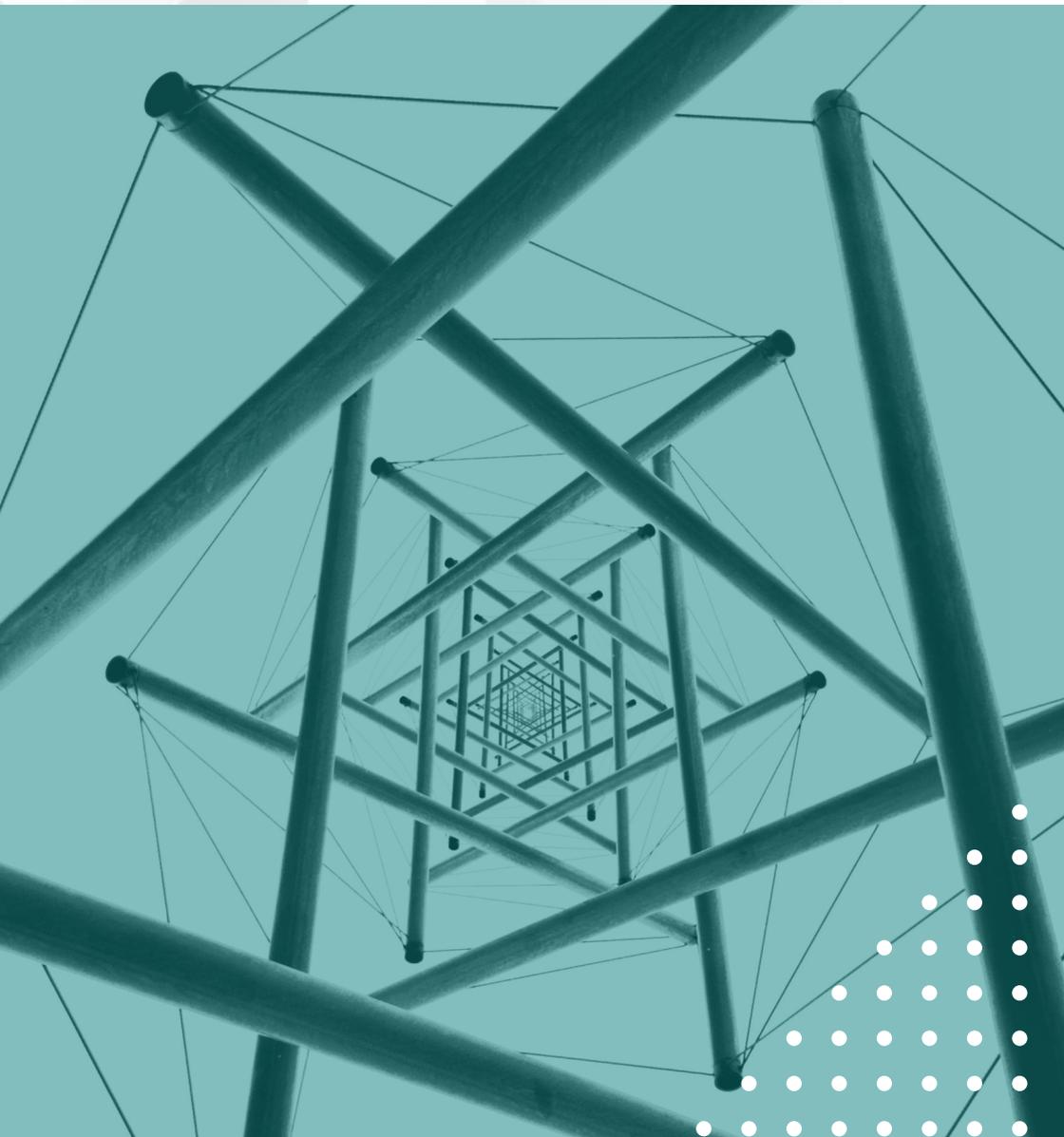


# Patent Searches





RWS is the world leader in intellectual property (IP) search services. Traditional research solutions combined with crowdsourcing, all powered by proprietary, innovative technology.

With rigorous search protocols certified to ISO 9001 and industry-leading resources including PatBase and AOP Connect, we are the preferred search partner for companies, law firms, licensing organizations and tech transfer offices worldwide.



