

- I. IPC
- II. FI
- III. F-term
- IV. Reference tool**

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Next, I will explain reference tools: first for the IPC, and then for FI and F-term.

IV. Reference tool

A. IPC Home Page – 1/2

<http://www.wipo.int/classifications/ipc/en/>



Cited from <http://www.wipo.int/ipcpub/>

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You can access technical information on the IPC from the top menu of the IPC website.

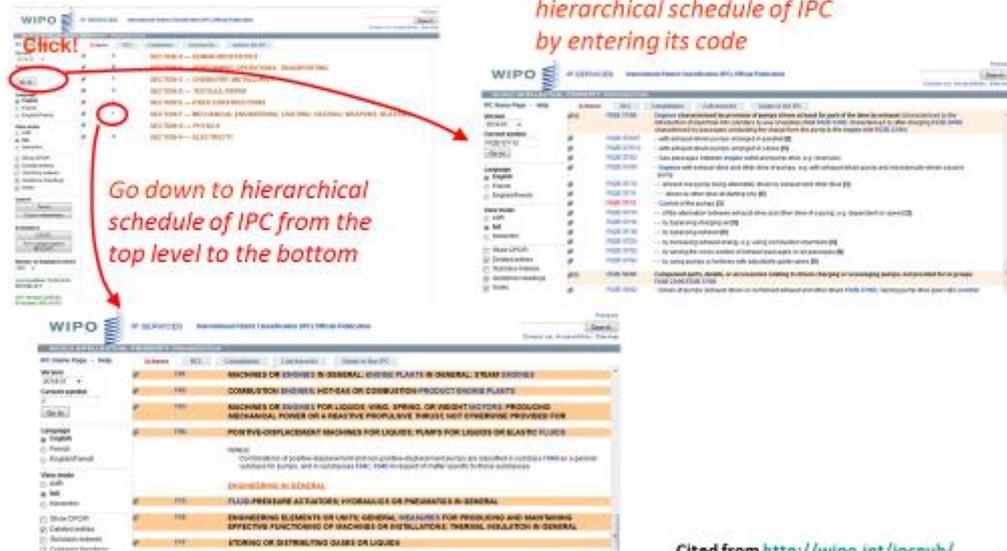
IV. Reference tool

A. IPC Home Page –2/2

Click!

Go down to hierarchical schedule of IPC from the top level to the bottom

Jump to a specific point in the hierarchical schedule of IPC by entering its code



Cited from <http://wipo.int/ipcpub/>

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There are two ways to obtain IPC data.

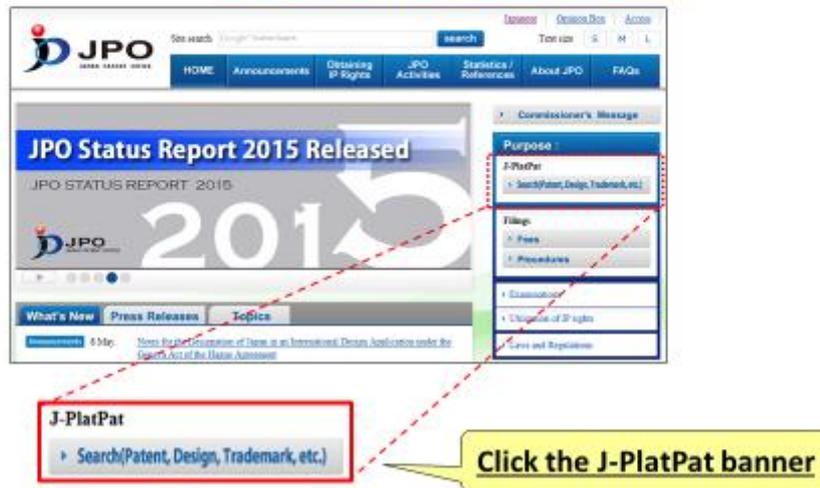
You can go down a hierarchical schedule from the section level by clicking the alphabetical link corresponding to the section.

Entering IPC in the search box will take you to the IPC hierarchy you entered.

