
</ep-revocation-legal-effect>
</ep-revocation-procedure>
</office-specific-bib-data>
```

3.3.20.3. The element ep-petition-review

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT ep-petition-review (ep-petition-review-appeal-number?,
        ep-petition-review-date?, ep-petition-review-petitioner-code?,
        ep-petition-review-decision-date?, ep-petition-review-kind?)>
<!ATTLIST ep-petition-review
        petition-review-num CDATA #IMPLIED
        %register_attributes;
>
<!ELEMENT ep-petition-review-appeal-number (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT ep-petition-review-date (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-petition-review-petitioner-code (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT ep-petition-review-decision-date (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-petition-review-kind (#PCDATA)>
```

The element ep-petition-review contains the information about the handling of a petition to review the outcome of an appeal (R.104 - R.108 EPC). The element can occur more than once.

The element ep-petition-review can contain the following elements:
- ep-petition-review-appeal-number-   the number of the appeal that is subject of this petition for review
- ep-petition-review-date   -   the date when the petition was filed, in a date element
- ep-petition-review-petitioner-code -   a coded indication of the petitioner, e.g. "APPR" for applicant/proprietor or "OP01" for the first opponent
- ep-petition-review-decision-date   -   the date of the decision taken on this petition
- ep-petition-review-kind   -   the kind of decision taken, in clear text

The element ep-petition-review can have the following attributes:
- petition-review-num   -   the internal identification number allocated to this petition

- change-gazette-num   -   the year and week when the decision was published in the EBD file

Example:
```
<office-specific-bib-data file="" id="bib00105172P" lang="en" office="EPO"
office-dtd="1.0" status="">
<ep-petition-review petition-review-num="R0003/09" change-gazette-
num="2009/26">
<ep-petition-review-appeal-number>T0667/06-3205</ep-petition-review-appeal-
number>
<ep-petition-review-date>
<date>20090209</date>
</ep-petition-review-date>
<ep-petition-review-petitioner-code>APPR</ep-petition-review-petitioner-
code>
<ep-petition-review-decision-date>
<date>20090403</date>
</ep-petition-review-decision-date>
<ep-petition-review-kind>PETITION FOR REVIEW OBVIOUSLY UNSUBSTANTIATED</ep-
petition-review-kind>
</ep-petition-review>
</office-specific-bib-data>
```

3.3.20.4. The element ep-limitation-procedure

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-procedure (ep-limitation-filing,
        ep-limitation-rejection*, ep-limitation-allowed*)>
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-filing (ep-limitation-filing-date?, ep-limitation-
filing-decision?)>
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-filing-date (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-filing-decision (date?, text?)>

<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-rejection (ep-limitation-rejection-kind?, ep-
limitation-rejection-dispatch-date?, ep-limitation-rejection-legal-date?)>
<!ATTLIST ep-limitation-rejection
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-rejection-kind (#PCDATA)>
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-rejection-dispatch-date (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-rejection-legal-date (date)>

<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-allowed (ep-limitation-request-dispatch-date?, ep-
limitation-request-pay-date?)>
<!ATTLIST ep-limitation-allowed
        %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-request-dispatch-date (date)>
<!ELEMENT ep-limitation-request-pay-date (date)>
```

The element ep-limitation-procedure contains the information about the handling of a request for limitation of the patent (R.90 - R.95 EPC). The element can occur more than once if there are more requests for limitation.

The information within this element consists of 3 parts.

Part 1: the filing of the request for limitation
This information is contained in the element ep-limitation-filing, which can in turn contain the following elements:

- ep-limitation-filing-date   -   date when the request for limitation was filed, in a date element
- ep-limitation-filing-decision   -   the decision about admissibility of the request, in a text element

Part 2: the rejection of the request for limitation
This information is contained in the element ep-limitation-rejection, which can in turn contain the following elements:

- ep-limitation-rejection-kind   -   not used
- ep-limitation-rejection-dispatch-date
     -    the date of dispatch of the decision to reject the request for limitation, in a date element
- ep-limitation-rejection-legal-date - the date of legal effect of the rejection, in a date element

The element ep-limitation-rejection can use the attribute change-gazette-num to indicate the year and week when the legal effect was published in the EBD file.

Part 3: the allowance of the request for limitation
This information is contained in the element ep-limitation-allowed which can in turn contain the following elements:

- ep-limitation-request-dispatch-date
     -    the date of dispatch of the intention, to limit the patent, in a date element
- ep-limitation-request-pay-date   -   the date of payment of the fee for printing the new patent specification, in a date element

Example:
```
<office-specific-bib-data file="" id="bib00104614P" lang="en" office="EPO"
office-dtd="1.0" status="">
<ep-limitation-procedure>
<ep-limitation-filing>
<ep-limitation-filing-date>
<date>20090123</date>
</ep-limitation-filing-date>
<ep-limitation-filing-decision>
<text>admissible</text>
</ep-limitation-filing-decision>
</ep-limitation-filing>
<ep-limitation-allowed>
<ep-limitation-request-dispatch-date>
```

```
<date>20090508</date>
</ep-limitation-request-dispatch-date>
<ep-limitation-request-pay-date>
<date>20090806</date>
</ep-limitation-request-pay-date>
</ep-limitation-allowed>
</ep-limitation-procedure>
</office-specific-bib-data>
```

3.3.21.   The element opposition-data

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT opposition-data
          (opponent |
           date-rejected | date-terminated | opposition-not-filed)*>
<!ATTLIST opposition-data
          %register_attributes;>
```

The element opposition-data contains information about the filing or non-filing of opposition and the rejection of the opposition or termination of the opposition procedure.
The element opposition-data can contain the following elements:

- opponent   -   contains the information about an individual opponent (see below)
- date-rejected   -   the date of legal effect of the rejection of the opposition, in a date element (A.101(2) EPC)
- date-terminated   -   the date of legal effect of the termination of the opposition procedure for administrative reasons, in a date element
- opposition-not-filed   -   the date when the time limit for filing opposition expired, in a date element (A.99(1) EPC)

The element opposition-data can use the attribute change-gazette-num to indicate the year and week when the information was published in the EBD file.

