

USPTO Patent Database, ESPACENET Patent Database (and Google Patent Search)

United State Patent and Trademark Office - Online Patent Database

<http://patft.uspto.gov/>

I found the USPTO Patent Data Base web site little friendly, and a little confusing for people without experience in Patent search. Images (drawings) can only be open using QuickTime Player. I was not able to open any drawing, even using Safari Browser with QuickTime Player properly installed. I can read a message like this one any time I tried it:

'tiff data provider: Read error at scanline 4294967295; got 2123 bytes, expected 63659'

The documents (patents) are not free offered as PDF files, and should be bought. My overall opinion about the Patent Data Base of the USPTO is poor.

European Patent Office - Online Patent Database

<http://www.espacenet.com/index.en.htm>

The European Patent Office provides a really friendly, easy to use and browse page, where all the images and patents can be easily open and freely downloaded as PDF documents. Perfectly works with any browser.

Google Patent Search - In association with USPTO

<http://www.google.com/patents>

The page is more friendly than the provided from USPTO, but when searching patents by US Classification Google makes such a big mess showing up patents related to very different classifications.

Per example, when searching for "60/641" that is related to Power Plants utilizing Natural Heat, the search gives up patents as: *'Compressive Device For Percutaneous Treatment of Obesity'* related to the '606/41' classification.

There are not links for feedback or contact Google at 'Google Patent' web site.

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Queens, NY; November 18, 2010.