

**U.S. Department of Commerce  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**



**Privacy Impact Assessment  
for the  
Patent Trial and Appeal Board E2E (PTAB E2E)**

Reviewed by: David Chiles, Bureau Chief Privacy Officer (Acting)

- ☒ Concurrence of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer  
☐ Non-concurrence of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer

**CATRINA PURVIS**

Digitally signed by CATRINA PURVIS  
DN: c=US, o=U.S. Government, ou=Department of Commerce, ou=Office of the  
Secretary, cn=CATRINA PURVIS, 0.9.2342.19200300.100.1.1=13001002875743  
Date: 2018.01.30 16:36:18 -05'00'

Signature of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer

Date

## U.S. Department of Commerce Privacy Impact Assessment USPTO Patent Trial and Appeal Board E2E (PTAB E2E)

**Unique Project Identifier: PTO-010-00**

### **Introduction: System Description**

*Provide a description of the system that addresses the following elements:*

*The response must be written in plain language and be as comprehensive as necessary to describe the system.*

*(a) a general description of the information in the system*

The new PTAB E2E architecture will enhance case/proceeding management and reporting functions will consolidate the various types of data that PTAB is currently tracking. A number of individuals are manually collecting this data to generate a variety of reports, analytics, and case management.

The PTAB E2E is the system based on the concept of a case or a proceeding to replace the multiple systems separately dealing with America Invents Act (AIA) Trials, Interferences, Appeals, and separate spreadsheets and databases. The objective of PTAB E2E is to meet its statutory obligations under AIA, the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Strategic Goal of Optimizing Patent Quality and Timeliness, and improving the Appeal and Post-Grant Processes. PTAB E2E formalize a solution that aligns with Patent End-to-End (PE2E) as much as feasible to meet business requirements that support a geographically dispersed workforce of Judges and Paralegals and supports all Board Trial types and appeals for Case management, Case tracking and notification, Hearing schedule, Data analytics and reporting capabilities, Data search and search results, Data integration, data synchronization, and data store, Document submission and management, Workload balance and management and Electronic records management.

*(b) a description of a typical transaction conducted on the system*

Create, submit and review petitions.

*(c) any information sharing conducted by the system*

No

*(d) a citation of the legal authority to collect PII and/or BII*

5 U.S.C. 301 and 44 U.S.C. 3101.

*(e) the Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 199 security impact category for the system: **Moderate***

**Section 1: Status of the Information System**

1.1 Indicate whether the information system is a new or existing system.

- ☐ This is a new information system.
- ☐ This is an existing information system with changes that create new privacy risks.  
(Check all that apply.)
- ☒ This is an existing information system in which changes do not create new privacy risks. Continue to answer questions, and complete certification.

Changes That Create New Privacy Risks (CTCNPR)					
a. Conversions	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. Significant Merging	<input type="checkbox"/>	g. New Interagency Uses	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Anonymous to Non-Anonymous	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. New Public Access	<input type="checkbox"/>	h. Internal Flow or Collection	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Significant System Management Changes	<input type="checkbox"/>	f. Commercial Sources	<input type="checkbox"/>	i. Alteration in Character of Data	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Other changes that create new privacy risks (specify):					

**Section 2: Information in the System**

2.1 Indicate what personally identifiable information (PII)/business identifiable information (BII) is collected, maintained, or disseminated. (Check all that apply.)

Identifying Numbers (IN)					
a. Social Security*	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. File/Case ID	<input type="checkbox"/>	i. Credit Card	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Taxpayer ID	<input type="checkbox"/>	f. Driver's License	<input type="checkbox"/>	j. Financial Account	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Employer ID	<input type="checkbox"/>	g. Passport	<input type="checkbox"/>	k. Financial Transaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Employee ID	<input type="checkbox"/>	h. Alien Registration	<input type="checkbox"/>	l. Vehicle Identifier	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Other identifying numbers (specify):					
*Explanation for the need to collect, maintain, or disseminate the Social Security number, including truncated form:					
*If SSNs are collected, stored, or processed by the system, please explain if there is a way to avoid such collection in the future and how this could be accomplished:					