The element opponent contains all information about an opponent, his "status" and his agent. The element can contain the following elements:

- addressbook   -   the address data of the opponent, the id attribute contains the internal identification number of the opponent
- agent   -   the information about the agent of the opponent; the content of this element is as described in section

    3.3.6.3

- opponent-status   -   the date of decision about the status of this opponent in a date field, and the status as clear text in the status attribute (e.g. "admissible")
- date-opposition-filed   -   the date when this opposition was filed, in a date element (R.143(1)(q) EPC)

The element opponent can have a sequence attribute to indicate the ordinal number of this opponent in the application.

Example 1:
```
<opposition-data change-gazette-num="2008/31">
<opposition-not-filed>
<date>20081003</date>
</opposition-not-filed>
</opposition-data>
```

Example 2:
```
<opposition-data change-gazette-num="2005/39">
<opponent sequence="01">
<addressbook>
<name>ThyssenKrupp Präzisionsschmiede GmbH</name>
<address>
<address-1>Frankfurter Ring 227</address-1>
<address-2>D-80807 München</address-2>
<country>DE</country>
</address>
</addressbook>
<agent et-al="no" rep-type="agent">
<addressbook>
<name>Grättinger, Günter</name>
<address>
<address-1>Wittelsbacherstrasse 5</address-1>
<address-2>82319 Starnberg</address-2>
<country>DE</country>
</address>
</addressbook>
</agent>
<date-opposition-filed>
<date>20050722</date>
</date-opposition-filed>
</opponent>
</opposition-data>
```

3.3.22.   The element text

Description in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT text
        (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST text
        lang CDATA #IMPLIED
                        %register_attributes;
>
```

The element text, when occurring as a direct sub-element of bibliographic-data, is used for the texts that appear in Register Plus under the paragraph "Miscellaneous". When used in this way, it can have the attributes lang for the language of the text, and change-gazette-num to indicate the year and week when this text was published in the EBD file.

As described in earlier sections, the text element can also occur as a sub-element of various other elements, and in these occurrences does not have the attributes present.

Example:
```
<text change-gazette-num="2001/49" lang="de">Geänderte Patentansprüche
gemäss Regel 86 (2) EPÜ.</text>
```

3.3.23.   The element search-reports-information

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT search-reports-information (search-report-information+)>

<!ELEMENT search-report-information (srep-request-date?,
     application-reference?, srep-request-withdrawn?,
     sisr-receipt-of-translation?, date-search-completed? ,
     date-search-report-mailed?, date-correction-mailed? ,
     place-of-search? , search-report-publication? , searcher?)>
<!ATTLIST search-report-information
                  id ID #IMPLIED
                  office CDATA #REQUIRED
                  search-type ( international-type | isr | sis | national
                                    | national-supplementary )    #REQUIRED
                  declaration-of-no-search ( yes | no | not-determined)
                                                              #REQUIRED
                  status CDATA                              #IMPLIED
                  %register_attributes;>
<!ELEMENT date-search-report-mailed
          (date)>
<!ELEMENT search-report-publication
          (document-id+)>
```

The element search-reports-information is for the information about search reports, each contained in a search-report-information element. Currently, the EPO provides information about the European search, the international search and about the European supplementary search for international applications.

The element search-report-information can therefore contain the following elements:
- date-search-report-mailed   -   this is the dispatch date of the European supplementary search report for an international application, in a date element

- search-report-publication - the publication date and document identification of the European, international or supplementary international search

The element search-report-information can have the following attributes:
- id - the kind of document ("A1" or "A3") for a European search, "ENDS" for a supplementary European search, "PACT_6" for an international search
- office - office where the search was carried out
- search-type - "national" for a European search "national-supplementary" for a European supplementary search "isr" for an international search "sis" for a supplementary international search
- declaration-of-no-search - always "not-determined"
- change-gazette-num - indicates the year and week when this information was published in the EBD file

Example 1:
```
<search-reports-information>
<search-report-information declaration-of-no-search="not-determined"
id="A3" office="EP" search-type="national" change-gazette-num="2002/40">
<search-report-publication>
<document-id lang="en">
<country>EP</country>
<doc-number>1023824</doc-number>
<kind>A3</kind>
<date>20021002</date>
</document-id>
</search-report-publication>
</search-report-information>
</search-reports-information>
```

Example 2:
```
<search-reports-information>
<search-report-information declaration-of-no-search="not-determined"
id="PACT_6" office="AU" search-type="isr">
<search-report-publication>
<document-id>
<country>WO</country>
<doc-number>2000047548</doc-number>
<kind>A1</kind>
<date>20000817</date>
</document-id>
</search-report-publication>
```

```
</search-report-information>
<search-report-information declaration-of-no-search="not-determined"
id="ENDS" office="EP" search-type="national-supplementary">
<date-search-report-mailed>
<date>20030103</date>
</date-search-report-mailed>
</search-report-information>
</search-reports-information>
```

3.4.   THE ELEMENT PROCEDURAL-DATA

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT procedural-data (procedural-step+)>
<!ATTLIST procedural-data
        country CDATA #IMPLIED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        lang CDATA #IMPLIED
        status CDATA #IMPLIED
>
<!ELEMENT procedural-step (procedural-step-code, procedural-step-text+,
        procedural-step-date*,
        procedural-step-affected-states?,
        time-limit?, procedural-step-result*,gazette-reference?)>
<!ATTLIST procedural-step
        id ID #REQUIRED
        procedure-step-phase ( international-search |
        international-examination | entry-regional-phase | search |
        examination | appeal | opposition | limitation | revocation |
        fees | undefined) #REQUIRED
        procedural-step-forecast ( yes | no ) #IMPLIED
        related-dossier-events IDREFS #IMPLIED
        related-file-wrapper-documents IDREFS #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT procedural-step-code (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST procedural-step-code step-code-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT procedural-step-affected-states (country+)>
<!ELEMENT procedural-step-text (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST procedural-step-text
        step-text-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT procedural-step-result (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST procedural-step-result
        step-result-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT procedural-step-date (date)>
<!-- examples date-type: date-of-despatch, date-of-payment, date-effective,
                    date-of-event -->
<!ATTLIST procedural-step-date step-date-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT time-limit (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST time-limit time-limit-unit ( days | weeks | months ) #REQUIRED>
<!ELEMENT gazette-reference
        (gazette-num, date, text?)>
<!ATTLIST gazette-reference
        country CDATA #IMPLIED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        lang CDATA #IMPLIED
>
```

