

## PATENTS

The Canadian Patent Office is part of Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada. Its publication, *A Guide to Patents*, provides general information on patents, including instructions on how to prepare a patent application. For recent issues of the patent office newsletter *PatentInfo*, and up-to-date information on the Canadian *Patent Act* and the international *Patent Cooperation Treaty*, contact:

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For detailed information on the *Patent Cooperation Treaty*, consult the *PCT Applicant's Guide*, available from:

World Intellectual Property Organization  
Headquarters  
34, chemin des Colombettes  
1211 GENEVA 20  
Switzerland

The guide is available in English, French, Japanese and a number of other languages.

### **Legal Advice**

The value of a patent depends to a great extent upon the skill with which the application papers have been prepared. For this reason, it is advisable to obtain the services of a registered patent agent. For a current list of *Patent Agent Firms and Sole Practitioners in Private Practice*, write to the Canadian Patent Office at the address given previously. The *Canada Legal Directory* and *Canadian Law List*, published by Canada

Lawbook Inc., also list patent and trademark lawyers.

### **Patent Information Exploitation Program**

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Small and medium-sized Canadian manufacturers may wish to take advantage of the program. If you request information in a specific field of technology, the Patent Office will provide a selection of the most relevant patents. Requests must be made through an intermediary organization that deals primarily with small businesses. To obtain a list of these organizations, contact the Patent Office at the address given above, or any of the Business Service Centres of Industry, Science and Technology Canada (See page 29).

### **Patent Search Tools in Public Libraries**

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