General Personal Data (GPD)					
a. Name	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	g. Date of Birth	<input type="checkbox"/>	m. Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Maiden Name	<input type="checkbox"/>	h. Place of Birth	<input type="checkbox"/>	n. Financial Information	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Alias	<input type="checkbox"/>	i. Home Address	<input type="checkbox"/>	o. Medical Information	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Gender	<input type="checkbox"/>	j. Telephone Number	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	p. Military Service	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	k. Email Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	q. Physical Characteristics	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Race/Ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/>	l. Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	r. Mother's Maiden Name	<input type="checkbox"/>

s. Other general personal data (specify):

<b>Work-Related Data (WRD)</b>					
a. Occupation	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. Telephone Number	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	g. Salary	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Job Title	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. Email Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	h. Work History	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Work Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	f. Business Associates	<input type="checkbox"/>		
i. Other work-related data (specify):					

<b>Distinguishing Features/Biometrics (DFB)</b>					
a. Fingerprints	<input type="checkbox"/>	d. Photographs	<input type="checkbox"/>	g. DNA Profiles	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Palm Prints	<input type="checkbox"/>	e. Scars, Marks, Tattoos	<input type="checkbox"/>	h. Retina/Iris Scans	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Voice Recording/Signatures	<input type="checkbox"/>	f. Vascular Scan	<input type="checkbox"/>	i. Dental Profile	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Other distinguishing features/biometrics (specify):					

<b>System Administration/Audit Data (SAAD)</b>					
a. User ID	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	c. Date/Time of Access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	e. ID Files Accessed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b. IP Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	d. Queries Run	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	f. Contents of Files	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Other system administration/audit data (specify):					

<b>Other Information (specify)</b>					

2.2 Indicate sources of the PII/BII in the system. *(Check all that apply.)*

<b>Directly from Individual about Whom the Information Pertains</b>					
In Person	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hard Copy: Mail/Fax	<input type="checkbox"/>	Online	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Telephone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Email	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (specify):					

<b>Government Sources</b>					
Within the Bureau	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other DOC Bureaus	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Federal Agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>
State, Local, Tribal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foreign	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other (specify):					

<b>Non-government Sources</b>					
Public Organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Sector	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commercial Data Brokers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Third Party Website or Application	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Other (specify):					

- 2.3 Indicate the technologies used that contain PII/BII in ways that have not been previously deployed. *(Check all that apply.)*

Technologies Used Containing PII/BII Not Previously Deployed (TUCPBNPD)			
Smart Cards	<input type="checkbox"/>	Biometrics	<input type="checkbox"/>
Caller-ID	<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Cards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify):			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are not any technologies used that contain PII/BII in ways that have not been previously deployed.
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### **Section 3: System Supported Activities**

- 3.1 Indicate IT system supported activities which raise privacy risks/concerns. *(Check all that apply.)*

Activities			
Audio recordings	<input type="checkbox"/>	Building entry readers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Video surveillance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electronic purchase transactions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify):			

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are not any IT system supported activities which raise privacy risks/concerns.
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### **Section 4: Purpose of the System**

- 4.1 Indicate why the PII/BII in the IT system is being collected, maintained, or disseminated. *(Check all that apply.)*

Purpose			
To determine eligibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	For administering human resources programs	<input type="checkbox"/>
For administrative matters	<input type="checkbox"/>	To promote information sharing initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>
For litigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	For criminal law enforcement activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
For civil enforcement activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	For intelligence activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
To improve Federal services online	<input type="checkbox"/>	For employee or customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
For web measurement and customization technologies (single-session )	<input type="checkbox"/>	For web measurement and customization technologies (multi-session )	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify): For correspondence (by email) purposes and to review the progress of the petition. To run internal reports to be used by USPTO business unit.			

**Section 5: Use of the Information**

- 5.1 In the context of functional areas (business processes, missions, operations, etc.) supported by the IT system, describe how the PII/BII that is collected, maintained, or disseminated will be used. Indicate if the PII/BII identified in Section 2.1 of this document is in reference to a federal employee/contractor, member of the public, foreign national, visitor or other (specify).

For correspondence (by email) purposes and to review the progress of the petition. To run internal reports to be used by USPTO business unit.