```
<!ELEMENT gazette-num
          (#PCDATA)>
```

The element procedural-data is used to provide information about (groups of) procedural data that is not or not entirely published in the EBD file but part of the EP Register. To this end, the element procedural-data will contain a procedural-step element for each data field or logical group of data fields that have occurred during the granting procedure.
The element procedural-data can have the following attributes:
- country   -   always "EP"
- id   -   not used
- lang   -   not used
- status   -   not used

The element procedural-step can contain the following elements:
- procedural-step-code   -   a mnemonic identification of the kind of data in this procedural-step tag
- procedural-step-text   -   a text relating to the procedural step, the attribute step-text-type describes what kind of text it is
- procedural-step-date   -   a date relating to the procedural step, the attribute step-date-type describes what kind of date it is
- procedural-step-affected-states -   will contain country elements with the ICIREPAT country codes of states that are affected by this procedural step
- time-limit   -   a time limit involved in this procedural step, the attribute time-limit-unit indicates whether the time limit is in days, weeks or months.
- procedural-step-result   -   indicates the result or outcome of the procedural step, the attribute step-result-type describes the kind of result
- gazette-reference   -   if a part of the procedural step data has been published in the EBD file, the year and week number will be in the sub-element, the sub-element date will be empty

Below are paragraphs describing for each possible procedural step-code what elements will be used, with examples.

3.4.1. Step code 'ABEX'

In the procedural step with step code 'ABEX' you will find information about amendments made by the applicant to the description or the claims (A.123 EPC).

The date when the amendment was made is indicated in a date element inside an element procedural-step-date with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REQUEST".

The nature of the amendment is indicated in the element procedural-step-text with attribute step-text-type = "Kind of amendment". The possible amendments can be:
- "(claims and/or description)"
- "(observation filed on)"
- "(description only)"

Example:
```
<procedural-data>
<procedural-step id="STEP_3181" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>ABEX</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-
type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Amendments</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="Kind of amendment">(claims and/or
description)</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REQUEST">
<date>20010131</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
...
</procedural-data>
```

3.4.2. Step code 'ADWI'

In the procedural step with step code 'ADWI' you will find information about the fact that the applicant has been informed in accordance with R.112(1) EPC that the application is deemed to be withdrawn. This situation can occur for various reasons such as non-payment of a fee, failure to supply a document, etc.

The date when the communication was sent of is indicated in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of legal effect of the decision that the application is deemed to be withdrawn, is indicated in a date element inside a procedural-step-date-element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_EFFECTIVE".

The reason why the application is deemed to be withdrawn is indicated in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME". The following reasons are possible:

- " Application not forwarded to EPO in time"
- " Filing fee / search fee not paid in time"
- " Translation not filed in time "
- " Date of filing cannot be accorded"
- " Designation fee not paid in time"
- " No designation of inventor filed"
- " Examination fee not paid in time"
- " Article 162(4) of EPC1973"
- " Renewal fee not paid in time"
- " Fee for grant / fee for printing not paid in time"
- " Reply to examination report not received in time"
- " Reply to communication from Board of Appeal not received in time"
- " A new European patent application has been filed"
- " No new representative appointed in time after interruption"
- " Non-payment of additional claims fee"
- " EURO-PCT translation(s) not filed"
- " divisional application deemed not to have been filed"
- " WIPO withdrawal"
- " Claims fee not paid in time"
- " Information on prior art not received in time"
- " reply to examination report and information on prior art not received in time"
- " reply to the Extended European Search Report/Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority/International Preliminary Examination Report not received in time"
- "reply to the invitation to file a copy of earlier search results or a statement of non-availability not received in time"

If there was a publication of this information in the EBD file, you will also find the year and week of publication in a gazette-num element inside a gazette-reference element.

Example:
```
<procedural-data>
<procedural-step id="STEP_3355" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>ADWI</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Application deemed
to be withdrawn</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME">Examination
fee not paid in time</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20030728</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_EFFECTIVE">
<date>20030301</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<gazette-reference>
```

```
<gazette-num>2004/01</gazette-num>
<date/>
</gazette-reference>
</procedural-step>
...
</procedural-data>
```

3.4.3. Step code 'AGRA'

In the procedural step with step code 'AGRA' you will find the information about the announcement of the grant, as described in the old version of EPC 1973, valid until 1 July 2002, R.51(4).
The date of dispatch of the announcement is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

If the approval of the announcement was given within the time limit or later, the fact of approval will be present in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "approval", and the content will be "yes", "no" or "later approval".
If the approval was given after expiry of the normal time limit, the date of this later approval will be present in a date element within a procedure-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_LATER_APPROVAL".

There will always be a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "AGRA" containing the text "announcement of grant".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_AGRA" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>AGRA</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Announcement of
grant (old EPC before 1 July 2002)</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="approval">later approval</procedural-
step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20010316</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_LATER_APPROVAL">
<date>20010726</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.4. Step code 'CORS'

In the procedural step with step code 'CORS' you will find information about the fact that new documents were discovered by the examiner after completion of the search report, leading to a corrected search report.

The date when the corrected search report was communicated will be present in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The year and week of publication of this information in the EBD file will be in a gazette-num element inside a gazette-reference element.

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_10562" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>CORS</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">New documents
discovered</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20040924</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<gazette-reference>
<gazette-num>2004/46</gazette-num>
<date/>
</gazette-reference>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.5. Step code 'DEST'

In the procedural step with step code 'DEST' you will find the date of the first payment of a designation fee, as one of the steps required to enter the regional phase for an international application.
The date is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_DEST" procedure-step-phase="entry-regional-
phase">
<procedural-step-code>DEST</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Payment of the
first designation fee</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT">
<date>20010803</date>
</procedural-step-date>
```

3.4.6. Step code 'DOBS'

In the procedural step with step code 'DOBS' you will find information about the invitation to the opponents to reply to the observations of the proprietor in accordance with R.79(3) EPC.
The date of dispatch of the invitation is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of reply by the proprietor is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REPLY".