IV. Reference tool

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 1/14

JPO home page <http://www.jpo.go.jp/index.htm>



The screenshot shows the JPO homepage with a search bar at the top and a navigation menu. The main content area features a large banner for the 'JPO Status Report 2015 Released'. On the right side, there is a 'Commissioner's Message' sidebar. Within this sidebar, a 'J-PlatPat' banner is highlighted with a red dashed line. Below the screenshot, a red-bordered box contains the text 'J-PlatPat' and 'Search(Patent, Design, Trademark, etc.)'. A yellow callout bubble with a red border points to the 'J-PlatPat' banner in the screenshot, containing the text 'Click the J-PlatPat banner'.

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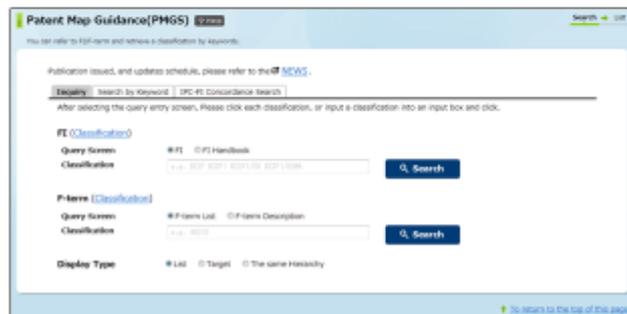
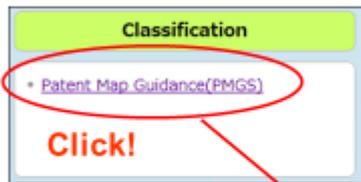
You can get FI lists, F-term lists and definitions of F-term keys from Patent Map Guidance, or PMGS, in J-Plat Pat.

To access J-PlatPat, click on the “J-PlatPat” banner on the JPO homepage.

IV. Reference tool

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 2/14

Top menu of the J-PlatPat

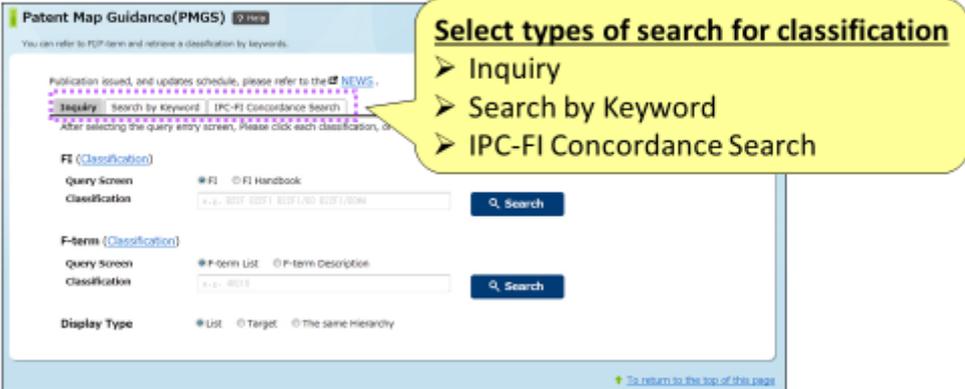


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You can access Patent Map Guidance, or PMGS, from the menu on the J-PlatPat website.

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 3/14



The screenshot shows the Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) interface. A yellow callout box on the right side of the interface contains the following text:

Select types of search for classification

- Inquiry
- Search by Keyword
- IPC-FI Concordance Search

The interface itself has three main sections: "FI (Classification)", "F-term (Classification)", and "Display Type". Each section has a "Query Screen" and a "Classification" input field with a "Search" button. The "FI" section has radio buttons for "FI" and "FI Handbook". The "F-term" section has radio buttons for "F-term List" and "F-term Description". The "Display Type" section has radio buttons for "List", "Target", and "The same Hierarchy".

- ✓ Inquiry : **FI/F-term** search of specific **classification**
- ✓ Search by Keyword : **FI/F-term** search by using **keywords**
- ✓ IPC-FI Concordance Search : **FI** Search by using **IPC**