PII is in reference to member of public.

**Section 6: Information Sharing and Access**

- 6.1 Indicate with whom the bureau intends to share the PII/BII in the IT system and how the PII/BII will be shared. (*Check all that apply.*)

Recipient	How Information will be Shared		
	Case-by-Case	Bulk Transfer	Direct Access
Within the bureau	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DOC bureaus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Federal agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State, local, tribal gov't agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foreign governments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foreign entities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The PII/BII in the system will not be shared.
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- 6.2 Indicate whether the IT system connects with or receives information from any other IT systems authorized to process PII and/or BII.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, this IT system connects with or receives information from another IT system(s) authorized to process PII and/or BII. Provide the name of the IT system and describe the technical controls which prevent PII/BII leakage:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No, this IT system does not connect with or receive information from another IT system(s) authorized to process PII and/or BII.

- 6.3 Identify the class of users who will have access to the IT system and the PII/BII. (*Check all that apply.*)

Class of Users			
General Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Government Employees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contractors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Other (specify):			

## **Section 7: Notice and Consent**

- 7.1 Indicate whether individuals will be notified if their PII/BII is collected, maintained, or disseminated by the system. (*Check all that apply.*)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes, notice is provided pursuant to a system of records notice published in the Federal Register and discussed in Section 9.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes, notice is provided by a Privacy Act statement and/or privacy policy. The Privacy Act statement and/or privacy policy can be found at: <a href="http://www.uspto.gov/privacy-policy">http://www.uspto.gov/privacy-policy</a>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, notice is provided by other means.	Specify how:
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, notice is not provided.	Specify why not:

- 7.2 Indicate whether and how individuals have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, individuals have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII.	Specify how:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No, individuals do not have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII.	Specify why not: Without providing name, email address, address and telephone number, petition cannot be filed, submitted and reviewed.

7.3 Indicate whether and how individuals have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, individuals have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII.	Specify how:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No, individuals do not have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII.	Specify why not: PII information is not used by the system for any purpose, PII information is used to track petitions.

7.4 Indicate whether and how individuals have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes, individuals have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them.	Specify how: User can login to their accounts and update the information.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, individuals do not have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them.	Specify why not:

## **Section 8: Administrative and Technological Controls**

8.1 Indicate the administrative and technological controls for the system. (*Check all that apply.*)

<input type="checkbox"/>	All users signed a confidentiality agreement or non-disclosure agreement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	All users are subject to a Code of Conduct that includes the requirement for confidentiality.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Staff (employees and contractors) received training on privacy and confidentiality policies and practices.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Access to the PII/BII is restricted to authorized personnel only.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Access to the PII/BII is being monitored, tracked, or recorded. Explanation:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The information is secured in accordance with FISMA requirements. Provide date of most recent Assessment and Authorization (A&A): 01/31/2017 <input type="checkbox"/> This is a new system.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 199 security impact category for this system is a moderate or higher.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-122 and NIST SP 800-53 Revision 4 Appendix J recommended security controls for protecting PII/BII are in place and functioning as intended; or have an approved Plan of Action and Milestones (POAM).
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contractors that have access to the system are subject to information security provisions in their contracts required by DOC policy.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contracts with customers establish ownership rights over data including PII/BII.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Acceptance of liability for exposure of PII/BII is clearly defined in agreements with customers.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify):



## 8.2 Provide a general description of the technologies used to protect PII/BII on the IT system.

In accordance with NIST 800-18 Rev. 1 and NIST 800-53 Rev. 4, the PTAB E2E System Security Plan (SSP) addresses the extent to which the security controls are implemented correctly, operating as intended, and producing the desired outcome with respect to meeting the security requirements for the information system in its operational environment. The SSP is reviewed on an annual basis. In addition, annual assessments and Continuous Monitoring reviews are conducted on the PTAB E2E data. The USPTO Office of Policy and Governance/Cybersecurity Division (OPG/CD) conducts these assessments and reviews based on NIST SP 800-53 Revision 4, Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations and NIST SP 800-53A Revision 4 Assessing Security and Privacy Controls in Federal Information Systems and Organizations. The results of these assessments and reviews are documented in the PTAB E2E Security Assessment Package as part of the system's Security Authorization process.

