



# Mock Certification Exam for Patent Information Professionals 2011

## What will change?

The mock exams consisted of two papers, with a Chemical and an Engineering version of each paper:

- **Paper A - Online Search paper:**
  - Validity search
  - Infringement search
- 2 versions of the Chemical Online Search paper :
  - Version 1: - 2 different cases
  - Version 2: - 1 case – validity + infringement + novelty
- **Paper B - Analysis Exam paper:**
  - Short answer questions on legal knowledge and analysis skills
  - Case with Novelty/Patentability analysis
  - Case with Infringement or Validity analysis

Based on the results and the feedback of the mock exams, it is the intention to implement the following improvements in the final exams:

- Only **one** Paper A with several cases to choose from covering a chemical, life science, mechanical, engineering (and other?) subjects, probably including case that could be done with chemical structure searching and/or sequence searching. Each candidate will have to make two cases, consisting of one opposition, validity or novelty search and one patent infringement search. Different searches on one subject will **not** be an option.
- The search paper ('Paper A') will be structured by providing a template for the answers/results. The free format of the mock exams made the results very difficult to mark. The template should also remind the candidates that it is required to **explain** their choices.
- It should be emphasized in the instructions, template, etc. of Paper A that it is **not** required to do a full analysis of the retrieved results. Analysis is tested in Paper B. Skipping this in Paper A should enable candidates to finish the two cases within the provided time (7 hours).
- Only **one** Paper B, instead of one for each technological area, consisting of a set of theoretical short answer questions and two cases. This means that the cases have to be technology independent, i.e. on a subject that is relatively easy to understand, independent of the technical background of the candidate.
- The documents provided for Paper B will (also) be provided in electronic format, allowing candidates to use 'Find', highlighting, copy/paste etc.
- Paper B may comprise a Novelty analysis, but will not require a Patentability analysis, since there are regional/local differences on the interpretation of patentability.