

# Researching Patent and Trademark Information

Government Printing Office Interagency Seminar

Friday, August 3, 2007  
Government Printing Office  
Room C585, Computer Room #2

Trainers: Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program  
of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office



10:00	<b>Overview of U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tom Turner, Librarian, USPTO Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program</li></ul>
10:30	<b>Using the USPTO Web Site to Answer Commonly Asked Patent Questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Chris Black, Librarian, USPTO Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program</li></ul>
12:00	<b>Lunch</b> ( <i>on your own</i> )
1:30	<b>Using the USPTO Web Site to Answer Commonly Asked Trademark Questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Tom Turner</li></ul>
2:30	<b>Navigating the USPTO Web Site</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Chris Black</li></ul>
3:00	<b>Adjournment</b> ( <i>turn in evaluations</i> )



**PTDLP**

Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
571 272-5750 • [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)



# Navigating the USTPO Website

**Chris Black, Librarian  
Patent and Trademark  
Depository Library Program**



# Navigational Tools

- **Main Business Areas in Left-hand Column**
- **Horizontal Navigation Bar at Top**
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- **Latest News - Front and Center**
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# Homepage: www.uspto.gov



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### TOP NEWS



**Dr. Forrest Bird**



**John Doll**



**Louis Foreman**

#### Hall of Fame Inventor Forrest Bird to Speak at Independent Inventor Conference

Space Limited...Register Now

Dr. Forrest Bird, whose invention of the "Baby Bird" respirator has saved the lives of millions of infants over the years, has joined the roster of speakers for the Chicago Regional Inventors Conference on July 28-29. Dr. Bird was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1995.

The Conference is co-sponsored by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Northwestern University School of Law and the National Inventors Hall of Fame. It will be held at the Northwestern School of Law, 375 E. Chicago Avenue.

Other speakers at the event include Commissioner for Patents John Doll and Louis Foreman, CEO of Enventys, a product design and manufacturing firm. Foreman is also executive producer of the upcoming PBS series, "Everyday Edisons." The series, which features the inventions of 14 independent inventors, will premiere in September.

Various USPTO experts will be on hand to conduct workshops and one on one meetings with attendees. The two days will be packed with vital information for both novice and seasoned inventors. Space is limited so register now. For more details on the conference and to register [click here](#).

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to Focus the Patent Process in the 21st Century

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# Patents Main Page

The image shows a screenshot of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Patents Main Page. A navigation menu is overlaid on the left side, with the 'Main' link highlighted in green. A green arrow points from the 'Main' link to the 'Registered patent attorneys & agents' link on the main page, which is also highlighted in green. The main page header includes the USPTO logo and navigation links: Home, Site Index, Search, FAQ, Glossary, Guides, Contacts, eBusiness, eBiz alerts, News, and Help. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Patenting ...' with links for 'Basic facts about patents', 'How to get a patent', and 'Registered patent attorneys & agents'; 'You can APPLY for a patent online (EFS-Web)'; 'Accelerated Examination'; 'Corresponding re: patenting (rules for)' with a list of actions and their fees; 'Manual of Patent Examining Procedure - MPEP'; 'FEES and payments' with links for 'Look-up & Pay Patent Maintenance Fees'; 'FORMS - printable & fillable'; 'Mailing Addresses'; and 'Patent Appeals & Interferences - procedures & proceedings'. On the right side, there is an 'eBusiness' section with the heading 'What you can do online ...' and a prominent link to 'Use Patent Electronic Business Center to file, search, check status, view documents, and more...'. Below this is a 'Help ...' section with links for 'FAQ - questions & answers', 'Glossary', 'How to search patents & more', 'Inventor Assistance Center', 'Inventor Resources - Basics for new inventors', 'Musicians, Artists & Authors', 'Patents Organization Chart', and 'PCT Help'. At the bottom of the right side is a 'Search Aids ...' section with links for 'Patents OG (eOG:P)', 'OG (Official Gazette)', 'Manual of Patent Classification', and 'Search Templates'. A footer link 'See How to Search for more search tools and tips' is also present.

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Check NEWS & NOTICES for the latest Patent news, announcements and official notices

**Patenting ...**

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You can APPLY for a patent online (EFS-Web)

Accelerated Examination

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>> more about assignments

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure - MPEP

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- Patents Organization Chart (org chart, advanced resources & phones)
- PCT Help (international patenting)

**Search Aids ...**

- Patents OG (eOG:P) - browse recent weeks' patents
- OG (Official Gazette) - regular & special notices
- Manual of Patent Classification - search tip - after retrieving a class listing, click the icon for any class in the online manual to automatically search and retrieve patents for that classification code
- Search Templates describe search resources for the classified areas of science and technology found in the USPTO Manual of Classification. The templates provide more structure to the search activity and set a standard to measure the completeness of any search.

See [How to Search](#) for more search tools and tips

# Online Patent Searches

The image shows a screenshot of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) website. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with sections for 'About USPTO', 'Patents', and 'Trademarks'. The 'Search' option under 'Patents' is highlighted with a green box, and a green arrow points from it to the search options in the main content area. The main content area is titled 'Patent Electronic Business Center > Patent Full-Text and Full-Page Image Databases'. It features two main sections: 'Issued Patents (PatFT)' and 'Published Applications (AppFT)'. Each section lists search options like 'Quick Search', 'Advanced Search', and 'Patent Number Search', along with links to view full-page images, status & event history, database contents, and help files. Below these sections are links for 'Information Applicable to Both Databases' and 'Related USPTO Services'.

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Patent Electronic Business Center > Patent Full-Text and Full-Page Image Databases

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basics, procedures and guides, rules, and laws  
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TESS was last updated on Tue Apr 25 04:17:22 EDT 2006

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**NOTE:** Click [here](#) for a description of changes to word mark entries for standard character marks submitted via TEAS Plus that you may wish to consider when constructing your TESS searches.

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**Public Notice:**

**The Public Records Division and Public Information Services Division will hold a public user meeting**

May 17, 2006, 2:00 p.m.,  
Remsen Building Conference Room 1D04/1D14,  
400 Dulany St., Alexandria, VA 22314

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# Glossary



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An alphabetized, hyperlinked glossary of terms used on the USPTO web site and a continual "work in progress"- *suggest terms for the glossary to the [webmaster@uspto.gov](mailto:webmaster@uspto.gov)*  
 (Note - **plain** links go to related definitions on this page, *italicized* links go to supplemental materials on the website.)

Term	Definition KEY <a href="#">e</a> =online business system <a href="#">\$</a> =fees <a href="#">f</a> =forms <a href="#">h</a> =help <a href="#">l</a> =laws/regulations <a href="#">g</a> =definition (glossary)	Context general infotech patent trademark
AAU	<b>amendment to allege use</b>	t
ABA #	<b>American Bankers Association</b> number - often referred to as the "transit routing number", is the nine (9) digit electronic address of a financial institution. The <b>ABA</b> number is encoded in the MICR (Magnetic Ink Character Recognition) line of all checks, and is assigned to each financial institution and each branch office of that financial institution.	i
abandonment	<p>A patent application becomes abandoned for failure to file a complete and proper reply as the condition of the application may require within the time period provided under 37 <b>CFR</b> § 1.134 and § 1.136 unless an Office action indicates otherwise.</p> <p>Abandonment may be either of the <b>invention</b> or of an <b>application</b>. An abandoned application, in accordance with 37 <b>CFR</b> §§ 1.135 and 1.138, is one which is removed from the Office docket of pending applications.</p> <p>-- see <b>MPEP 711</b> for more                      -- see <b>express abandonment</b></p>	p

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EFS-Web utilizes standard web-based screens and prompts to enable you to submit a portable document format (PDF) document directly to the USPTO within minutes. You choose the tool, process and workflow with which you author your documents; convert them to standard PDF files and then submit them to USPTO's secure servers. EFS-Web is safe, simple and secure and gives you all of the same benefits as paper filings, including an electronic receipt that acknowledges your filing date.

**Full technical support** is available through the **Patent Electronic Business Center (EBC)** at **866-217-9197** from 6 a.m. to 12 Midnight Eastern Time, Monday – Friday and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. *Limited assistance is available at all other times through USPTO's Electronic Business Support (EBS) at 1 800 786-9199 or 571-272-1000.*

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  - ◆ More timely, less costly filing
  - ◆ Online fees transactions
  - ◆ Immediate acknowledgment of document receipt
  - ◆ Confirmation of correct patent documents in Private PAIR
- Now up to 50% Electronic Filing since EFS-Web launched last year
- For more information:  
[http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/efs\\_help.html](http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/efs_help.html)

# EFS-Web Screen

**EFS Registered**

Registered eFilers  Please Read Announcements Application Data Attach Documents Review Documents Review Fees Confirm Pay Fees Receipt

### Submit Application

**This is the application data associated with your submission.**

Application Number: 09123456  
Title of Invention: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CORRECTING A PHASE OF A SYNCHRONIZING SIGNAL  
First Named Inventor: HER-SHIN YANG  
Customer Number or Correspondence Address: RYAN, MASON & LEWIS, LLP  
1300 POST ROAD  
SUITE 205  
FAIRFIELD  
CT 06430 US  
Filed By: Kathy FQT Hook  
Attorney Docket Number: 50094-061(30)  
Application Type: Utility  
( Pre-Grant Publication under 37 CFR 1.211 to 1.221 )

**This is the fee data associated with your submission.**

Total Fee Due: \$ 430

**To Review a Document, please click on the document name.**

Sequence	Files to be Submitted	Page Count	Document Description	File Size	Validation Status Message
1	<a href="#">ABX-abst.pdf</a>	1	Abstract	10172 byte	◆ PASS
2	<a href="#">ABX-clms.pdf</a>	1	Claims	10125 byte	◆ PASS
3	<a href="#">ABX-desc.pdf</a>	1	Specification	10871 byte	◆ PASS
4	<a href="#">US_ADS_Form_edit.pdf</a>	4	Application Data Sheet	990904 byte	◆ PASS
5	<a href="#">shanna.pdf</a>	1	Drawings	10340 byte	◆ PASS
6	<a href="#">fee-info.pdf</a>	2	Fee Worksheet (PTO-S75)	8326 byte	◆ PASS

[Edit Attached Files](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)   Please click Confirm/Pay only once

**Review of all items**

**MUST pay before submitting**

# TEAS Plus

- **The Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) Plus**
  - ◆ **Discounted Filing Fee of \$275 per International Class**
- **Requirements:**
  - ◆ **file a "complete" application**
  - ◆ **select listings directly from the Goods and Services Manual**
  - ◆ **attach required image files in the .jpg format**
  - ◆ **pay the fees at the time of filing**
  - ◆ **receive communications concerning the application by electronic mail**
- **<http://www.uspto.gov/teas/eTEASTutorial.htm>**

# TEAS Plus 3.7 Screen

<http://www.uspto.gov/teas/>

## Trademark/Service Mark Application, Principal Register TEAS Plus Application (Version 3.7)

### Applicant Information

**Note:** This identifies who **owns** the mark, **not** necessarily who is **filing** the application.

**Note:** If there is more than one owner of the mark, complete the information for the first owner, and then click on the "Add Owner" button at the bottom of this page. Repeat, as necessary, for the appropriate listing of all owners. **Warning:** It is important to determine whether, in fact, the applicants are [joint applicants](#), or some other entity type listed below.

