

Main Points of Revisions in Quality Management Manual for Patent Examination

The following items are the revisions made to Quality Management Manual for Patent Examination (hereinafter, "Quality Manual") dated on the first of July, 2022. These revisions mainly aim to align the Quality Manual with changes in the quality management system made after the previous revisions dated on the 27th of July, 2016.

- 1** II. 1. (1) (ii) Consultations (p.18)
 - ✓ An addition associated with the added style of consultations

- 2** II. 1. (1) (iii) Interview examinations (p.19)
 - ✓ A revision associated with an update of the Interview Guidelines

- 3** II. 1. (2) (iii) Quality Management Officers' checking of cases to be scrutinized (pp. 22-23)
 - ✓ An addition associated with the added method for examination divisions to evaluate examination quality

- 4** II. 1. (3) (ii) Information sharing in the organization (p. 24)
 - ✓ An addition associated with the expanded method to share information, such as search guidelines of each technical field

- 5** II. 1. (3) (iii) Acquiring knowledge and improving capabilities through training (p. 25)
 - ✓ An addition associated with the added method to acquire knowledge and improve capabilities (quality tests)

- 6** II. 2. (1) (i) Quality audits (p. 29)
 - ✓ An addition associated with the expanded auditing practices (quality reports)

- 7** II. 2. (1) (i) Quality audits (p. 29)
 - ✓ An addition associated with utilization of an online system in the quality management practices

- 8** II. 2. (3) Subcommittee on Examination Quality Management (p. 34)
 - ✓ A revision associated with the change of organizations in charge

- 9** III. 1. Exchanging opinions with users (p. 38)
- ✓ An addition associated with the added point of view in opinion exchanges with users
- 10** III. 2. Improving the quality of the patent descriptions and enhancing prior art searches conducted by applicants, patent attorneys, etc (p. 39)
- ✓ A revision associated with the name change of the e-learning service
- 11** The row of “Directors, etc.” in Definitions of words and terms (p. 1)
- ✓ An addition associated with the post added to the list
- 12** Minor revisions of words, including uniform expressions