### **Management Controls**

1. USPTO uses the Life Cycle review process to ensure that management controls are in place for PTAB E2E. During the enhancement of any component, the security controls are reviewed, re-evaluated, and updated in the System Security Plan. The System Security Plan specifically addresses the management, operational, and technical controls that are in place, and planned, during the operation of the enhanced system. Additional management controls include performing national agency checks on all personnel, including contractor staff. Additionally, USPTO develops privacy and PII-related policies and procedures to ensure safe handling, storing, and processing of sensitive data.

### **Operational Controls**

1. Automated operational controls include securing all hardware associated with the PTAB E2E in the USPTO Data center. The Data Center is controlled by access card entry, and is manned by a uniformed guard service to restrict access to the servers, their Operating Systems and databases.

### **Technical Controls**

1. PTAB E2E is secured by various USPTO infrastructure components, including the Network and Security Infrastructure (NSI) system and other OCIO established technical controls to include password authentication at the server and database levels. Web communications leverages modern encryption technology such as TLS 1.1/1.2 over HTTPS. Dedicated interconnections offer protection through IPSec VPN tunnels. PTAB E2E PII/BII is encrypted.

## **Section 9: Privacy Act**

- 9.1 Indicate whether a system of records is being created under the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a. *(A new system of records notice (SORN) is required if the system is not covered by an existing SORN).*

As per the Privacy Act of 1974, "the term 'system of records' means a group of any records under the control of any agency from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual."

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes, this system is covered by an existing system of records notice (SORN). Provide the SORN name and number <i>(list all that apply)</i> :  Litigation, Claims, and Administrative Proceeding Records--COMMERCE/DEPT-14
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, a SORN has been submitted to the Department for approval on <u>(date)</u> .
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, a SORN is not being created.

**Section 10: Retention of Information**

10.1 Indicate whether these records are covered by an approved records control schedule and monitored for compliance. *(Check all that apply.)*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is an approved record control schedule. Provide the name of the record control schedule: Refer to: <a href="http://ptoweb.uspto.gov/ptointranet/cisd/cio/records_mgmt/docs/Section%204-%20Office%20of%20the%20Commissioner%20for%20Patent.pdf">http://ptoweb.uspto.gov/ptointranet/cisd/cio/records_mgmt/docs/Section%204-%20Office%20of%20the%20Commissioner%20for%20Patent.pdf</a> N1-241-10-1:7.4
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, there is not an approved record control schedule. Provide the stage in which the project is in developing and submitting a records control schedule:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes, retention is monitored for compliance to the schedule.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, retention is not monitored for compliance to the schedule. Provide explanation:

10.2 Indicate the disposal method of the PII/BII. *(Check all that apply.)*

<b>Disposal</b>			
Shredding	<input type="checkbox"/>	Overwriting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Degaussing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deleting	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (specify): No disposal			

**Section 11: NIST Special Publication 800-122 PII Confidentiality Impact Levels**

11.1 Indicate the potential impact that could result to the subject individuals and/or the organization if PII were inappropriately accessed, used, or disclosed.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Low – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a limited adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Moderate – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a serious adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	High – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a severe or catastrophic adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.

11.2 Indicate which factors were used to determine the above PII confidentiality impact levels.  
(Check all that apply.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Identifiability	Provide explanation: Public users enter PII (name, home/business address, email address, and telephone number) online to file petition
<input type="checkbox"/>	Quantity of PII	Provide explanation:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Data Field Sensitivity	Provide explanation:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Context of Use	Provide explanation:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Obligation to Protect Confidentiality	Provide explanation:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Access to and Location of PII	Provide explanation:
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	Provide explanation:

## **Section 12: Analysis**

12.1 Indicate whether the conduct of this PIA results in any required business process changes.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, the conduct of this PIA results in required business process changes. Explanation:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No, the conduct of this PIA does not result in any required business process changes.

12.2 Indicate whether the conduct of this PIA results in any required technology changes.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, the conduct of this PIA results in required technology changes. Explanation:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No, the conduct of this PIA does not result in any required technology changes.