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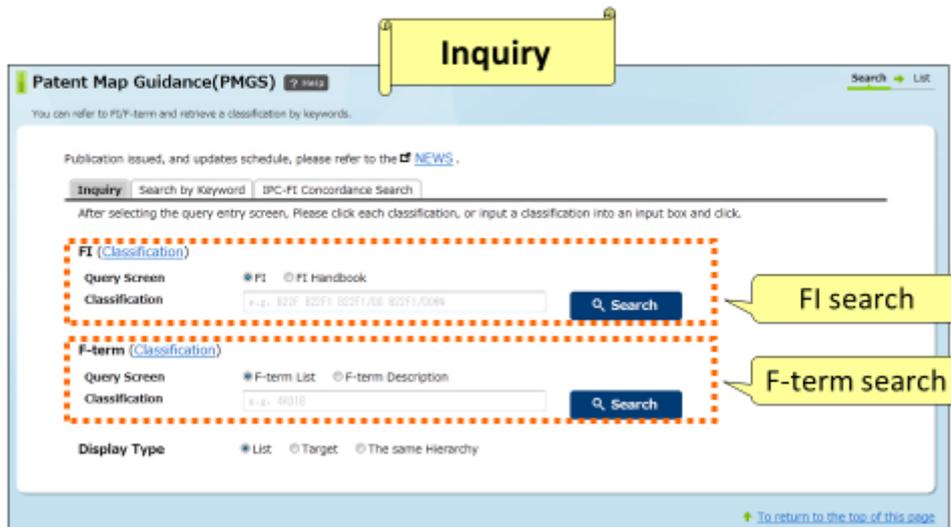
You can search for classification information from the PMGS page.

There are three ways to do this according to your purposes, which are as follows:

- 1) Use the "Inquiry" tab. Specify the FI or F-term and obtain the related classification information.
- 2) Use the "Search by Keyword" tab. Type in the keyword and obtain the related FI or F-term information.
- 3) Specify the IPC and obtain the related FI information. This is known as an "IPC-FI concordance search".

Let's look at each one in more detail.

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 4/14



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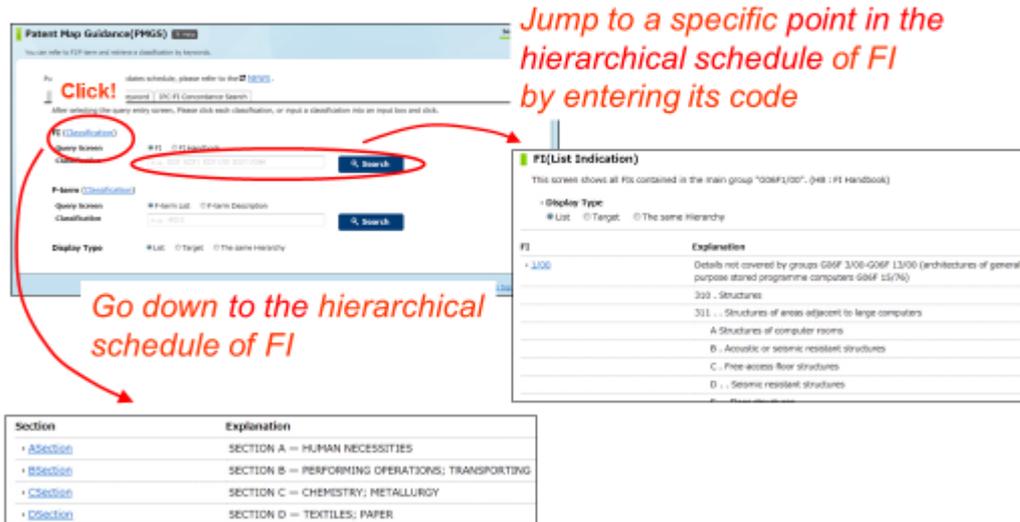
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First, I'll explain the "inquiry" tab and its function.

You can specify the FI or F-term and obtain related classification information.

IV. Reference tool

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 5/14



Click!

Jump to a specific point in the hierarchical schedule of FI by entering its code

Go down to the hierarchical schedule of FI

FI(List Indication)

This screen shows all FIs contained in the main group "06MF100". (448 : FI Handbook)

Display Type:
List Target The same Hierarchy

FI	Explanation
100	Details not covered by groups G06F 3/00-G06F 13/00 (architectures of general purpose stored programme computers G06F 15/76)
329	Structures
311	Structures of areas adjacent to large computers
A	Structures of computer rooms
B	Acoustic or seismic resistant structures
C	Free access floor structures
D	Seismic resistant structures
E	Floor structures

Section	Explanation
A Section	SECTION A == HUMAN NECESSITIES
B Section	SECTION B == PERFORMING OPERATIONS; TRANSPORTING
C Section	SECTION C == CHEMISTRY; METALLURGY
D Section	SECTION D == TEXTILES; PAPER

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There are two ways to acquire FI data using the "Inquiry" tab.