* <a href="#">Owner of Mark</a>	<input type="text"/>	[If an individual, use the following format: Last Name, First Name Middle Initial or Name, if applicable]
* <a href="#">Entity Type</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Individual</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Corporation</a>		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> <a href="#">Limited Liability Company</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Partnership</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Limited Partnership</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Joint Venture</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Sole Proprietorship</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Trust</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Estate</a>		
<input type="radio"/> <a href="#">Other</a>		
* <a href="#">Street Address</a>	<input type="text"/>	

**NOTE:** You must limit your entry here, and for all remaining fields within this overall section, to no more than 40 characters (the storage limit for the USPTO database). You may need to abbreviate some words, *e.g.*, St. instead of Street. Failure to do so may result in an undeliverable address, due to truncation at the 40 character limit.

# Customer-Specific Menu

The image shows a screenshot of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) website. A dropdown menu is open, highlighting the 'Inventor Resources' option. The menu items include: Site Overview - New Users, Site Overview - New Users, Inventor Resources, Kids, How to Search, Libraries Near You, Glossary of Terms, USPTO Videos, Business Resources, Global/International IP, Musicians-Artists-Authors, Special Interests or Needs, Technology Developers, Trademarks-Logos-Brands, Legislator, News Media/Publications, Patent Attorney or Agent, Trademark Attorney, Jobs/New Hires, Employees, Vendors, and Tell me more... The main content area features a 'TOP NEWS' section with a headline: 'USPTO Releases For Public Comment DRAFT Five-Year Roadmap on Leadership in IP Protection and Policy'. Below the headline is a paragraph of text and a link to 'Read full story'. The right sidebar contains several promotional banners: 'HIRING NOW ... Great Opportunities available for Patent Examiners', 'Register for Conferences', 'STOP FAKES .GOV SMALL BUSINESS Intellectual Property Help from the United States Patent and Trademark Office', 'Proposed Rule Changes to Focus the Patent Process in the 21st Century', and 'More news and notices'.

Welcome to the only official Website of the

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
An Agency Of The United States Department of Commerce

Text Only | Site Index | FAQ | Glossary | How To Guides | eBusiness | Help | How To Search | Resources

About USPTO  
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**TOP NEWS**

**USPTO Releases For Public Comment DRAFT Five-Year Roadmap on Leadership in IP Protection and Policy**  
High Quality, Timely U.S. Patent and Trademark Reviews Head List of Obstacles to American Innovation and Competitiveness

On August 24, 2006, the Department of Commerce's United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) released for public comment a draft five-year strategic plan to guide innovation and competitiveness at home and around the globe. The draft plan is for public comment - including suggestions, questions, and other input - is being accepted through September 15, 2006. The plan will guide the agency from 2007 through 2012.

"The U.S. intellectual property system is critical to American innovation and competitiveness," noted Jon Dudas, under secretary of commerce for intellectual property. "In the past year, we have provided online filing for patents and hired more patent examiners... and now is the time to set ambitious goals for the next five years."

>> [Read full story](#)

A copy of the USPTO's draft proposed five-year strategic plan can be found at

**HIRING NOW ...**  
Great Opportunities available for  
**Patent Examiners**  
USPTO  
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**STOP FAKES .GOV** **SMALL BUSINESS**  
Intellectual Property Help from  
the United States Patent and  
Trademark Office

**Proposed Rule Changes**  
to Focus the Patent Process  
in the 21st Century

**More news and notices**

# Inventor Resources

ST. LOUIS  
SEMINAR  
INVENTORS  
CONFERENCE

## Inventor

### RESOURCES

Welcome to the Inventor Resources Web  
site

Is the Inventor site for me?

#### PATENTS

- What is a Patent?
- Who can apply for a Patent?
- What can and cannot be patented?
- How do I know if my invention is patentable?
- How long does patent protection last?
- How much does it cost to get a patent?
- What is a PCT application?
- Frequently asked questions about patents

#### TRADEMARKS

- What is a Trademark?
- Why should I obtain a trademark?
- How do I register my trademark?
- What do I need to include in my trademark application?
- How much does it cost to apply for a trademark registration?
- How do I do a federal trademark search?
- Does the USPTO determine trademark infringement?
- Frequently asked questions about trademarks

#### COMPLAINTS

- Complaints
- Complaints Forms

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- On-Line Chat Transcripts

# Attorney Resources

## Patenting

-  [Apply for a patent online](#) (EFS-Web)
-  [Assignment of ownership](#) (ePAS)
-  [Forms](#)
-  [Patent application status](#) (PrivPAIR)
-  [Patent status & IFW](#) (PAIR)
- [Patent Procedures](#) (MPEP)
- [Petitions practice](#)

## International Protection

### Patent Cooperation Treaty

## Contacts

- [Special patent mail stops & FAX](#)
- [Patents Organization Chart](#)  
Org chart, advanced resources & phones
- [Organizational Telephone Directory](#)
-  [Employee Locator](#)
-  [Valid Organization Codes](#)  
for Employee Locator Search

## Become

- [Involved in advisory activities](#)
- [Registered patent attorney or agent](#)
- [>> Roster of registered practitioners](#)
- [USPTO employee](#)

## Global

- [Enforcement](#)
- [International relations](#)
- [International IP topics](#)
- [Trilateral activities](#)
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- [Related non-USPTO websites](#)

## Services

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## Publications

- [News - Federal Register - OG](#)
- [Notices: Recent Patent-Related](#)  
pre-OG, OG & Federal Register
- [Notifications & Lists](#)

## Policy & Procedures

- [Manual of Patent Examining Procedure](#) (MPEP)
- [Manual of Patent Classification](#) (MoC)
- [Guidance, tools & manuals](#)
- [Policy & procedures](#)
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- [Board of Patent Appeals & Interferences](#)

## Laws & regulations

### Congressional Relations

-  [Federal laws \(USC\) online](#)
-  [35 USC-Patent Laws, Consolidated](#) [PDF]
-  [Federal regulations \(CFR\) online](#)
-  [37 CFR-Patent Rules, Consolidated](#) [PDF]
- [USA.gov reference portal](#) 

Laws, Regulations and online comment

# Libraries Near You



**United States Patent and Trademark Office**

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Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program (PTDLP)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- [History and Background](#)
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- [Publications](#)
- [Training and Events](#)
- [What's New](#)



## COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

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- [Electronic Databases](#)
- [Patent FAQs](#)
- [Trademark FAQs](#)

# Latest News - Front Center

## Counterfeiting and Piracy Seminars

### TOP NEWS

#### **USPTO and U.S. Chamber Team Up for Counterfeiting and Piracy Seminars in Seattle, Burlington and Los Angeles**

The USPTO and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce are joining forces to present free one-day seminars in Seattle, Burlington (VT) and Los Angeles that will highlight the growing threats of counterfeiting and piracy, while providing practical information on how businesses can protect their own intellectual property rights both in the United States and overseas.

Featured speakers will include experts from the USPTO and U.S. Chamber; local industry representatives; and local, state and federal government officials.

# Latest News - Front Center

## Peer Review Pilot for Computer Technologies

### USPTO to Test Impact of Public Input on Improving Patent Quality in the Computer Technologies

Peer Review Pilot is Part of Agency Efforts to Promote Quality as Shared Responsibility

The Department of Commerce's U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) announces a pilot project that will begin on June 15, 2007 that could help expedite and improve the examination process in computer technologies. The Peer Review Pilot will give technical experts in computer technology, for the first time, the opportunity to submit annotated technical references relevant to the claims of a published patent application before an examiner reviews it. The pilot will run for one year.



