

Major bug fixes / refinements on the Online Search System

Fixed on	Registry	Function	Description of the issue	Description of the fix / refinement
15/10/2021	Trade Marks, Patents and Designs	CAPTCHA mechanism	The reCAPTCHA mechanism is replaced by hCAPTCHA mechanism.	To apply another CAPTCHA mechanism to improve reliability of captcha service.
30/04/2021	Trade Marks	Document Search		The search behavior of the 'Document Keywords' criterion in Document Search has been updated in order to be aligned with the rest of the alphanumeric criteria in Trade Mark Search.
30/04/2021	Trade Marks	Trade Mark Search	The wildcard character "?" does not work properly when being used with the 'is' operator in Advanced Search, in which a whitespace character might be matched by the wildcard character "?".	The wildcard character "?" used with the 'is' operator in Advanced Search only matches a non-whitespace character.
06/11/2020	Trade Marks, Patents and Designs	Advanced Search	The system does not allow a search when search criteria are left empty.	Users can now perform a search without filling in all search criteria.
06/11/2020	Patent	Basic Information section of the Register of Patents		Users can now visit the register entry of a divisional application via the hyperlink associated with the divisional application no. shown in the register entry of its earlier application; and vice versa.
06/11/2020	Patent	Basic Information section of the Register of Patents	EP/GB Publication no. was not available in the register entries of deemed standard patents.	EP/GB Publication no. is now available in the register entries of deemed standard patents.
17/07/2020	Trade Marks	Quick Search	Users were only able to select one option in the search criteria "Status" and "Live/Dead Records" in Quick Search.	Users can now select multiple options in the search criterion "Status". Users are also able to search with the option "All" in "Live/Dead

				Records” to retrieve both live and dead records in Quick Search.
17/07/2020	Trade Marks, Patents and Designs	Quick Search	The system did not allow users to input the same date in “From” and “To” of date fields.	Users are now able to input the same date in “From” and “To” of date fields to search for a particular date.
04/05/2020	Trade Marks	Sorting of search results	Search results are sorted by Trade Mark Number in ascending order.	Search results are arranged with applications followed by registrations, and are sorted by Trade Mark Number in ascending order.
19/12/2019	Patents	Maintenance section of the Register of Patents	After the request for registration and grant of standard patent (R) application had been filed, the maintenance section containing, among others, the maintenance due date would still be shown in the Register of Patents.	After the request for registration and grant of standard patent (R) application has been filed, the maintenance section containing, among others, the maintenance due date will not be shown in the Register of Patents.
19/12/2019	Patents	URL of entry in the Register of Patents	The URL of an entry in the Register of Patents does not contain the Application No. of the standard patent (R) application, standard patent or short-term patent.	The URL of an entry in the Register of Patents contains the Application No. of the standard patent (R) application, standard patent or short-term patent.
19/12/2019	Trade Marks	Advanced Search	<p>If the user selects the search operator “OR”, the system treats the search criteria following the search operator “OR” as a new set of search criteria. For comma that is entered in an alphanumeric field in Advanced Search, the system now treats it as “OR”.</p> <p>E.g. If the search criteria are:</p> <p>Applicant/Owner + contains + government AND Applicant/Owner + contains + hong kong, hk OR Applicant/Owner - contains - 香港 AND Applicant/Owner - contains - 政府</p> <p>The system treats that there are two sets of search criteria:</p>	

			<p>=====</p> <p>First set</p> <p>=====</p> <p>Applicant/Owner + contains + government AND Applicant/Owner + contains + hong kong OR hk</p> <p>=====</p> <p>Second set</p> <p>=====</p> <p>Applicant/Owner - contains - 香港 AND Applicant/Owner - contains - 政府</p> <p>The results would include records such as:</p> <p>300070820 THE GOVERNMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION 300956296 中央人民政府駐香港特別行政區聯絡辦公室 302329786 香港特別行政區政府 303018005 香港特別行政區政府民政事務總署葵青 民政事務處 303763288 The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (香港特別行政區政府) 304225617 香港特別行政區政府 (The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administration Region) 305017031 Innovation and Technology Commission, The Government of the HKSARG</p>	
16/09/2019	Patents	Data field of the Patents Register	The data field “Application for Registration and Grant Filing Date” was not displayed for those P5 cases received on or after the launch of NIS on 14 Feb 2019.	The data field “Application for Registration and Grant Filing Date” will be displayed for those P5 cases received on or after the launch of NIS on 14 Feb 2019.
06/09/2019	Trade Marks	Goods and Services Classification Search		The search behaviour of the Goods and Services Classification Search has been aligned with all alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search, e.g. not ignoring commonly used expressions, no stemming applied, not treating space entered by user as “AND”.