The time limit given to the proprietor for replying is in a time-limit element with the time-limit-unit always containing "months".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_10562" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>DOBS</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Communication of
observations of proprietor</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20070713</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REPLY">
<date>20071123</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<time-limit time-limit-unit="months">04</time-limit>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.7.   Step code 'EXAM_PCT'

In the procedural step with step code 'EXAM_PCT' you will find the date of payment of the fee for examination as one of the steps required for entering the regional phase of an international application.

The date is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_EXAM" procedure-step-phase="entry-regional-
phase">
<procedural-step-code>EXAM_PCT</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Payment of the fee
for examination</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT">
<date>20010717</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.8.   Step code 'EXPT'

In the procedural step with step code 'EXPT' you will find the non-member states (at the time of filing of the application) to which the patent is extended.
The ICIREPAT country code of the state is in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "Extension state".

The date of payment of the extension fee is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT".

Example:

```
<procedural-step id="STEP_EXPT" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>EXPT</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Extension of the
patent</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="Extension state">AL</procedural-step-
text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT">
<date>20020125</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
<procedural-step id="STEP_EXPT" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>EXPT</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Extension of the
patent</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="Extension state">LT</procedural-step-
text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT">
<date>20020125</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.9.   Step code 'EXRE'

In the procedural step with step code 'EXRE' you will find information about the dispatch of and reply to a communication from the examining division (examiners report) during the examination phase.
The kind of communication is indicated in a tag <procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DECRIPTION"> and can contain one of 2 values:
1. Communication from the examining division
2. Invitation to indicate the basis for amendments

The date of dispatch of the communication is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of receipt of the reply is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REPLY".

The time limit allowed for replying is in a time-limit element with attribute time-limit-unit always = "months".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_309" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>EXRE</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Invitation to
indicate the basis for amendments</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20040810</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REPLY">
<date>20041028</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<time-limit time-limit-unit="months">04</time-limit>
```

```
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.10.   Step code 'FFEE'

In the procedural step with step code 'FFEE' you will find the date of payment of the national basic fee as one of the steps required for entering the regional phase of an international application.

The date of payment is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_FFEE" procedure-step-phase="entry-regional-
phase">
<procedural-step-code>FFEE</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Payment of national
basic fee</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT">
<date>20010717</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.11.   Step code 'IDOP'

The procedural step with step code 'IDOP' gives information about the interlocutory revision of the opposition in accordance with A.101(3)(a) and A.106(2) EPC.

The date of dispatch of the decision is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date when the decision became effective is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_EFFECTIVE".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_1601134" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>IDOP</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Interlocutory
decision in opposition</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20071121</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_EFFECTIVE">
<date>20071201</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.12. Step code 'IGRA'

In the procedural step with step code 'IGRA' you will find the information concerning the intention to grant as described in R.71(3) EPC.
The date of dispatch of the information to the applicant is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of payment of the fee for grant is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "GRANT_FEE_PAID".

The date of payment of the fee for printing the patent specification is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "PRINT_FEE_PAID".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="IGRA00100028" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>IGRA</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20050411</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="GRANT_FEE_PAID">
<date>20050819</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="PRINT_FEE_PAID">
<date/>
</procedural-step-date>
```

3.4.13. Step code 'ISAT'

In the procedural step with step code 'ISAT' you will find the Office code of the International Searching Authority for an international application. The EPO is on of the possible International Searching Authorities (A.152 EPC).
The code is in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "searching authority".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_ISAT" procedure-step-phase="entry-regional-
phase">
<procedural-step-code>ISAT</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">International
searching authority</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="searching authority">EP</procedural-
step-text>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.14. Step code 'LIRE'

In the procedural step with step code 'LIRE' you will find information about the dispatch of and reply to a communication from the examining division during the procedure of limitation of the patent.
The date of dispatch of the communication is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of receipt of the reply is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REPLY".

The time limit allowed for replying is in a time-limit element with attribute time-limit-unit always = "months".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_46080" procedure-step-phase="limitation">
<procedural-step-code>LIRE</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Communication from
the examining division in a limitation procedure</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20090319</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REPLY">
<date>20090403</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<time-limit time-limit-unit="months">02</time-limit>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.15. Step code 'LOPR'

The procedural step with step code 'LOPR' gives information about the loss of rights as described in R.112(1) EPC).
The date of dispatch of the communication of a loss of rights is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date when the loss of rights became effective is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_EFFECTIVE".

The nature of the lost right is in a procedural-step-text element with step-text-type = "STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME". The following values are possible for this:
- "Designated state *cc*" where *cc* is a country code
- "Drawing(s)"
- "Claims"
- "Priority *nn*" where *nn* is the sequence number of the priority
- "Additional claims"
- "Opposition inadmissible OP*nn*" where *nn* is the sequence number of the opponent

- "Opposition deemed not filed OP*nn*" where *nn* is the sequence number of the opponent
- "Request for further processing"
- "Notice of appeal"
- "Re-establishment of rights"
- "Request for revocation"
- "Request for limitation"

Example:

```
<procedural-step id="STEP_LOPR_1" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>LOPR</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Loss of particular
right</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME">Designated
state SE </procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20020610</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_EFFECTIVE">
<date>20020209</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.16. Step code 'OBAP'

The procedural step with step code 'OBAP' gives information about the invitation to file observations in an appeal, and the receipt of them, as described in R.100(2) EPC.

The date of dispatch of the invitation is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of receipt of the observations is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date-element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REPLY".

The time limit allowed for filing the observations is in a time-limit element with the attribute time-limit-unit always = "months".

Example:

```
<procedural-step id="STEP_535101" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>OBAP</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Observations in an
appeal</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20041221</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REPLY">
<date>20050124</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<time-limit time-limit-unit="months">02</time-limit>
```

```
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.17.   Step code 'OBSO'

In the procedural step with step code 'OBSO' you will find information about the invitation to the proprietor of the patent to file observations on the opposition in accordance with R.79(1) and (2) EPC.

The date of dispatch of the invitation is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of reply by the proprietor is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REPLY".

The time limit given to the proprietor for replying is in a time-limit element with the time-limit-unit always containing "months".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_131" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>OBSO</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Invitation to
proprietor to file observations on the notice of opposition</procedural-
step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20070109</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REPLY">
<date>20070703</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<time-limit time-limit-unit="months">06</time-limit>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.18.   Step code 'OPEX'

The procedural step with step code 'OPEX' gives information about the examination on admissibility of the opposition as described in R.77(2) EPC.