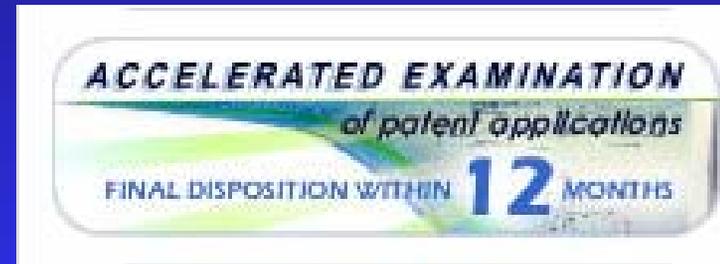
# STOP Fakes Program



- **Government-wide Strategy Targeting Organized Piracy (STOP!) Initiative**
- **Curb IP crime and strengthen IP enforcement – at home and overseas**
- **1-866-999-HALT**
- **<http://www.uspto.gov/smallbusiness/>**

# Accelerated Examination

- Accelerates the examination process and provides a final disposition within 12 months of the filing date
- A final disposition includes
  - ◆ Mailing the Notice of Allowance
  - ◆ Mailing the Final Rejection
  - ◆ Filing a Notice of Appeal
  - ◆ Filing an Request for Continued Examination (RCE)
  - ◆ Abandonment of the application
- Can be filed using EFS-Web
- For more see:  
<http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/accelerated/>



# Proposed Rule Changes



**Proposed Rule Changes**

to Focus the Patent Process  
in the 21st Century

- **Claims Practice**
- **Continuations Practice**
- **IDS Practice**

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/presentation/focuspp.html>

# More News and Notices



- **USPTO  
Announcements and  
Press Releases**
- **Office Notices in the  
USPTO's Official  
Gazette**
- **Federal Register  
Notices regarding  
USPTO**

# Navigational Tools

- **Main Business Areas in Left-hand Column**
- **Horizontal Navigation Bar at Top**
- **Customer-specific Dropdown Menu**
- **Latest News - Front and Center**
- **Major Initiatives in Right-hand Column**

# For More Information

- Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries
- USPTO Town Meetings and Free Seminars Across the U.S.
- Patents eBusiness: 866-217-9197
- Proposed Rules: 571-272-7701 or [Patent.Practice@uspto.gov](mailto:Patent.Practice@uspto.gov)
- Trademark Assistance Center: 800-786-9199
- Inventors (Patents) Assistance Center: 800-786-9199



# Answering Commonly Asked Patent Questions

Training for Librarians and Library Staff  
By Chris Black, PTDLP Librarian



United States Patent and  
Trademark Office  
Alexandria, Virginia



# Session Overview

---

- Patent Basics
- Entrepreneur: How to Get a Patent
  - Information on Electronic Filing
  - The Cost of Obtaining a Patent
  - Invention Promotion Firms
  - Finding a Registered Patent Legal Professional
- Researcher: Searching Patents (Prior Art)
  - Finding Patents by Number
  - The Parts of a Patent Document
  - Finding Patents by Inventor and Assignee
  - Finding Patents by Claimed Subject Matter
- Sources for Additional Information



# Patents Defined

- A patent is a property right granted by the Government of the United States of America to an inventor:
  - to exclude others from making, using, offering for sale, or selling the invention throughout the United States
  - or importing the invention into the United States
  - for a limited time in exchange for
  - public disclosure of the invention when the patent is granted.





# Patent Types

- **Utility** (20 years from filing date)
  - Machine, Article of Manufacture, Process, Composition of Matter, or Business Methods
- **Design** (14 years from issue date)
  - Ornamental Design for an Article of Manufacture. The Appearance is Protected.
- **Plant** (20 years from filing date)
  - New, Asexually Reproduced Plants



Utility Example:  
Power Tools



Design Example:  
Cookie Cutter Shapes



Plant Example:  
Hybrid Rose



# Patron Scenario 1: The Entrepreneur

- An electrical engineer enjoys tinkering with inventions on the side and has come up with an invention he thinks will be of real commercial value.
- He has come to the library for some information on how to go about protecting his invention.



# USPTO Website

■ <http://www.uspto.gov/>



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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**  
An Agency Of The United States

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Under Secretary & Director

Public Advisory Committees

Patents

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## TOP NEWS



**Visiting the Nation's Capital**  
Make the USPTO Part of Your

If you travel to the Washington, DC area for July and August, include a visit to the home of American innovation, the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The exhibit is [located in Alexandria, VA](#) near several subway stops--King Street, Metro Center, and Rosslyn. All this summer the USPTO

is showcasing the year's 25 best inventions as selected by the History Channel and TBS. The "Modern Marvels" exhibit is free and open to the public Monday thru Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m. The exhibit is located in the atrium just outside the [USPTO museum](#).



**A Victory for Inventors**  
Disciplinary Action Affirmed

Recently the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (CAFC), affirmed disciplinary action

▶ [Patents main page](#)

**JUMP TO:**

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**Performance Accountability**



**BUSINESS**  
Intellectual Property Help from the United States Patent and Trademark Office

**EXAMINATION**  
patent applications  
WITHIN 12 MONTHS

[Proposed Rule Changes](#)



# “Where are the patent filing forms?”

---

- A patent filing is a set of documents, not a fill-in-the-blank form
- Non-Provisional v. Provisional Patent Filing
- Standard Forms Available through [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)
- Electronic Filing through EFS-Web



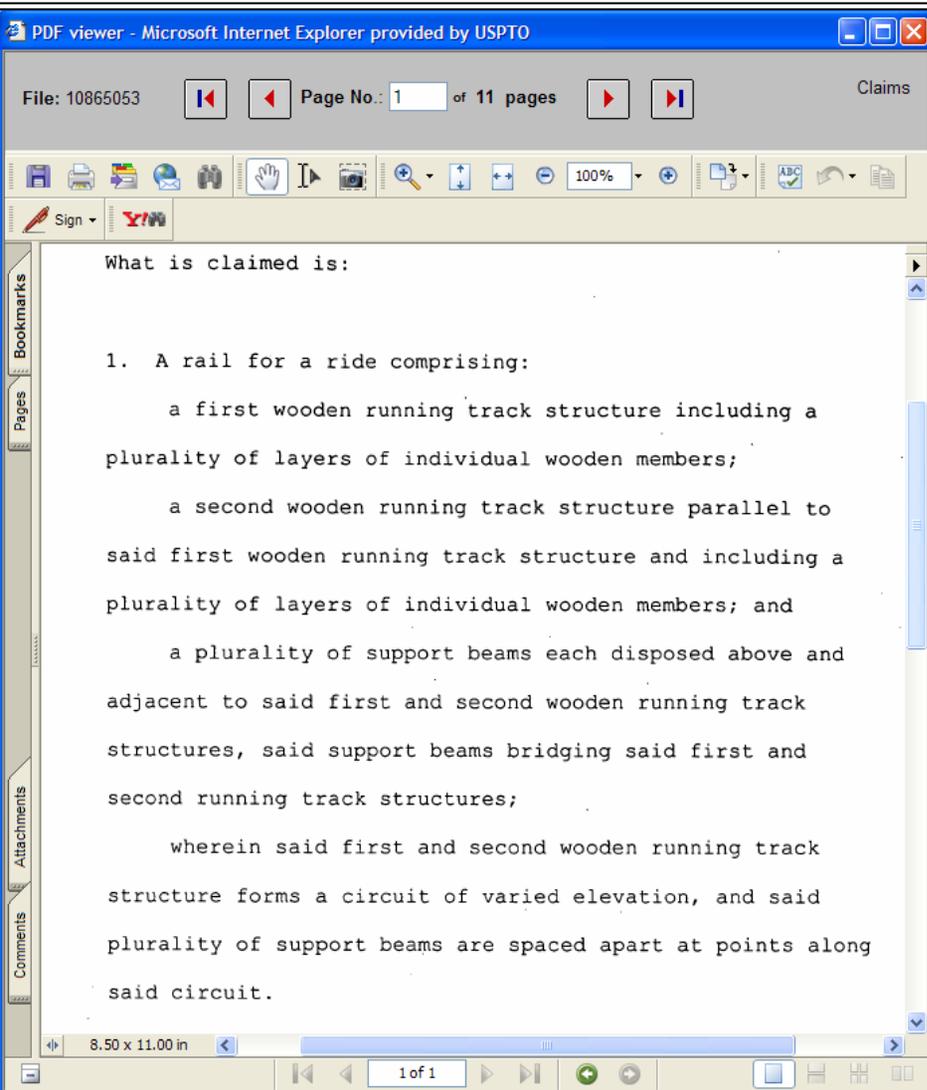
# Show a Sample Patent Application

---

- Tactic: Show the “Image File Wrapper” from the Public PAIR (Patent Application Application Information Retrieval) System of a recent patent, (i.e. applied for after July 2003) .
- Path: Patents Button, View in PAIR, then Public PAIR
- Link: <http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair>
- Example: 7,131,382, Wooden track roller coaster having a passenger carrier with suspended seats

# Public PAIR

- <http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair>



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer window displaying a PDF document. The title bar reads "PDF viewer - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by USPTO". The address bar shows the URL "http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair". The document content is as follows:

File: 10865053 Page No.: 1 of 11 pages Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A rail for a ride comprising:

- a first wooden running track structure including a plurality of layers of individual wooden members;
- a second wooden running track structure parallel to said first wooden running track structure and including a plurality of layers of individual wooden members; and
- a plurality of support beams each disposed above and adjacent to said first and second wooden running track structures, said support beams bridging said first and second running track structures;

wherein said first and second wooden running track structure forms a circuit of varied elevation, and said plurality of support beams are spaced apart at points along said circuit.

“1. A rail for a ride comprising:

a first wooden running track structure including a plurality of layers of individual wooden members;

a second wooden running track structure parallel to said first wooden running track structure and including a plurality of layers of individual wooden members;

...”



# Standard Forms on USPTO.gov

- <http://www.uspto.gov/web/forms/index.html#patent>

PTO/SB/01 (07-07)

Approved for use through 06/30/2010. OMB 0651-0032

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

**DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR  
DESIGN  
PATENT APPLICATION  
(37 CFR 1.63)**

Declaration  
Submitted  
With Initial  
Filing

OR

Declaration  
Submitted after Initial  
Filing (surcharge  
(37 CFR 1.16 (e))  
required)

Attorney Docket Number	
First Named Inventor	
<i>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</i>	
Application Number	
Filing Date	
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	

**I hereby declare that:**

Each inventor's residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to their name.