#### In-House Analysts

Our professional team of staff searchers



#### Global Crowd

The power behind our crowdsourced searches



#### PatBase

Our patent search database



#### AOP Connect

Our IP/prior art research platform



#### Offices Worldwide

With search offices in the United Kingdom, the United States and China

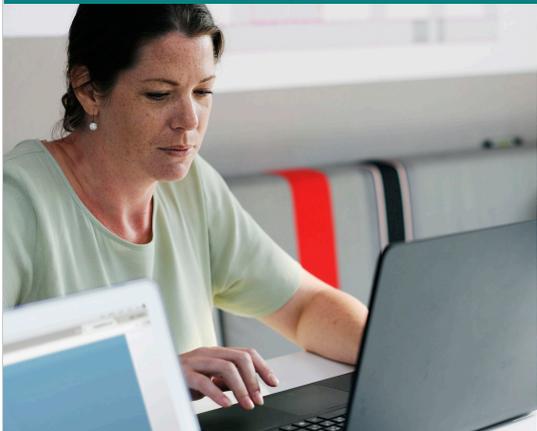


#### Certifications you can count on

To ISO 9001, ISO 17100, ISO14001 and ISO 27001

We offer a full suite of IP services, tools and technologies to serve your needs from concept through patent enforcement.

With offices in Europe, North and South America and APAC, RWS is truly an established partner you can trust.

R & D	Patent	License	Enforce
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Patent translations</li> <li> Patent searches</li> <li> PatBase</li> <li> AOP Connect</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> PCT National Phase Entry</li> <li> Direct filing</li> <li> European Validation</li> <li> Patent translations</li> <li> Patent searches</li> <li> inovia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Patent translations</li> <li> Patent searches</li> <li> PatBase</li> <li> AOP Connect</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Patent translations</li> <li> Patent searches</li> <li> PatBase</li> <li> AOP Connect</li> </ul>

## Why choose RWS?

### Experience

More than 60 years of proven experience covering North and South America, Europe and APAC.

### Dedicated Team

RWS offers a unique combination of specialist patent researchers.

### Our Services are Delivered by:

- Study Managers, typically former patent examiners or attorneys
- In-house, technically-qualified Patent Analysts
- A Crowd of over 40,000 skilled researchers, the best of whom qualify as our Experts

### Flexibility

Consultative search strategies are formulated to fit any budget or deadline, with flat rate searches and custom search packages available.

### Search Strategies

Our traditional search services balance classification, keywords, applicant/inventor names, and citations to ensure maximum search coverage. Our crowdsourced search services allow you to extend that coverage beyond traditional databases and into non-patent literature (NPL). Regardless of approach, we align our services to fit your budget needs and search objectives.

### Quality

RWS was the first search company to receive ISO 9001 quality certification in 1992. Our rigorous quality protocols ensure consistency across all our platforms and offerings.

### Speed

We provide detailed estimates usually within 24 hours and our services deliver near real-time results with completion times between 48 hours and 8 weeks, depending on the type of search.

## Resources

Our extensive research resources include PatBase, our own search database comprised of +106 commercial and patent office databases, together with unparalleled access to crowdsourced, non-patent literature from our Crowd.



Developed in conjunction with Minesoft and released in 2003, PatBase is a cutting-edge international patent database. PatBase has over 50,000 subscribers and covers over 57 million patent families, with historical information dating back to the early 1900s.



## AOP Connect

AOP Connect is a web-based review platform for organizing, storing and controlling the flow of references and prior art related to IP searches. With AOP Connect you can keep all of your prior art in one central location, under one simple login and gain the ability to highlight, map, rank and keyword search all of your prior art documentation. All results from your searches are automatically uploaded to this platform, in near real-time, giving you insights into the search itself while it is happening, including demographics and information on the researchers participating in your study.

Across the entire IP lifecycle, we will ensure you are making the most informed business decisions.

At every stage of the patent lifecycle there are opportunities to leverage critical information and determine the best decisions for your intellectual property. These key decisions optimize the value of your portfolio.

## Patent Lifecycle

### Research & Development



Types of searches  
State of the Art, Scan, Collection,  
Freedom-to-Operate, Landscaping

Needs  
Identify new markets, benchmark  
competitors, identify innovation  
opportunities

### Patent



Types of searches  
Novelty, Freedom-to-Operate

Needs  
Determine patentability or novelty

### Monetize



Types of searches  
Validity, Freedom-to-Operate,  
Evidence of Use, Landscaping

Needs  
Commercialize and value IP portfolio

### Enforce



Types of searches  
Validity, Freedom-to-Operate, Competitor watches,  
Evidence of Use, File wrapper, Legal status

Needs  
Defense, Licensing,  
Licensing Compliance,  
Brand Protection



### Absolute confidentiality

All Analysts and Experts sign non-disclosure agreements. Client-specific NDAs can also be signed as required. All crowd-based searches and crowdsourced references are subject to a researcher agreement and NDA. Searches can be tailored for any privacy need – including invitation-only studies and privacy gating.