The date of dispatch of the communication that there are deficiencies in the opposition is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of reply to this communication is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REPLY".

The sequence number of the opponent to whom the communication was sent is in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "sequence-number". The sequence number indicated here corresponds to the sequence number given in the sequence attribute of the corresponding opponent element (see section 3.3.21).

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_OPEX" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>OPEX</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Examination on
admissibility of an opposition</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="sequence-number">01</procedural-step-
text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20080911</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REPLY">
<date>20080911</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.19. Step code 'OPPC'

The procedural step with step code 'OPPC' gives information about the termination of the opposition procedure, for instance because of withdrawal of the opposition.

The date of dispatch of the communication that the opposition procedure will be terminated is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date when the termination takes legal effect is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_EFFECTIVE". This date is the same as the one supplied in the element date-terminated inside the element opposition-data (see section 3.3.21).
The year and week when the legal effect was published in the EBD file, is indicated in a gazette-num element inside a gazette-reference element.

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_1897" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>OPPC</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Closure of the
opposition procedure</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20091203</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_EFFECTIVE">
<date>20091213</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<gazette-reference>
<gazette-num>2010/16</gazette-num>
<date/>
</gazette-reference>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.20. Step code 'ORAL'

The procedural step with sep code 'ORAL' gives information about an oral proceeding as described in R.115 and R.124 EPC.

The date when the oral proceedings took place is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REQUEST".

The date of dispatch of the minutes of the oral proceedings is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of cancellation of the oral proceedings is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_CANCELLATION".

The procedure during which the oral proceedings took place is indicated in the attribute procedure-step-phase of the procedural-step element. The possible values can be:
- "examination"
- "appeal in examination"
- "petition for review in examination"
- "opposition"
- "appeal in opposition"
- "petition for review in opposition"
- "limitation"
- "appeal in limitation"
- "petition for review in limitation"
- "revocation"
- "appeal in revocation"
- "petition for review in revocation"

Example 1:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_1078" procedure-step-phase="appeal in
examination">
<procedural-step-code>ORAL</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Oral
proceedings</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REQUEST">
<date>20060620</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20060628</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

Example 2:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_3507" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
```

```
<procedural-step-code>ORAL</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Oral
proceedings</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REQUEST">
<date>20091013</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_CANCELLATION">
<date>20090921</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.21.   Step code 'OREX'

In the procedural step with step code 'OREX' you will find information about the dispatch of and reply to a communication from the examining division during the opposition procedure as described in A.101(2) and R.81(2) EPC..

The date of dispatch of the communication is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of receipt of the reply is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REPLY".

The time limit allowed for replying is in a time-limit element with attribute time-limit-unit always = "months".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_845" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>OREX</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Communication from
the opposition division</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20081223</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REPLY">
<date>20090417</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<time-limit time-limit-unit="months">04</time-limit>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.22.   Step code 'PFEE'

The procedural step with step code 'PFEE' gives information about the payment of surcharges / additional fees for various other fees as described in Rules 85a and 85b EPC1973, and R.51(2) EPC.
The date of dispatch of the communication that an additional payment is due, is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of payment of the additional fee is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT1".
The time limit allowed for paying the additional fee is in a time-limit element with attribute time-limit-unit always = "months".

The subject of the fee that was paid late or not in a sufficient amount is in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME".

