



Report Q132

Computer software, information networks,
artificial intelligence and integrated circuits

by Peter Finnie, Chairman

Names and Functions of Committee Members

Chairman	Peter Finnie	(United Kingdom)
Co-Chairman	Alfred Macchione	(Canada)
Secretary	Thomas Kretschmer	(Switzerland)
Members	Erwin J. Basinski Jonas Heitto Trevor Hill Michihiro Miyasaka Yoshikazu Tani Fernand de Visscher	(United States) (Germany) (United States) (Japan) (Japan) (Belgium)
Responsible Reporter	John Osha	(United States)

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Intellectual property case law and practice continues to develop in this important area of technology. Members of Special Committee Q.132 maintain an active watch for new developments which warrant further analysis on behalf of the wider membership of AIPPI. For example, we have been following ongoing judicial developments in Canada in the past year on the patentability of business methods and computer implemented inventions. Likewise, we have been monitoring developments in the US post-*Bilski* with particular interest in the way the “abstract” test is being applied.

Members of the Special Committee have been working on a glossary of technical and legal terms relating to computer implemented inventions. Several Members met to work on the glossary at AIPPI Congress in Paris in 2010. We have not made any further progress on this since then. As Chairman, I believe we need to reconsider whether we can complete a paper that will be fit for the purpose originally contemplated, namely to inform Courts and Intellectual Property Offices on the correct use and meaning of various commonly used terms e.g. computer program, software, algorithm, technical, technical character etc.

Whether or not we proceed further with the glossary of CII terms, we intend to discuss internally, and seek guidance from the Responsible Reporter, on other areas we could be working on, particularly in the light of the latest developments in North America and Europe.

The title and terms of reference for this Special Committee should be reviewed. The title has not reflected the focus of the work of this Special Committee for some time now. Furthermore, and perhaps most importantly, the work of this Special Committee needs to be more pro-active, where we respond quickly to the hot issues of the day, using AIPPI's influence and networks to our advantage to make a real difference.

Action: We propose to set up a conference call with the Responsible Reporter and Members of the Special Committee to discuss these issues and agree an action plan with a timetable.