I believe the inventor(s) named below to be the original and first inventor(s) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

*(Title of the Invention)*



# Patent Filing through EFS-Web

- [http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/efs\\_help.html](http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/efs_help.html)

**Full technical support** is available through the **Patent Electronic Business Center (EBC)** at **866-217-9197** from 6 a.m. to 12 Midnight Eastern Time, Monday – Friday. *Limited assistance is available at all other times through USPTO's Electronic Business Support (EBS) at 1 800 786-9199 or 571-272-1000.*

<p>➔ <b>EFS-Web</b> (for <i>Registered</i> users)</p>	<p>➔ Announcements</p>
<p><b>Available NOW</b></p>	<p>➔ Benefits</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>FAQs</b></li> <li>• <b>Tools</b></li> <li>• <b>Training</b></li> <li>• <b>Tutorials</b></li> </ul>	<p>➔ Digital Certificate Management</p> <p>➔ EFS Security &amp; PKI (Public Key Infrastructure) [PDF]</p>
<p>➔ <b>EFS-Web</b> (for Unregistered users)</p>	<p>➔ Privacy Policy</p>
<p>&gt;&gt; <b>PlayVideo</b> EFS-Web Release on 16 March 2006</p> <p><b>Download RealMedia Player</b></p>	<p>➔ <b>Register Now</b> <i>enjoy the full benefits and features of EFS-Web and be able to view your pending applications and track your patent application's progress with Private PAIR</i></p>
<p>➔ <b>Customer Support</b> 🛠️</p>	<p>➔ System Requirements</p>



# “How much will the patent cost?”

## Small Entity Fees (with less than 500 employees)

- Initial filing fee, \$150
- Search Fee, \$250
- Examination Fee, \$100
- Issue Fee, \$700
- Maintenance Fees:
  - 3.5 yrs. \$450
  - 7.5 yrs. \$1150
  - 11.5 yrs. \$1900

Note: Fees are subject to change. View the current fees on the USPTO website

Approximately \$1,400 in fees to issue and approximately \$5,000 in fees during the life of a nonprovisional utility patent for a small entity

Hiring a patent attorney or agent to prepare the application will average \$5,500 for an “invention of minimal complexity”

Source: American Intellectual Property Law Association, 2003 Report



# Current USTPO Fees

- <http://www.uspto.gov/main/howtofees.htm>



United States Patent and Trademark Office

FEES

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Description	Fee	Small Entity Fee (if applicable)
<b>Fees</b>		
Basic filing fee - Utility <i>filed on or after December 8, 2004</i>	300.00	150.00
Basic filing fee - Utility (electronic filing for small entities) <i>filed on or after December 8, 2004</i>	n/a	75.00
Basic filing fee - Utility <i>filed before December 8, 2004</i>	790.00	395.00
Independent claims in excess of three	200.00	100.00
Claims in excess of twenty	50.00	25.00
Multiple dependent claim	360.00	180.00



# Invention Promotion Schemes

---

- 1st - the "free" inventor's kit;
- 2nd - phone calls to get your money for an invention evaluation;
- 3rd - the evaluation then leads to a request for more money to create a report;
- 4th - the "report", in a nicely bound book, says that your invention is patentable and marketable; and
- 5th - now there is need for more money to continue the process of getting a patent and marketing your invention.



# Inventor Resources

- <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/iip/>

Newsflash! Go!

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST IDENTITY THEFT  
CHANGES TO ELIMINATE THE DISCLOSURE DOCUMENT PROGRAM

ST. LOUIS SEMINAR INVENTORS CONFERENCE

## Inventor RESOURCES

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Is the Inventor site for me?

### PATENTS

- What is a Patent?
- Who can apply for a Patent?
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- Do I need to hire a lawyer or agent?
- What is the role of the USPTO?
- What free assistance is available from the USPTO?
- Where do I find local assistance?
- How do I finance and/or market my invention?
- The USPTO and Current Events for

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Contact the  
USPTO  
BEFORE  
you get  
BURNED!

# Registered Patent Attorneys

■ <http://des.uspto.gov/OEDCI/>

**Patent Attorneys/Agents Search...**

This Index contains contact information for attorneys and agents with licenses to practice before the US Patent and Trademark Office. Currently, there are 8277 active agents and 26190 active attorneys. All searches reflect current information.

- See also: [Listing of Active Patent Attorneys and Agents by Geographic Region](#)  
[Entire Roster of Active Patent Attorneys and Agents \(ZIP File\)](#)

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Primary  
Registration  
Attorney  
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Data  
1-20 All



# Researcher: Searching Patents

---

- A graduate assistant (or professional searcher) needs to search patents related to suspended roller coasters
- The advisor (or lawyer) said to view Patent 5,272,984 and patents by Anton Schwarzkopf as a start.



# USPTO Website

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**Visiting the Nation's Capital**  
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If travel to the Washington, DC area for July and August, include a visit to the home of American innovation. The United States Patent and Trademark Office is [located in Alexandria](#), VA, just outside the subway stops--King Street and Pentagon City. All this summer the USPTO is celebrating the year's 25 best inventions as selected by the History Channel and

"Modern Marvels" exhibit is free and open to the public Monday thru Friday and on Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m. The exhibit is located in the atrium just outside the [USPTO museum](#).



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Recently the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (CAFC), affirmed disciplinary action

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**All patent numbers must be seven characters in length, excluding commas, which are optional. Examples:**

- Utility -- 5,146,634 6923014 0000001
- Design -- D339,456 D321987 D000152
- Plant -- PP08,901 PP07514 PP00003
- Reissue -- RE35,312 RE12345 RE00007
- Defensive Publication -- T109,201 T855019 T100001
- Statutory Invention Registration -- H001,523 H001234 H000001
- Re-examination -- RX29,194 RE29183 RE00125
- Additional Improvement -- AI00,002 AI000318 AI00007



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##### U.S. Patent Documents

<a href="#">763811</a>	June 1904	Thomas
<a href="#">2135230</a>	November 1938	Courtney
<a href="#">3176983</a>	April 1965	Barber
<a href="#">3484104</a>	December 1969	Goforth et al.
<a href="#">3556015</a>	January 1971	Pender
<a href="#">3941060</a>	March 1976	Morsbach

##### Foreign Patent Documents

0696184	Oct., 1964	CA
0711048	Jun., 1965	CA
0182192	Mar., 1907	DE2
2750136	May., 1978	DE
0899468	May., 1945	FR
0148368	Jun., 1991	JP
91/13662	Sep., 1991	WO
0844427	Jul., 1981	SU
2109252	Jun., 1983	GB

Primary Examiner: Le; Mark T.

Attorney, Agent or Firm: Woodard, Emhardt, Naughton Moriarty & McNett





# Patent Documents: Front Page

- Patent Number
- Date of Filing
- U.S. Classification
- Title
- References Cited
- Abstract
- Field of Search
- Assignee
- Inventor

**United States Patent** [19]  
**Bolliger et al.**

[54] **AMUSEMENT RIDE OF THE ROLLER COASTER TYPE**

[75] Inventors: **Walter Bolliger, Antagnes; Claude Mabillard, Choëx**, both of Switzerland

[73] Assignee: **Bolliger & Mabillard Ingenieurs Conseils S.A.**, Switzerland

[21] Appl. No.: **975,788**

[22] Filed: **Nov. 13, 1992**

[30] Foreign Application Priority Data  
 Dec. 2, 1991 [CH] Switzerland ..... 3535/91

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>3</sup> ..... **B61B 3/00**

[52] U.S. Cl. .... **104/63; 104/89; 105/149.2**

[58] Field of Search ..... 104/53, 55, 56, 57, 104/63, 64, 65, 66, 89, 95, 106, 107, 245, 246, 105/148, 155, 149.1, 149.2; 472/36, 37, 38, 28, 29, 30, 31-

[56] References Cited  
**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**  
 763,811 6/1904 Thomas ..... 472/31  
 2,135,230 11/1938 Courtney ..... 104/76  
 3,176,983 4/1965 Barber ..... 472/30  
 3,484,104 12/1969 Geforth et al. .... 105/149.2  
 3,556,015 1/1971 Pender ..... 105/149.2

US005272984A

[11] Patent Number: **5,272,984**

[45] Date of Patent: **Dec. 28, 1993**

3,941,060 3/1976 Morsbach ..... 104/63

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

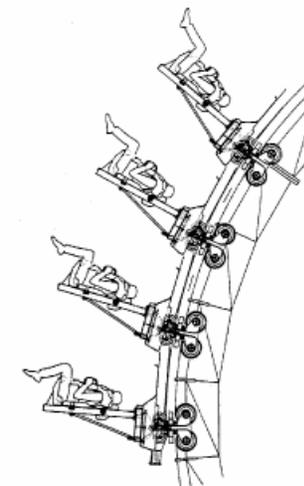
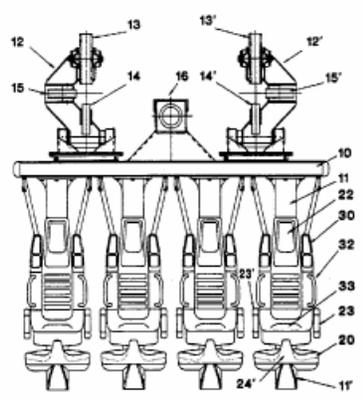
0696184 10/1964 Canada ..... 472/36  
 0711048 6/1965 Canada ..... 105/149.2  
 0182192 3/1907 Fed. Rep. of Germany ..... 472/31  
 2750136 5/1978 Fed. Rep. of Germany ... 105/149.2  
 0899448 5/1945 France ..... 104/55  
 0148368 6/1991 Japan ..... 105/149.2  
 91/13662 9/1991 PCT Int'l Appl. .... 104/53  
 0844427 7/1981 U.S.S.R. .... 105/149.2  
 2109252 6/1983 United Kingdom ..... 104/53

*Primary Examiner—Mark T. Le*  
*Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Woodard, Emhardt, Naughton Moriarty & McNett*

[57] **ABSTRACT**

The amusement ride comprises at least one seat suspended on a bogie moving along at least one rail. The seat is provided with a harness for the restraint of at least one passenger in the seat. The seat-harness unit is shaped so as to form a restraint imprisoning the passenger's body when the harness is in the closed position, each of the passenger's four limbs emerging from said restraint through a separate opening, so that the passenger is suspended with his legs in mid-air without a wall or a floor around him.