Example 1:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_3358" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>PFEE</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Penalty fee Rule 85b EPC 1973</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20030409</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<time-limit time-limit-unit="months">01</time-limit>
</procedural-step>
```

Example 2:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_74" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>PFEE</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Additional fee for renewal fee</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="YEAR">06</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20050131</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT1">
<date>20050418</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<time-limit time-limit-unit="months">06</time-limit>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.23. Step code 'PMAP'

The procedural step with step code 'PMAP' gives information about the preparation for maintenance of the patent in an amended form, as described in R.82(1) and (2) EPC.

The date of dispatch of the communication that the patent will be maintained as amended is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date of payment of the fee (R.82(2) EPC) is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT1".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_3505" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>PMAP</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Preparation for
maintenance of the patent in an amended form</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20100323</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT1">
<date>20100409</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.24.   Step code 'PREX'

The procedural step with step code 'PREX' gives information about the preliminary examination for an international application (Chapter 2 PCT).

The date of the request for preliminary examination is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REQUEST".

The code(s) of the Office(s) where the preliminary examination is carried out is in a procedural-step-affected-states element.

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_PREX" procedure-step-phase="international-
examination"
<procedural-step-code>PREX</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Preliminary
examination - PCT II</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REQUEST">
<date>20010719</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-affected-states>EP</procedural-step-affected-states>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.25.   Step code 'PROL'

The procedural step with step code 'PROL' gives the procedure language of the application ("de", "en" or "fr") as meant in R.3 EPC.
The language code is in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "procedure language".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_PROL" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>PROL</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Language of the
procedure</procedural-step-text>
```

```
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="procedure language">en</procedural-
step-text>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.26.   Step code 'RAEX'

The procedural step with step code 'RAEX' gives information about the request for accelerated examination.
NB For requests for accelerated examination filed from 2 December 2001, the EPO is no longer allowed to provide the information about the request.

The date when the request fro accelerated examination was filed, is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_RAEX".

The date when a decision was taken about the request for accelerated examination is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_DECISION_RAEX".

The decision about the request is in a procedural-step-result element with attribute step-result-type = "accepted(yes/no)".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="RAEX00100390" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>RAEX</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Request for
accelerated examination</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_DECISION_RAEX">
<date>20011017</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_RAEX">
<date>20010913</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-result step-result-
type="accepted(yes/no)">yes</procedural-step-text>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.27.   Step code 'RDEC'

The procedural step with step code 'RDEC' gives information about the request for a decision after the loss of rights as described in R.112(2) EPC).

The date of receipt of the request for decision is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REQUEST".

The date when a decision on the request was taken is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "RESULT_DATE".

The result is in clear text in a procedural-step-result element.
The nature of the decision is in a procedural-step-result element and can have the following values:

- " request deemed not to be filed"
- " request rejected "
- " request accepted "
- " request withdrawn"
- " request procedure closed "

The fact that was the subject of the request is in a procedural-step-text element with step-text-type = "STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME". The following values are possible for this:

- "designated state(s)"
- "Drawings"
- "Claims"
- "Priority"
- "Additional claims"
- "Admissibility of opposition"
- "Opposition is deemed not to be filed"
- "Request for further processing"
- "Notice of appeal"
- "Request for re-establishment of rights"
- "Revocation of patent by proprietor"
- "Request for limitation"
- "Application is deemed to be withdrawn"
- "Various"

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_6985" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>RDEC</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Request for
decision</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME">Application is
deemed to be withdrawn</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REQUEST">
<date>20021218</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="RESULT_DATE">
<date>20040625</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-result>Request granted</procedural-step-result>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.28. Step code 'REES'

The procedural step with step code 'REES' contains information about the procedure for re-establishment of rights (A.122 EPC).

The date when the request for re-establishment was made is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REQUEST".

The date when a decision on the request was taken is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "RESULT_DATE". If the decision on the request was favourable ("Request accepted"), this date of the decision is the same as given in the element date-rights-reestablished (see section 3.3.16).

The nature of the decision is in a procedural-step-result element. The following values can appear here as results:

- " Request deemed not to be filed"
- " Request rejected "
- " Request accepted "
- " Request withdrawn"
- " Request procedure closed "

The year and week when information about the request for re-establishment was published in the EBD file are indicated in a gazette-num element inside a gazette-reference element. As both the request and the decision are published, two procedural-step elements can be present for the same request as in below example.

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_1076716" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>REES</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Request for re-establishment of rights</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REQUEST">
<date>20060921</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="RESULT_DATE">
<date>20061212</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-result>Request granted</procedural-step-result>
<gazette-reference>
<gazette-num>2007/02</gazette-num>
<date/>
</gazette-reference>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.29.   Step code 'REFU'

The procedural step with step code 'REFU' gives information about the refusal of the application as described in A.97(2) and A.90(5) EPC.

The date of dispatch of the notification that the application will be refused is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date when the refusal took legal effect is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_EFFECTIVE". The date indicated here is the same as in the element date-application-refused (see section 3.3.15).

The reason for the refusal is in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "kind of refusal". The possible reasons are:
- "For Article 91(3) Receiving Section" (NB this refers to EPC1973).
- "For Article 97(2) Examining Division"
- "Substantive examination"

The year and week in which the date of legal effect of the refusal was published in the EBD file is indicated in a gazette-num element inside a gazette-reference element.

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_1080" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>REFU</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Refusal of the
application</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="kind of refusal">Substantive
examination</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20031114</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_EFFECTIVE">
<date>20060620</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<gazette-reference>
<gazette-num>2006/36</gazette-num>
<date/>
</gazette-reference>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.30.   Step code 'REJO'

The procedural step with step code 'REJO' gives information about the rejection of the opposition as described in A.101(2) EPC.

The date of dispatch of the notification(s) that the opposition will be rejected is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date when the rejection took legal effect is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_EFFECTIVE".

The year and week when the legal effect of the rejection was published in the EBD file is in a gazette-num element inside a gazette-reference element.

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_654" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>REJO</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Rejection of
opposition</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20060720</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_EFFECTIVE">
<date>20060730</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<gazette-reference>
<gazette-num>2006/49</gazette-num>
<date/>
</gazette-reference>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.31.   Step code 'REVO'

The procedural step with step code 'REVO' gives information about the revocation of the patent as described in A.101(2) EPC.

The date of dispatch of the notification(s) that the patent will be revoked is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date when the revocation took legal effect is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_EFFECTIVE". This is the same date as in the element date-of-revocation (see section 3.3.19).

The year and week when the legal effect of the revocation was published in the EBD file is in a gazette-num element inside a gazette-reference element.

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_1185" procedure-step-phase="opposition">
<procedural-step-code>REVO</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Revocation of the
patent</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20061115</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_EFFECTIVE">
<date>20090713</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<gazette-reference>
<gazette-num>2009/48</gazette-num>
<date/>
</gazette-reference>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.32. Step code 'RFEE'

The procedural step with step code 'RFEE' gives information about the payment of a renewal fee (A.86 EPC).

The date of payment is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT".

The ordinal year since the filing for which the payment was made is in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "YEAR".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="RENEWAL_494583" procedure-step-phase="">
<procedural-step-code>RFEE</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Renewal fee
payment</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="YEAR">03</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT">
<date>20020327</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.33. Step code 'RFPR'

The procedural step with step code 'RFPR' gives information about a request for further processing as meant in A.121 EPC.

The date when the request fro further processing was received is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REQUEST".

The date of payment of the fee for further processing is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT1".
The date when a decision about the request was taken is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "RESULT_DATE".
The kind of decision taken is in a procedural-step-result element. The possible values of the decision are:
- " Request deemed not to be filed"
- " Request rejected "
- " Request accepted "
- " Request withdrawn"
- " Request procedure closed "

Under EPC1973, a request for further processing always concerned a total loss of the application so no further qualification of the kind of request was necessary.
Under EPC2000, a failure to observe almost any time limit can lead to a request for further processing. Therefore a description of the cause leading to the request for

further processing is given in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME". The possible values for this description are:

- " An appeal is considered to be inadmissible"
- " An appeal is deemed not to have been filed"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to deficiencies in an appeal"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to non-payment of designation fees for *cc*" (where *cc* is a country code)
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to non-payment of the examination fee"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to reply to the examination report"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to non-payment of the filing fee"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to appoint a representative"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to file the authorisation of the representative"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to fulfill actions required for granting the patent"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to file the designation of inventor"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to indicate the wish to proceed further with the application"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to provide information on prior art"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to non-payment of the search fee"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to file the translation"
- "The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to reply to the Extended European Search Report/Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority/International Preliminary Examination Report"
- " Loss of rights: Disclosure of the invention"
- " Loss of rights: Claims"
- " Loss of rights: Designated contracting state(s) *cc*" where *cc* is a country code
- " Loss of rights: Authorisation of representative"
- " Loss of rights: Priority document *nn*" where *nn* is the sequence number of the priority that was lost
- " Loss of rights: translation of priority document *nn*" where *nn* is the sequence number of the priority that was lost
- " The application was refused due to failure to meet formal requirements"
- " The application was refused due to failure to appoint a representative"
- " The application was refused due to failure to file the authorisation of the representative"

- " The application was refused due to failure to designate an inventor"
- " The application was refused due to failure to file the sequence listing"
- " The application was refused due to non-payment of the late furnishing fee for the sequence listing"
- " Extension request deemed withdrawn in respect of *cc*" where *cc* is a country code
- " Translation of document not provided"
- " The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to reply to the invitation to file a copy of earlier search results or a statement of non-availability"

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_3226" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>RFPR</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Request for further processing</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION_NAME">The application is deemed to be withdrawn due to failure to reply to the examination report</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REQUEST">
<date>20051216</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT1">
<date>20051219</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="RESULT_DATE">
<date>20060102</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-result>Request granted</procedural-step-result>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.34.   Step code 'SFEE'

In the procedural step with step code 'SFEE' you will find the date of payment of the fee for a supplementary search (A.153(7) EPC) as one of the steps required for entering the regional phase of an international application.
The date of payment is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_PAYMENT".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_SFEE" procedure-step-phase="entry-regional-phase">
<procedural-step-code>SFEE</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Payment of the fee for supplementary search</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_PAYMENT">
<date>20010117</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.35.   Step code 'TIPA'

In the procedural step with step code you will find information about the presentation of observations by third parties (A.115 EPC).
The date when the observation was received is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_REQUEST".
The sequence number of the observation is in a procedural-step-text element with attribute step-text-type = "STEP_IDENTIFICATION".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_4971" procedure-step-phase="examination">
<procedural-step-code>TIPA</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Observations by a
third party</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_REQUEST">
<date>20030507</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.36.   Step code 'TRAN'

In the procedural step with step code 'TRAN' you will find the date of receipt of the translation as one of the steps required for entering the regional phase of an international application.
The date of receipt is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_RECEIPT".

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_TRAN" procedure-step-phase="entry-regional-
phase">
<procedural-step-code>TRAN</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Translation of the
application</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_RECEIPT">
<date>20010122</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
</procedural-data>
```