### Rigorous search protocols:

- > Requests allocated to Analysts with an appropriate technical background
- > Search strategies checked and approved through peer review
- > Daily progress reviews and monitoring

# Search services

## Novelty/Patentability



A search performed by our in-house Patent Analysts, using customized strategies, to identify prior art that is material to the novelty or patentability of an invention.

### Scan

A concise “first-look” to identify prior art relevant to the key concepts of a proposed invention. Worldwide coverage, across all PatBase records.

### Standard

A systematic search to assist with determining the novelty / patentability of a new invention or for identifying the likely impact of the examination process. Worldwide coverage, across all PatBase records.

### FlashSearch

A fast, fully confidential, invitation-only study carried out within two business days by ten researchers from the Crowd.

## Validity



A search to test the strength and scope of an invention with patent protection. Range of services leveraging the combined power of our in-house Patent Analysts and Crowd Experts.

### Patent Standard

Locate the most pertinent patent material relevant to the claim(s) of interest; aimed at opposition cases.

### Patent+

An in-depth, patent-focused investigation using the whole suite of available search tools; aimed at more critical matters such as pre-litigation.

### ExpertSearch(+)

A confidential, invitation-only, search performed by 2 -4 Crowd Experts and supported by in-house Analysts and a Study Manager; aimed at (pre-)litigation.

### CrowdSearch Mini

A confidential, invitation-only search performed by 10 Crowd Experts, supported by in-house Analysts and a Study Manager; aimed at (pre-)litigation.

### CrowdSearch(+)

Deploys the full Crowd, supported by Crowd Experts and in-house Analysts to provide the most comprehensive study possible. Search combines full patent coverage with the most extensive NPL search available.

## Freedom-to-Operate



A Freedom-to-Operate search identifies cases relevant to the manufacture, sale or use of a specific product or process. Our tiered pricing structure provides a range of options; standard coverage is 20/25 years but can be extended on request.

### Level 1

Focused strategies are used in order to locate the most pertinent cases. Very effective for projects requiring limited geographical coverage and/or basic technologies.

### Level 2

A more in-depth investigation using the whole suite of available search tools in order to extend the reach of a Level 1 search to identify cases with subsisting claims which may encompass a proposed article, apparatus or process.

## Landscape



Overview of patenting activity and scientific literature to highlight research trends. Analysis conducted via PatBase Analytics and other visualization tools.

### Technology Snapshot

A short report that analyzes the patent landscape within a given field to highlight yearly trends and top filers/jurisdictions.

### Competitor Snapshot

A short report to determine filing trends and key subject areas for a given competitor.

### Business Analysis

Using both patent and non-patent literature, perform various forms of business analysis such as: assess innovation white space to inform business and R&D strategy, perform forward-looking technical and competitive assessments or technology trend analysis.

### Comprehensive Analysis

An in-depth report including commentary/observations tailored to a specific request. Useful for identifying IP white space, assisting with the planning of R&D and investment/licensing strategies. Can be used as an add-on to large scale FTO searches or as a standalone project.

Note: All searches are conducted from a technical point of view and RWS does not offer any legal opinion on identified references.

## Patent Watch



Alerts to keep up-to-date in your chosen field by tracking technology developments (classification and/or keywords) or competitor activity (applicants and/or inventors) according to a pre-agreed alert profile, the results of which are delivered directly to your inbox. Coverage can be worldwide across all PatBase records or with a specific geographical focus.

## Evidence of Use (EoU)



A search utilizing crowdsourcing to identify opportunities for the monetization and valuation of patent portfolios. Evidence of Use is a means of identifying marketplace value, standard essential relevancy, and even infringement, by mapping patent claims to products, product literature, and/or standards and gathering evidence to support those mappings. Ideally these searches are carried out on batches of patents but they can be performed on as few as three patents and can even be tailored for uses in brand protection and licensing compliance.