3 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

For information on INID Codes:

<http://www.wipo.int/export/sites/www/scit/en/standards/pdf/03-80-01.pdf>



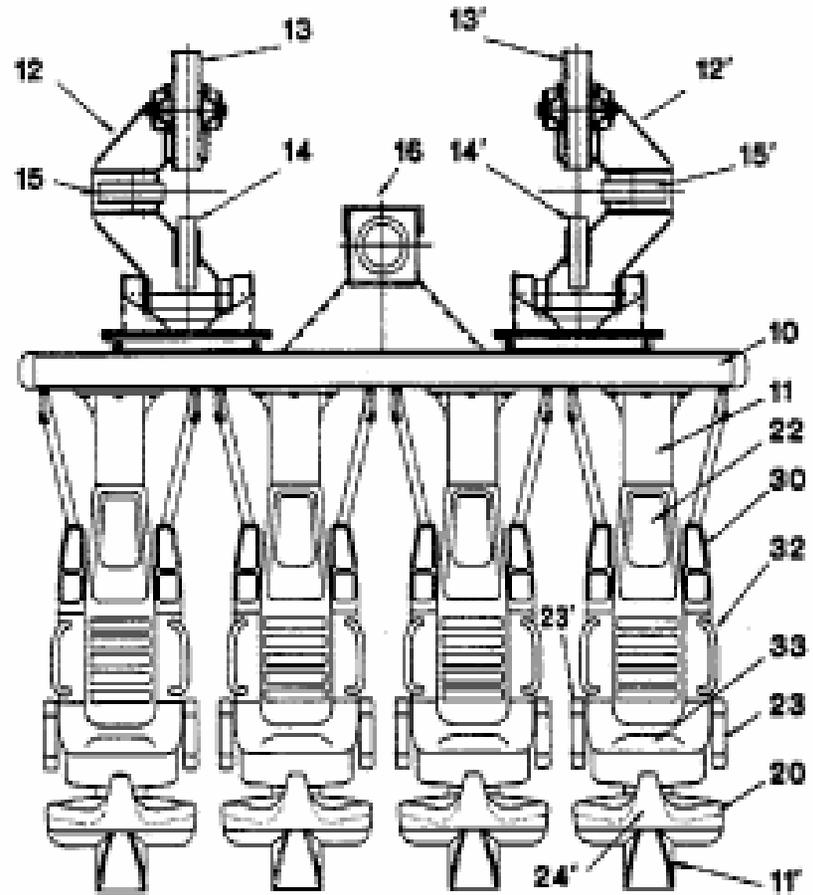
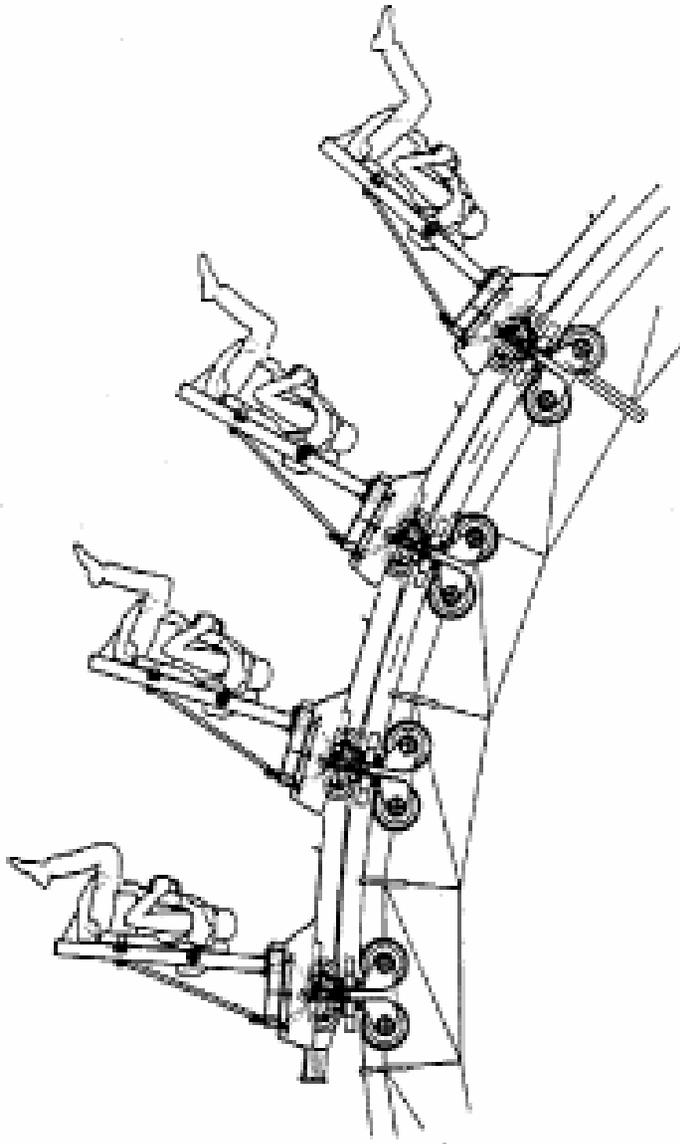
# Patent Document Parts

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- Drawings
  - Reference Numbers
  - Multiple Views
- Specification
  - Background of the Invention
  - Brief Summary of the Invention
  - Detailed Description of the Invention
- Claims
  - Define the scope of the patent protection
  - Choice of claim wording, in large measure, determines whether a patent is granted



# Patent Drawings





# Patent Specification

The object of the present invention is to propose a fairground ride of the roller coaster type offering not only all the possibilities of figures for traditional roller coasters, as well as all the objective and subjective sensations which it produces, but also a certain number of unprecedented sensations, accompanied by a much stronger intensity of the sensations already known.

For this purpose the invention relates to an amusement ride of the roller coaster type, comprising at least one seat suspended on a bogie moving along at least one rail, the seat being provided with a device for the restraint of at least one passenger in the seat, the unit being designed so that the passenger is suspended with his legs in mid-air without a wall or a floor around him.

The following description, given by way of example, refers to the drawings in which:

FIG. 1 is a vertical section seen from the front of a ride according to the invention, showing a group of passengers passing above a surface of water;

FIG. 2 is a lateral view of another portion of the ride of FIG. 1, showing passengers in a vertical loop;



# Patent Claims

We claim:

1. A roller coaster amusement ride, comprising:  
a pair of parallel, roller coaster rails fixed in space;

We claim:

1. A roller coaster amusement ride, comprising:  
a pair of parallel, roller coaster rails fixed in space;  
a bogie freely moveable along said rails;  
means to seat a passenger rigidly affixed to said bogie  
so as to avoid any pendulum-like movement, and  
that position a seated passenger's head in closer  
proximity to said bogie than are the passenger's  
body and limbs, and that position a seated passen-  
ger's limbs to suspend freely; and  
means to harness a seated passenger to said means to  
seat a passenger that immobilize a seated passen-  
ger's body, but permit a seated passenger's limbs to  
remain freely suspended.

ger's limbs to suspend freely; and  
means to harness a seated passenger to said means to  
seat a passenger that immobilize a seated passen-  
ger's body, but permit a seated passenger's limbs to  
remain freely suspended.

65



# Finding Patents by Inventor

---

- What is the time period the person would have received patents?
  - 1976 to present: USPTO's PatFT database
  - 1920 to present: PubWEST's *OCR Backfile* at PTDLs or the USPTO Public Search Facility
  - Further back through commercial database vendors
  - Prior to 1920: Print indexes at PTDLs or the Public Search Facility such as the *Annual Indexes, Reports of the Commissioner*



# Inventors in PatFT since 1976

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IN/schwarzkopf-aS: 9 patents.

Hits 1 through 9 out of 9

PAT. NO.	Title
----------	-------

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | <a href="#">5,119,734</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Chassis for rail-bound exhibition vehicles</a>                                |
| 2 | <a href="#">4,682,547</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Amusement ride with vehicles supported by universally hinged wheel groups</a> |
| 3 | <a href="#">4,520,732</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Amusement ride</a>  |
| 4 | <a href="#">4,361,094</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Drive member for rail-type amusement-ride car</a>                             |
| 5 | <a href="#">4,339,121</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Orbital amusement-park ride</a>   |
| 6 | <a href="#">4,270,459</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Chain-type ascent system for roller coaster</a>                               |
| 7 | <a href="#">4,165,695</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Amusement ride with vertical track loop</a>                                   |
| 8 | <a href="#">4,093,080</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Vehicular train</a>   |
| 9 | <a href="#">3,977,152</a> <b>I</b> <a href="#">Method and apparatus for automatically packaging flexible flat goods</a>      |



# Inventors in PubWEST since 1920

## ■ PubWEST at PTDLs and Public Search Facility

**Database:** 
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END OF SEARCH HISTORY



# Inventors in PubWEST Results

3,403,633

## AMUSEMENT RIDE

Anton Schwarzkopf, Munsterhausen, Germany

Filed Feb. 11, 1966, Ser. No. 526,776

Claims priority, application Germany, Feb. 12, 1965,

Sch 36,523

10 Claims. (Cl. 104—68)

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A roundabout-type amusement ride having an endless track with steeply banked, sharply inclined curved portion formed by a pair of tubular rails and a vehicle structure whose length is less than that of the path and comprises a plurality of cars connected together by universal joints and driven by pinch-type rollers beneath the rails which frictionally engage a depending bore; the cars comprise springs running along the rails and seat portions (carrying the passengers) which can tilt about a longitudinal edge of the frame under the control of a motor-driven spindle or fluid-operated tilt mechanism.

Oct. 1, 1968

A. SCHWARZKOPF  
AMUSEMENT RIDE

3,403,633

Filed Feb. 11, 1966

5 Sheets—Sheet 4

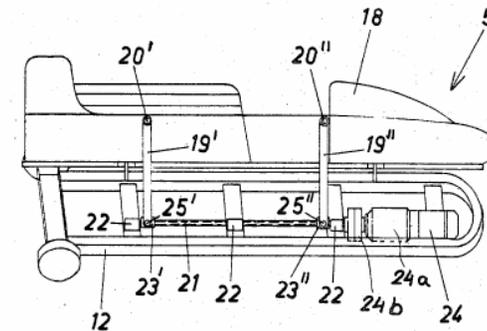


Fig. 6

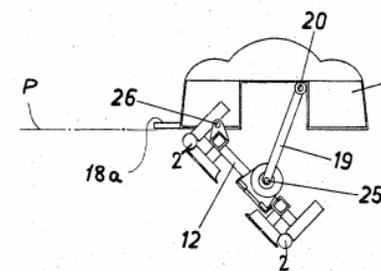


Fig. 5

Anton Schwarzkopf  
INVENTOR.