3.4.37.   Step code 'DDIV'

In the procedural step with step code 'DDIV' you will find the date of the first communication from the examining division relevant to the time limit for filing a (further) divisional application as described in R.36 of the EPC. You will also find the number of the application in which this communication was sent out, this can be either the application itself or a parent application.

```
<procedural-step id="STEP_4971" procedure-step-phase="examination">
```

```
<procedural-step-code>DDIV</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">First communication
from the examining division</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-text step-text-
type="APPLICATION_NUMBER">09101234</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20030507</date>
</procedural-step-date>
</procedural-step>
```

3.4.38.   Step code 'REJR'

The procedural step with step code 'REJR' gives information about the rejection of
the request for revocation of the patent as described in R.94 EPC.

The date of dispatch of the notification that the request for revocation of the patent
will be rejected is in a date element inside a procedural-step-date element with
attribute step-date-type = "DATE_OF_DISPATCH".

The date when the rejection of the request took legal effect is in a date element
inside a procedural-step-date element with attribute step-date-type =
"DATE_EFFECTIVE".

The year and week when the legal effect of the rejection was published in the EBD
file is in a gazette-num element inside a gazette-reference element.

Example:
```
<procedural-step id="STEP_654" procedure-step-phase="revocation">
<procedural-step-code>REJR</procedural-step-code>
<procedural-step-text step-text-type="STEP_DESCRIPTION">Rejection of the
request for revocation of the patent</procedural-step-text>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_OF_DISPATCH">
<date>20060720</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<procedural-step-date step-date-type="DATE_EFFECTIVE">
<date>20060730</date>
</procedural-step-date>
<gazette-reference>
<gazette-num>2006/49</gazette-num>
<date/>
</gazette-reference>
</procedural-step>
```

3.5.   THE ELEMENT EVENTS-DATA

Definition in the dtd:
```
<!ELEMENT events-data (dossier-event+)>
<!ATTLIST events-data
        country CDATA #IMPLIED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        lang CDATA #IMPLIED
```

```
        status CDATA #IMPLIED
>
<!ELEMENT dossier-event ( event-date, event-code, event-text+,
        gazette-reference?)>
<!ATTLIST dossier-event
        id ID #REQUIRED
        event-type ( new | change | deletion ) #REQUIRED
        event-forecast ( yes | no ) #IMPLIED
        related-procedural-steps IDREFS #IMPLIED
        related-file-wrapper-documents IDREFS #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT event-date (date)>
<!ELEMENT event-code (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST event-code event-code-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT event-text (#PCDATA)>
<!ATTLIST event-text
        event-text-type CDATA #IMPLIED>
<!ELEMENT gazette-reference
        (gazette-num, date, text?)>
<!ATTLIST gazette-reference
        country CDATA #IMPLIED
        id ID #IMPLIED
        lang CDATA #IMPLIED
>
<!ELEMENT gazette-num
        (#PCDATA)>
```

The element events-data contains the information about actions that have taken place during the life of the patent application, a kind of log book, as it is displayed on the "Events history" panel of the EP Register. To this end, the element contains a dossier-event element for each action. It can also have a country attribute which will always contain "EP".

The dossier-event element contains the following elements:
- event-date   -   the date when the event was entered into the file, in a date element
- event-code   -   the internal code used in the EPO to identify the kind of action
- event-text   -   description in clear text of the action
- gazette-reference   -   for actions that have also been published in the EBD file, the year and week of publication in an element gazette-num, and the date of publication in a date element

The dossier-event element can have the following attributes:
- id   -   an identification
- event-type   -   where possible, used to indicate whether the action concerned a new entry, a change or a deletion
- related-procedural steps   -   will be empty for the moment

Example:

```
<events-data country="EP">
<dossier-event event-type="new" id="EVT_1442469" related-procedural-
steps="">
<event-date>
<date>20060127</date>
</event-date>
<event-code>0009183</event-code>
<event-text event-text-type="DESCRIPTION">Application deemed to be
withdrawn</event-text>
<gazette-reference>
<gazette-num>2006/11</gazette-num>
<date>20060315</date>
</gazette-reference>
</dossier-event>
</events-data>
<events-data country="EP">
```