06/09/2019	Trade Marks	Device Code Search		The search behaviour of the Device Code Search has been aligned with all alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search, e.g. not ignoring commonly used expressions, no stemming applied, not treating space entered by user as "AND".
09/05/2019	Trade Marks	All alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search	For alphanumeric fields other than "Trade Mark Text", the use of wildcards was limited to word level. For example, the system failed to return any results when the search criterion for "Applicant/Owner" was "*gov*hong*kong*" in Quick Search.	For all alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search, the wildcard, the use of wildcards is limited to word level. If the search criterion for "Applicant/Owner" is "*gov*hong*kong*" in Quick Search, the system returns with results such as "The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region".
09/05/2019	Trade Marks	All alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search	For alphanumeric fields other than "Trade Mark Text", the system ignored some commonly used expressions. For example, when the search criterion for "Specifications of Goods/Services" was "wax for hair" in Quick Search, the system ignored the word "for" and returned results such as "hair wax".	For all alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search, the system stops ignoring any words. When the search criterion for " Specifications of Goods/Services" is "wax for hair" in Quick Search, the system will not return results without the word "for", such as "hair wax"
09/05/2019	Trade Marks	All alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search	For the field "Trade Mark Text" in Quick Search, the symbols %, _ , * and ? are treated as wildcard characters.	For all alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search, the symbols * and ? are treated as wildcard characters. The wildcard character "*" is used to substitute multiple characters in the

				<p>word(s) or text you entered or typed as search criteria in the Trade Mark Text field.</p> <p>The wildcard character "?" is used to substitute a single character in the word(s) or text you entered or typed as search criteria in the Trade Mark Text field.</p>
09/05/2019	Trade Marks	All alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search	<p>For Trade Mark Texts in Advanced Search, the system did not return results with symbols unless the symbols were provided in the search criteria.</p> <p>For example, when the search criteria selected were "Trade Mark Text", "contains", "WIFIHK" in Advanced Search, the system did not return the result "Wi-Fi.HK".</p>	<p>For all alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search, the system ignores the following symbols entered in the search criteria and in the record of our database: `~!@#\$%^& \ () _ - = \ + [\] \ { \ } \ ; ' : " . \ < \ > \ %</p> <p>For example, when the user selects the search criteria "Trade Mark Text", "contains" and "WIFIHK" in Advanced Search, the system returns the results including "Wi-Fi.HK". The same number of results will be returned for the search criteria "Trade Mark Text", "contains", "WIFIHK", " Wi-Fi.HK", or "WI+FI+HK", or "Wi&Fi&HK".</p> <p>Symbols in full-width forms such as `~ ! @ # \$ % ^ & () - = _ + [] { } \ ; ' : " . / < > , ? are currently not ignored. Please replace the full-width symbols with an asterisk (*) in the search criteria. The list of symbols to be ignored</p>

				will be extended in future release.
09/05/2019	Trade Marks	All alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search	<p>For alphanumeric fields other than "Trade Mark Text, the system applied stemming (for singular and plural form of nouns) for some of the words.</p> <p>For example, when the search criterion for "Applicant/Owner" in Quick Search was "Food Company", the system returned results such as "Foods Company".</p>	<p>For all alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search, no stemming is applied.</p> <p>For example, when the search criterion for "Applicant/Owner" in Quick Search is "Food Company", the system does not return results such as "Foods Company".</p>
09/05/2019	Trade Marks	All alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search	<p>For alphanumeric fields other than "Trade Mark Text, the system treated the space entered by user as "AND".</p> <p>For example, when the search criterion for "Applicant/Owner" in Quick Search was "Food Company", the system returned results such as "Food Product Company".</p>	<p>For all alphanumeric fields in Quick Search and Advanced Search, the system does not treat the space entered by user as "AND".</p> <p>For example, when the search criterion for "Applicant/Owner" in Quick Search is "Food Company", the system does not return results such as "Food Product Company".</p>
09/05/2019	Trade Marks	Field length for "Device Code" in Quick Search and Advanced Search	The maximum number of characters for the field "Device Code" in Quick Search and Advanced Search was 40 characters.	The field "Device Code" in Quick Search and Advanced Search can accommodate up to 125 sets of device codes.
09/05/2019	Trade Marks	Print Trade Mark Details with Chrome	Some of the texts on the top and at the bottom of the page could not be properly displayed on the printout.	The texts on the top and at the bottom of the page can be properly displayed on the printout.
05/04/2019	Patents	Quick Search	The Quick Search did not return the corresponding patent case if search by publication number with a leading zero.	For search by publication number with a leading zero, the system is able to return with matching results.