BY Ross & Meston



# Inventors, Print Indexes, Pre-1920

## ■ La Marcus Thompson, Pleasure Railway, 1901

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LA MARCUS A. THOMPSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

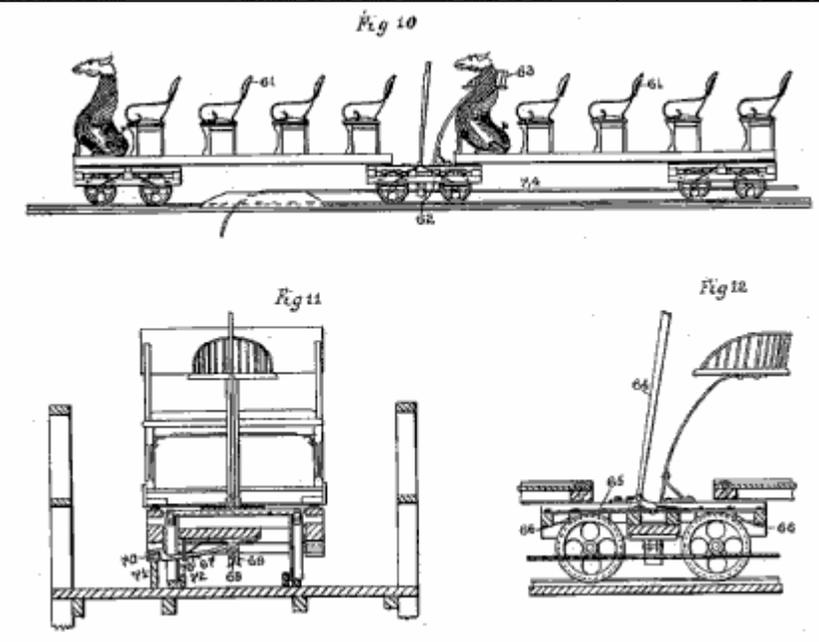
PLEASURE-RAILWAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 665,703, dated January 8, 1901.  
 Application filed October 9, 1896. Serial No. 997,977. (No model.)

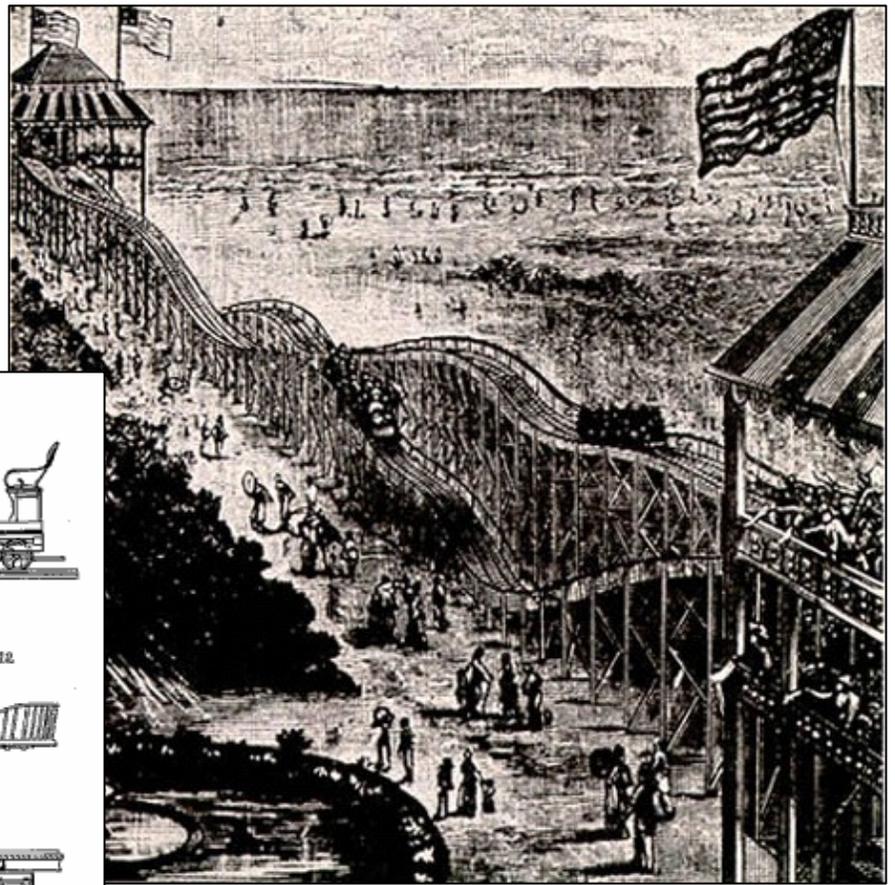
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LA MARCUS A. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Pleasure-Railways, of which the following is a full and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

My present invention of operating the same to provide for carrying them without putting at points all part of this symbols of the 1 is a plan view of the positively of by curves a means of the track at the invention a ing part of Fig. 2 is a section on side elevati gravity and having con and curves, piled at one the superse a plan view view of the paratus for is a detailed lighting me matically b 40 of the meed a detailed ting light top plan vi 45 tion of the railway. the middle somatic gr ndinal see 50 ing mechanism.



courses is limited by pavilions at the ends thereof, whether the courses are continuous or not; but, preferably, it applies to those pleasure-railways wherein the courses are continuous and the cars travel from the starting-pavilion along a continuous course to a pavilion at the most distant point in the



La Marcus Thompson's Switchback Railway (1884)  
 Photo in the Public Domain

My invention is applicable to those pleasure-railways wherein the length of the structure beyond the line C D. This space



# Patents by Assignee (Owner)

- <http://assignments.uspto.gov/assignments/>

## Patent Assignment Abstract of Title

***NOTE: Results display only for issued patents and published applications. For pending or abandoned applications please consult USPTO staff.***

### Total Assignments: 2

Patent #: [4794865](#)      Issue Dt: 01/03/1989      Application #: 07050325      Filing Dt: 05/18/1987  
 Inventor: ARNOLD LINDBERG  
 Title: AMUSEMENT RIDE VEHICLE

### Assignment: 1

Reel/Frame: [004712/0074](#)      Recorded: 05/18/1987      Pages: 2  
 Conveyance: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNORS INTEREST.  
 Assignor: [LINDBERG, ARNOLD](#)      Exec Dt: 05/11/1987  
 Assignee: [WALT DISNEY COMPANY, THE, 500 S. BUENA VISTA STREET, BURBANK, CA., A CORP OF CA.](#)

Correspondent: FULWIDER, PATTON, ET AL  
 510 HARBOR BANK BLDG.  
 11 GOLDEN SHORE  
 LONG BEACH, CA., 90802

### Assignment: 2

Reel/Frame: [008732/0870](#)      Recorded: 10/14/1997      Pages: 22  
 Conveyance: CHANGE OF NAME (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).  
 Assignor: [WALT DISNEY COMPANY, THE](#)      Exec Dt: 03/11/1996  
 Assignee: [DISNEY ENTERPRISES, INC.](#)  
 500 SOUTH BUENA VISTA STREET  
 BURBANK, CALIFORNIA 91521



# Patents by Claimed Subject Matter

---

## ■ Classification

- Coverage 1790 to Present
- Groups similar inventions regardless of wording variations

## ■ Keyword

- Only back to 1976 on USPTO's PatFT database, back to 1920 on USPTO's PubWEST OCR file
- Relevant patents can be missed due to different terminology:
  - Thrill Ride
  - Amusement Devices
  - Pleasure Railway



# Classification Searching

---

1. Brainstorm keywords to describe the invention
2. Use keywords to find initial class/subclasses in the Index to the U.S. Patent Classification
3. Verify the relevancy of class/subclasses using the Classification Schedule
4. Confirm scope of subclass in the Classification Definitions
5. Access complete patent documents and published applications by classification
6. Review the claims, specifications and drawings of documents retrieved
7. Retrieve and review cited references and “Field of Classification Search”



# Search Example

- The researcher must find prior art related to roller coaster track and car design. Of particular interest are coasters with cars suspended below the track.



Nemesis at Alton Towers. Taken by Andrew Waite (naxtek). Source: <http://commons.wikimedia.org/>



# Step 1: Description

---

- What does it do?
  - Essential function of the invention
- What is the end result?
  - Essential effect or basic product resulting from the invention
- What is it made of?
  - Physical structure of the invention
- What is it used for?
  - Intended use for the invention

Provide searchers with resources to help them brainstorm broader, narrower, related and synonymous terms.



## Step 2: Index to USPC

---

- Use the Index to find potential class(es) and subclass(es).
- Look up each term that describes the invention, e.g. function, composition, etc.
- Note class and sub-class numbers for each term.
- A plus sign “+” following a subclass indicates that additional subclasses may be relevant.