4. REFERENCE LIST OF EPC ARTICLES / RULES AND CORRESPONDING XML ELEMENTS

Art. / Rule EPC2000	Art. / Rule EPC1973	Short description	XML element
-	R.51(4) version before 01.07.2002	Announcement of grant	<procedural-data> see 3.4.3
-	R.85a	Period of grace for fee payment	<procedural-data> see 3.4.22
-	R.85b	Period of grace for fee payment	<procedural-data> see 3.4.22
A.14(2)	A.14(2)	Language of filing	<language-of-filing> see 3.3.4
A.61(1)	A.61(1)	New application	<continuation> see 3.3.13
A.76	A.76	Divisional application	<division> see 3.3.13
A.81	A.81	Inventor	<inventors> see 3.3.6.2
A.86	A.86	Payment of renewal fee	<procedural-data> see 3.4.32
A.88	A.88	Claiming priority	<priority-claims> see 3.3.5
A.90(5)	A.91(3)	Refusal	<date-application-refused> see 3.3.15 <procedural-data> see 3.4.29
A.97(2)	A.97(1)	Refusal	<date-application-refused> see 3.3.15 <procedural-data> see 3.4.29
A.99(1)	A.99(1)	Time limit for filing opposition	<opposition-not-filed> see 3.3.21
A.101(2)	A.101(2)	Examination on opposition	<procedural-data> see 3.4.21
A.101(2)	A.102(2)	Rejection of opposition	<procedural-data> see 3.4.30
A.101(2)	A.102(2)	Revocation of the patent	<date-of-revocation> see 3.3.19
A.101(3)(a)	A.102(3)	Interlocutory revision of opposition	<procedural-data> see 3.4.11

A.101(3)(b)	A.102(1)	Revocation of the patent	\<date-of-revocation\> see 3.3.19 \<procedural-data\> see 3.4.31
A.106(2)	A.106(3)	Interlocutory revision of opposition	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.11
A.108 - A.111	A.108 - A.111	Appeal	\<ep-appeal-data\> see 3.3.20.1
A.115	A.115	Observations by third parties	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.35
A.121	A.121	Request for further processing	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.33
A.122	A.122	Re-establishment of rights	\<date-rights-reestablished\> see 3.3.16 \<procedural-data\> see 3.4.28
A.123	A.123	Amendment by applicant	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.1
A.135	A.135	Conversion to a national application	\<request-for-conversion-to-national-application\> see 3.3.11
A.152	A.154	International Searching Authority	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.13
A.159(1)(a)	A.158(2)	Translation of the international application	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.36
A.159(1)(e)	A.157(2)(b)	Search fee for supplementary search	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.34
R.3	R.1	Language of proceedings	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.25
R.14	R.13	Suspension	\<proceedings-suspended\> see 3.3.11
R.23	R.21	License	\<licensee-data\> see3.3.9
R.24	R.22	Exclusive license	\<licensee-data\> see3.3.9
R.31	R.28	Deposit of biological material	\<bio-deposit\> see 3.3.14
R.36	R.25	Filing a divisional application	\<procedural-data\> see 3.3.37
R.40	-	Earlier application	\<previously-filed-application\> see 3.3.13
R.41(2)(c)	R.26(2)(c)	Applicant	\<applicants\> see 3.3.6.1
R.41(2)(d)	R.26(2)(d)	Representative	\<agents\> see 3.3.6.3

R.51(2)	A.86(2)	Additional fee for renewal fee	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.32
R.70(1)	A.94(2)	Request for examination	\<request-for-examination\> see 3.3.11
R.71(3)	R.51(6) (pre 01.07.2002), R.51(4) (post 01.07.2002)	Intention to grant	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.12
R.77(2)	R.56(2)	Examination on admissibility of the opposition	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.18
R.79(1)	R.57(1)	Invitation to proprietor to file observations on opposition	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.17
R.79(3)	R.57(3)	Observations from proprietor to other parties	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.6
R.81(1)	R.85(4)	Information about intended maintenance in amended form	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.23
R.82	R.58	Patent maintained in amended form	\<patent-maintained-as-amended\> see 3.3.11
R.82(2)	R.58(1)	Communications in opposition	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.21
R.82(2)	R.58(5)	Fee payment for patent in amended form	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.23
R.90 - R.95	-	Limitation of the patent	\<ep-limitation-procedure\> see 3.3.20.4
R.90 - R.95	-	Revocation on request	\<ep-revocation-procedure\> see 3.3.20.2
R.94	-	Rejection of the request for revocation of the patent	\<procedural-data\> see 3.3.38
R.100(2)	A.110(2)	Observations in an appeal	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.16
R.104 - R.108	-	Petition for review	\<ep-petition-review\> see 3.3.20.3
R.112	R.69	Application deemed withdrawn	\<date-application-deemed-withdrawn\> see 3.3.18 \<procedural-data\> see 3.4.2
R.112	R.69	Loss of particular right	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.15

R.112	R.69	Request for decision	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.27
R.115	R.71	Summons to oral proceedings	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.20
R.124	R.76	Minutes of oral proceedings	\<procedural-data\> see 3.4.20
R.142	R.90	Interruption	\<proceedings-interrupted\> see 3.3.11
R.143(1)(a)	R.92(1)(a)	Application number	\<application-reference\> see 3.3.3
R.143(1)(b)	R.92(1)(b)	Date of filing	\<application-reference\> see 3.3.3
R.143(1)(c)	R.92(1)(c)	Title of the invention	\<invention-title\> see 3.3.8
R.143(1)(d)	R.92(1)(d)	Classification	\<classifications-ipcr\> see 3.3.2
R.143(1)(e)	R.92(1)(e)	Designated states	\<designation-of-states\> see 3.3.7
R.143(1)(l)	R.92(l)	Publication date	\<publication-reference\> see 3.3.1
R.143(1)(n)	R.92(n)	Withdrawal	\<date-application--withdrawn-by-applicant\> see 3.3.17
R.143(1)(p)	R.92(1)(p)	Lapse of the patent	\<term-of-grant\> see 3.3.10
R.143(1)(q)	R.92(1)(q)	Date of filing an opposition	\<opponent\> see 3.3.21