Contact us for customized search proposals and for details of other RWS search and information services including:

- Design searches
- Sequence similarity searches
- Structure searches that can be supplemented with keyword and/or molecular formula searches
- State of the art, collection searches
- Legal status information, file wrappers, copies of technical papers, articles and patents
- Talent sourcing skilled researchers hand-picked from our unique
- Crowd to fill immediate short-term staffing

# Platform Solutions

## PatBase

PatBase is a global platform and the only commercial database designed by professional searchers, for professional searchers. Over 50,000 users worldwide have access to +109 million patent and related documents on a user-friendly interface available in English, Japanese and Chinese.

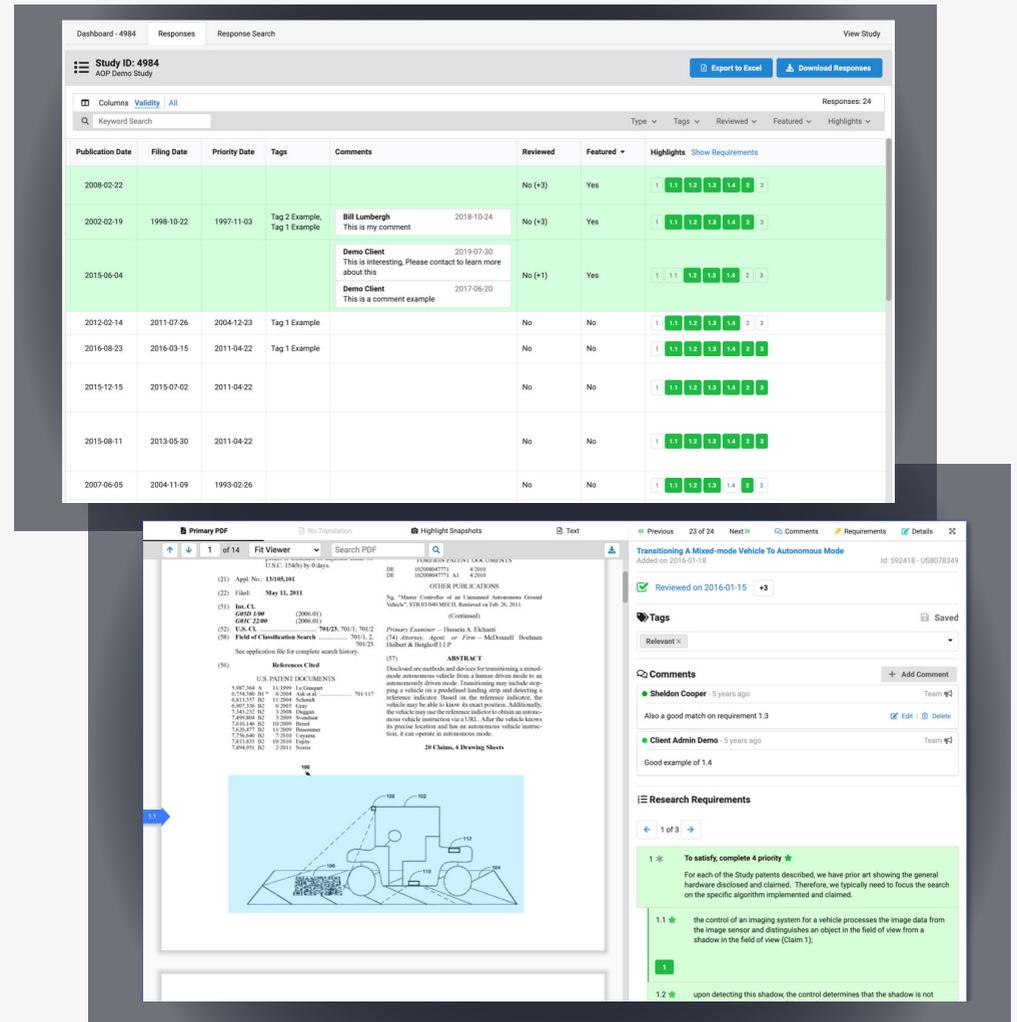


- > A single, global patent family database
- > Organized into +57 million patent families saving time and reducing duplication
- > Used for legal IP searches by a range of IP professionals

Our platform solutions address critical search needs not found elsewhere, enhancing the value and user experience of your studies.

## AOP Connect

AOP Connect allows you to store, review, search full-text, rank, highlight and organize your prior art all in one central location. Quickly view performance statistics and progress from all of your crowdsourced searches, both ongoing and completed.







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IP Services without compromise.  
Quality and value.  
Simplify and streamline.

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[www.rws.com](http://www.rws.com) | [rws@rws.com](mailto:rws@rws.com)