# Step 2: Index to USPC Page

■ <http://www.uspto.gov/go/classification/uspcindex/indextouspc.htm>

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Index to the USPC

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Last Modified: 10/30/2006 11:19:10





# Step 2: "Amusement" Example

<b>Amusement Devices</b>	472	
Design	D21	811+
Elevator	472	131
Roundabout	472	2
Exercising devices	482	
Games	473	
Houses	472	136
Illusionary	472	74
Mechanical guns & projectors	124	
Mirrors and reflectors	359	838+
Nonprojectile game	463	
Projectile games	473	
Railway	104	53+
Car in wheel	104	77
Roundabout stationary	472	1+
Roundabout transported	472	3
Toys see toys	446	
Trip illusions	472	59+
Water guns	222	78+





# Step 3: Class Schedule

---

- Look in the Class Schedule for all the class/subclasses identified in Step 2
- Is the class appropriate for the invention?
- Browse down the outline to the bold, capitalized headings
- See where subclasses suggested by the Index fall in the outline
- Use the “dots” to keep track of the placement of subclasses in the outline
- Subclasses are not always in numerical order



# Step 3: Class Schedule 104

## **Class 104 RAILWAYS**

 51	<b>LOCOMOTIVE SHED FIXTURES</b>
 52	· Smoke jacks
 53	<b>AMUSEMENT</b>
 54	· Gap jumpers
 55	· Loop
 56	· Helical
 57	·· Rotating
 58	· Moving-wave track
 59	· Drifting tub
 60	· Racing
 61	· Horse simulation
 62	· Physical training
 63	· Tortuous alinement
 64	·· Horizontal zigzag
 65	···· Exchanging gears
 66	···· Chain drive

## **Term Paper Outline**

### **I. Main Topic**

A. Major Point

### **II. Main Topics**

A. Major Point

B. Major Point

C. Major Point

1. Sub Point

D. Major Point

E. Major Point

F. Major Point

G. Major Point

H. Major Point

I. Major Point

1. Sub Point

a. Minor Point

b. Minor Point



# Step 4: Class Definitions

---

- Read the corresponding subclass definitions to establish the scope of subclass(es) relevant to your search
- Definitions also include “See” references that will point to additional appropriate classes and subclasses



# Step 4: Class Definition Link



**Class 104**

**RAILWAYS**



51

**LOCOMOTIVE SHED FIXTURES**

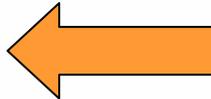


52

- Smoke jacks



53



**AMUSEMENT**



54

- Gap jumpers



55

- Loop



56

- Helical



57

- Rotating



58

- Moving-wave track



59

- Drifting tub



60

- Racing



61

- Horse simulation



62

- Physical training



63



- Tortuous alinement



64

- Horizontal zigzag



65

- Exchanging gears



66

- Chain drive

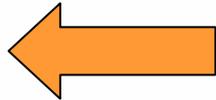


# Step 4: Definition Subclass 104/53

## **53 AMUSEMENT:**

This subclass is indented under **the class definition**. Railway and analogous devices for use in amusement parks.

SEE OR SEARCH CLASS:



**472**, Amusement Devices, particularly subclasses **1** through **47** for an amusement roundabout.

## **54 Gap jumpers:**

This subclass is indented under **subclass 53**. Apparatus comprising special forms of track and vehicles in which the moving vehicle jumps across gaps between sections of the track.

## **55 Loop:**

This subclass is indented under **subclass 53**. Apparatus comprising a track provided with substantially vertical loops, around which the vehicles travel.



# Step 5: Access Methods

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- USPTO Website:
  - PatFT
  - AppFT
- PubWEST: Web-based Examiner Search Tool
  - US Patents Full-Text Database
  - US Pre-Grant Publication Full-Text Database
- Cassis: Optical Discs
  - USAPat DVD
  - USAApp DVD
- Archival Quality Microfilm



# Step 5: Link to PatFT

---

**63 Tortuous alinement:**  
This subclass is indented under **subclass 53**. Appartus having railway tracks distorted in alinement in all directions for producing surprising and pleasing shocks during travel.

**64 Horizontal zigzag:**

**63 Tortuous alinement:**  
This subclass is indented under **subclass 53**. Appartus having railway tracks distorted in alinement in all directions for producing surprising and pleasing shocks during travel.  
interrelated wheels, each of which carries the vehicie through a certain arc and then passes it to another wheel.

**Chain drive:**  
This subclass is indented under **subclass 64**. Apparatus in which the vehicles are connected for endless chain drive through a horizontal zigzag path.



# Step 5: Patents Retrieved

## USPTO PATENT FULL-TEXT AND IMAGE DATABASE

[Home](#)[Quick](#)[Advanced](#)[Pat Num](#)[Help](#)[Next List](#)[Bottom](#)[View Cart](#)

- 1 [7,192,010](#) **T** [Rollercoaster launch system](#)
- 2 [7,159,520](#) **T** [Amusement ride vehicle including an articulation joint](#)
- 3 [6,758,144](#) **T** [Fun vehicle and bob, toboggan or roller coaster run for using the same](#)
- 4 [6,679,182](#) **T** [Amusement device](#)
- 5 [6,606,953](#) **T** [Amusement ride](#)
- 6 [6,523,479](#) **T** [Amusement rides and methods](#)
- 7 [6,513,441](#) **T** [Amusement devices as well as a holder suitable for such amusement](#)
- 8 [6,439,129](#) **T** [Launching system for passenger units in equipments for amusement parks, such as roller-coasters or the like](#)
- 9 [6,405,655](#) **T** [Amusement device](#)
- 10 [6,402,624](#) **T** [Amusement ride without hubs and spokes](#)

8 [6,439,129](#) **T** [Launching system for passenger units in equipments for amusement parks, such as roller-coasters or the like](#)

9 [6,405,655](#) **T** [Amusement device](#)

10 [6,402,624](#) **T** [Amusement ride without hubs and spokes](#)



# Step 5: AppFT Database

## US PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE PATENT APPLICATION FULL TEXT AND IMAGE DATABASE

[Help](#)[Home](#)[Boolean](#)[Manual](#)[Number](#)[PTDLs](#)[View Shopping Cart](#)

Data current through July 19, 2007.

Query [\[Help\]](#)

Term 1:	<input type="text" value="104/53"/>	in Field 1:	<input type="text" value="Current US Classification"/>
			<input type="text" value=""/>
		<input type="text" value="AND"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>
Term 2:	<input type="text" value=""/>	in Field 2:	<input type="text" value="All Fields"/>
			<input type="text" value=""/>
Select years	<input type="text" value="2001-present"/>	<input type="text" value="Search"/>	<input type="text" value="Reset"/>





# Step 5: Applications Retrieved

Results of Search in PGPUB Production Database for:

CCL/104/53: 40 applications.

Hits 1 through 40 out of 40

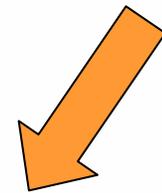
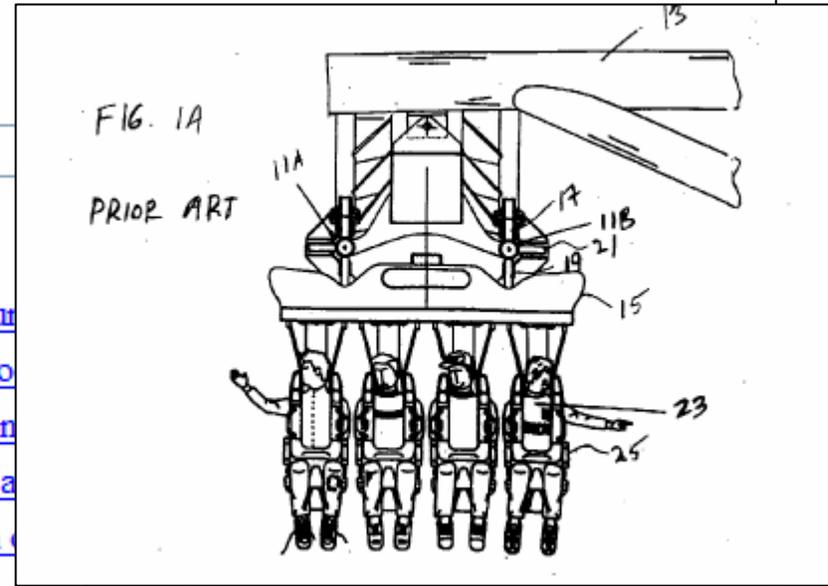
Jump To

Refine Search

CCL/104/53

PUB. APP. NO. Title

- 1 [20070139488](#) [Liquid ejection device with valve u](#)
- 2 [20070080062](#) [Coated metal structures and metho](#)
- 3 [20070057292](#) [SONOS type non-volatile semicon](#)
- 4 [20060267917](#) [System and method for managing a](#)
- 5 [20060224408](#) [System and method for evaluation o](#)
- 6 [20060169924](#) [Controlling the characteristics of implanter ion-beams](#)
- 7 [20060169923](#) [Sample holder and ion-beam processing system](#)
- 8 [20060137563](#) [Multi-capacity amusement ride](#)
- 9 [20060065151](#) [Amusement ride vehicle including an articulation joint](#)
- 10 [20060005735](#) [Electromagnetic moving toy system](#)
- 11 [20050274275](#) [Wooden track roller coaster having a passenger carrier with suspended seats](#)
- 12 [20050193919](#) [Track and vehicle amusement apparatus and methods](#)
- 13 [20050150415](#) [Roller-coaster with a vertical climb](#)





# Step 6: Review For Relevancy

- Review the front page of documents retrieved to make initial relevancy judgment
- Then review the specification, drawings and claims of the documents most relevant to the search

**United States Patent** [19] Patent Number: **5,218,910**  
 Mesmer et al. [45] Date of Patent: **Jun. 15, 1993**

[54] **ROLLER COASTER WITH PNEUMATIC CONFORMING SEATS AND PRONE PASSENGER ARRANGEMENT TO ENHANCE THE THRILL OF THE RIDE** 832,319 10/1906 Humphrey ..... 105/147  
 1,380,732 6/1921 Miller ..... 104/53 X  
 2,128,492 8/1938 Mens ..... 104/56  
 3,205,009 9/1965 Heride et al. .... 297/456 X  
 3,608,961 9/1971 Von Heck ..... 297/284 R  
 3,762,404 10/1973 Sakita ..... 128/89 R  
 3,885,503 5/1975 Barber ..... 104/53 X  
 4,195,576 4/1980 Guttridge ..... 104/121 X  
 4,213,213 7/1980 Burnett ..... 297/284 R  
 4,221,170 9/1980 Koudelka ..... 104/63  
 4,724,771 10/1988 Yamada ..... 104/56

[76] Inventors: Ethan J. Mesmer, 4582 Roxbury Cir., Batavia, Ohio 45140; Matthew S. Gray, 965 View Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45245; Milton E. Parrish, 587 Ibold Rd., Loveland, Ohio 45140

[21] Appl. No.: **868,999**  
 [22] Filed: **Apr. 15, 1992**

**Related U.S. Application Data**  
 [63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 746,211, Aug. 15, 1991, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 529,472, May 29, 1990, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> ..... **A63G 31/04**  
 [52] U.S. Cl. .... **104/63; 104/57; 104/121; 105/344; 105/346**

[58] Field of Search ..... 104/53, 56, 57, 63, 104/64, 76, 121, 241; 105/344, 345, 346, 147; 296/63; 297/456, 457, 284 R, DIG. 3

[56] **References Cited**  
**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**  
 810,646 1/1906 Harris ..... 105/344  
 827,313 7/1906 Lauster et al. .... 104/56

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**  
 3901140 7/1990 Fed. Rep. of Germany ..... 105/345

*Primary Examiner*—Robert J. Oberleitner  
*Assistant Examiner*—S. Joseph Morano  
*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Wood, Herron & Evans

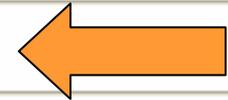
[57] **ABSTRACT**  
 A roller coaster has cars with passenger supports to hold the passengers in a substantially horizontal position within the car during the ride in seats which can be rigidly molded for each new individual passenger to conform to the unique body contours of the passenger, wherein the cars have multiple vertically-tiered levels of passenger support and are supported from above and below on the track, to provide an increased speed and thrill capability for the ride.

**15 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**



# Step 7: References Cited

References Cited **[Referenced By]**



## U.S. Patent Documents

<a href="#">810646</a>	January 1906	Harris
<a href="#">827313</a>	July 1906	Lauster et al.
<a href="#">832319</a>	October 1906	Humphrey
<a href="#">1380732</a>	June 1921	Miller
<a href="#">2128492</a>	August 1938	Mena
<a href="#">3205009</a>	September 1965	Heride et al.
<a href="#">3608961</a>	September 1971	Von Heck
<a href="#">3762404</a>	October 1973	Sakita
<a href="#">3885503</a>	May 1975	Barber
<a href="#">4195576</a>	April 1980	Gutridge
<a href="#">4213213</a>	July 1980	Burnett
<a href="#">4221170</a>	September 1980	Koudelka
<a href="#">4724771</a>	October 1988	Yamada

## Foreign Patent Documents

3901140	Jul., 1990	DE
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# Step 7: Referenced By

Refine Search

ref/5218910

PAT. NO.	Title
1 <a href="#">6,840,179</a>	<a href="#">Amusement devices, such as roller-coasters</a>
2 <a href="#">6,629,500</a>	<a href="#">Open-course coaster with two vertical end segments</a>
3 <a href="#">6,487,975</a>	<a href="#">Roller coaster car having a force-isolated passenger compartment</a>
4 <a href="#">6,402,624</a>	<a href="#">Amusement ride without hubs and spokes</a>
5 <a href="#">6,397,755</a>	<a href="#">Amusement ride</a>
6 <a href="#">6,386,115</a>	<a href="#">Modularized amusement ride and training simulation device</a>
7 <a href="#">6,227,121</a>	<a href="#">Modularized amusement ride and training simulation device</a>
8 <a href="#">6,220,171</a>	<a href="#">Amusement ride</a>
9 <a href="#">6,098,549</a>	<a href="#">Modularized amusement ride and training simulation device</a>
10 <a href="#">5,791,254</a>	<a href="#">Full range of motion roller coaster</a>
11 <a href="#">5,758,582</a>	<a href="#">Device for restraining people on a moving unit</a>



# Step 7: Field of Search

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## Abstract

A roller coaster has cars with passenger supports to hold the passengers in a substantially horizontal position within the car during the ride in seats which can be rigidly molded for each new individual passenger to conform to the unique body contours of the passenger, wherein the cars have multiple vertically-tiered levels of passenger support and are supported from above and below on the track, to provide an increased speed and thrill capability for the ride.

**104/63 ; 104/121; 104/57; 105/344; 105/346**

**A63G 7/00 (20060101); A63G 031/04 ()**

**104/53,56,57,63,64,76,121,241 105/344,345,346,147 296/63**

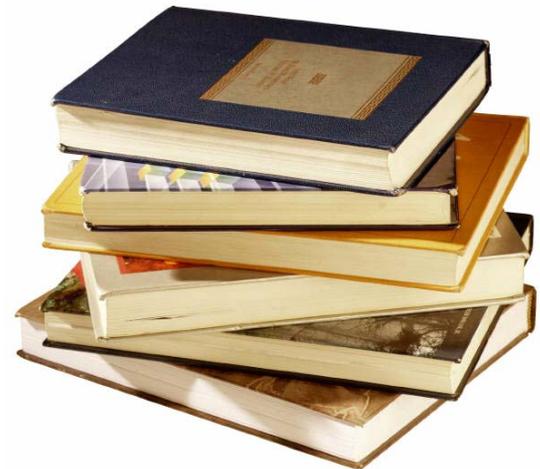
**297/456,457,284R,DIG.3**



# Prior Art

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- Prior art consists of information disclosed to the public including:
  - U.S. Patents and published patent applications;
  - Foreign Patents and published patent applications;
  - Journal and magazine articles;
  - Books, manuals, and catalogs;
  - Websites and databases;
  - Conference proceedings;
  - Scientific papers;
  - Among other things...





# Search Templates

- <http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/searchtemplates/class.htm>
  - Listing of databases, including non-patent literature databases, used by USPTO for comprehensive prior art searching
  - Developed by examiners, searchers and librarians
  - Public input is encouraged

Search Templates by Class		
Select a class to view the templates available within the class:		
	Class Number	Title
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	2	APPAREL
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	4	BATHS, CLOSETS, SINKS, AND SPITTOONS
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	5	BEDS
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	7	COMPOUND TOOLS
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	8	BLEACHING AND DYEING; FLUID TREATMENT AND CHEMICAL MODIFICATION OF TEXTILES AND FIBERS
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	12	BOOT AND SHOE MAKING
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	14	BRIDGES
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	15	BRUSHING, SCRUBBING, AND GENERAL CLEANING
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	16	MISCELLANEOUS HARDWARE
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	19	TEXTILES: FIBER PREPARATION
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	23	CHEMISTRY: PHYSICAL PROCESSES
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	24	BUCKLES, BUTTONS, CLASPS, ETC.
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	26	TEXTILES: CLOTH FINISHING
<input type="button" value="Go"/>	27	UNDERTAKING



# Search Template Class 104

## NON-PATENT LITERATURE RESOURCES

The resources listed are those that USPTO staff have found consistently yield the most relevant search results. Commercial databases available through a single vendor can generally be searched simultaneously, although it is preferable to search full text and bibliographic databases in separate groupings. In addition to the use of subscription databases and public Internet sites, it is recommended that books, manuals, standards and specifications be considered in the search for prior art.

### CSA Technology Research Database (TRD)

Dialog Coverage: 1963 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
Megafile of the technical bibliographic database  
Scientific Abstracts.

Subjects covered include materials science, technology. Includes journal articles, conference books and standards.

### Inspec (The Database for Physics, Electronics and

Dialog Coverage: 1898 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
Dialog DataStar Coverage: 1969 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
Questel Orbit Coverage: 1967 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
STN Coverage: 1969 - present, Full Text: - N/A

Inspec (The Database for Physics, Electronics and the three Science Abstracts print publications and Electronics Abstracts, and Computer and

### JICST-EPlus - Japanese Science & Technology

Dialog Coverage: 1985 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
STN Coverage: 1985 - present, Full Text: - N/A

English citations and abstracts covering the fields of science, technology, and medicine.

Index to Japanese scientific and technical journals with English citations and abstracts.

### Knovel

Knovel Coverage: Dates - vary, Full Text: Dates  
Science and engineering books and database

Full text engineering and scientific reference books and graphs. Titles include Mark's Standard Handbook

### ITIS: National Technical Information Service

Dialog Coverage: 1964 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
STN Coverage: 1964 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
U.S. government-sponsored research, development

### PASCAL

Dialog Coverage: 1973 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
Questel Orbit Coverage: 1967 - present, Full Text: - N/A  
STN Coverage: 1977 - present, Full Text: - N/A

Multidisciplinary, multilingual bibliographic database covering the major international literature in science, technology, and medicine.

Produced by the French National Research Council. Index to scientific and technical literature. Each citation includes the original title and usually French- and English-translated titles and indexing terms. Most abstracts are in French.

### Transportation Research Information Services (TRIS)

Dialog Coverage: 1968 - present, Full Text: - N/A

Provides international coverage of ongoing research projects, published journal articles, state and federal government reports, conference proceedings, research and technical papers, and monographs.

## PASCAL

Dialog Coverage: 1973 - present, Full Text: - N/A

Questel Orbit Coverage: 1967 - present, Full Text: - N/A

STN Coverage: 1977 - present, Full Text: - N/A

Multidisciplinary, multilingual bibliographic database covering the major international literature in science, technology, and medicine.

Produced by the French National Research Council. Index to scientific and technical literature. Each citation includes the original title and usually French- and English-translated titles and indexing terms. Most abstracts are in French.

## Transportation Research Information Services (TRIS)

Dialog Coverage: 1968 - present, Full Text: - N/A

Provides international coverage of ongoing research projects, published journal articles, state and federal government reports, conference proceedings, research and technical papers, and monographs.



# Provide Information Not Advice

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- “Let me tell you about my invention.”
  - Inventors should keep their invention private before discussing their options with an attorney
- “Do you think I can get a patent on this?”
  - Inventors should consult a registered patent attorney or agent, and you can help them find the list online
- “Can you do the search for me?”
  - Instruct researchers on search techniques using a generic example, but do not conduct searches on their behalf
- “Can you help me file the patent application?”
  - Show the inventor resources on the USPTO website including EFS-Web, but do not assist people with filing



# Session Review

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- Patent Basics
- Entrepreneur: How to Get a Patent
  - Information on Electronic Filing
  - The Cost of Obtaining a Patent
  - Invention Promotion Firms
  - Finding a Registered Patent Legal Professional
- Researcher: Searching Patents (Prior Art)
  - Finding Patents by Number
  - The Parts of a Patent Document
  - Finding Patents by Inventor and Assignee
  - Finding Patents by Claimed Subject Matter
- Sources for Additional Information



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- Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries
  - <http://www.uspto.gov/go/ptdl/>
- USPTO News and Notices
  - <http://www.uspto.gov/main/newsandnotices.htm>
- USPTO Contact Center
  - <http://www.uspto.gov/main/contacts.htm>
  - **1 (800) 786-9199**
- Inventor Assistance Center
  - <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/pacmain.html>