One way is to click on the "classification" link, which allows you to go down deeper from a section hierarchy.

Another way is to type the FI information into a search box.

This will take you to the corresponding FI hierarchy.

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 6/14

FI(List Indication)

This screen shows all FIs contained in the main group "G06F3/00". (HB : FI Handbook)

Display Type

List Target The same Hierarchy

FI	Explanation	Reference, etc.
300	Input arrangements for transferring data to be processed into a form capable of being handled by the computer; Output arrangements for transferring data from processing unit to output unit, e.g. interface arrangements [4]	5B041 HB
	A Related to connection, addition, cutoff, selection or switching the devices (W or Y takes precedence)	5B041 HB
	B . Active inserting or removal (inserting or withdrawing live wires) (Connections or disconnection without shutting off the power supply)	5B041 HB
	C . Non-contact connecting circuits (DC insulated connection)	5B041 HB
	D . . Optical coupling	5B041 HB
	E Optical transfer (including transfers with optical fibers) (including optical buses)	5B041 HB
	F Circuits for connecting or shutting off the bus lines (including circuit connection of abnormal buses) e.g. bus width conversion	5B041 HB
	G Bus driving circuits in general	5B041 HB
	H . Transmitters or receivers (including tristate buffers or latches)	5B041 HB

From FI, corresponding theme code can be known.

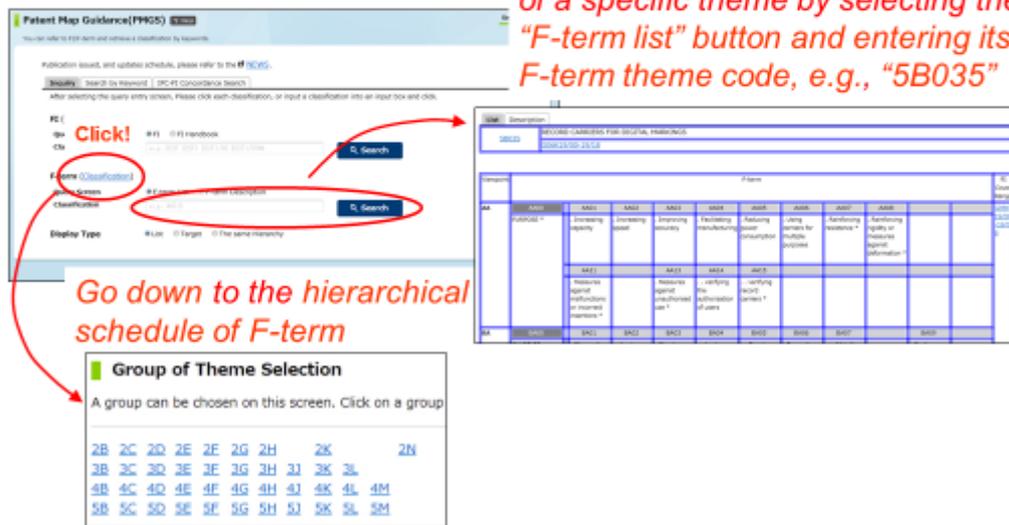
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This is an example of an FI list. In addition to the FI explanation, you can also obtain the FI's corresponding theme code.

IV. Reference tool

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 7/14

Jump to an F-term schedule of a specific theme by selecting the “F-term list” button and entering its F-term theme code, e.g., “5B035”



The screenshot shows the Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) interface. On the left, there are search options for 'F-term' and 'Classification'. A red circle highlights the 'F-term (Classification)' link, with a red arrow pointing to the 'F-term list' button. Another red circle highlights the 'Classification' search box, with a red arrow pointing to the 'Search' button. A red arrow also points from the 'F-term list' button to the 'F-term list' button on the right. The right side shows a table of F-term codes and their descriptions. Below the table, there is a 'Group of Theme Selection' section with a list of F-term codes.

Group of Theme Selection
A group can be chosen on this screen. Click on a group

2B	2C	2D	2E	2F	2G	2H	2K	2N		
3B	3C	3D	3E	3F	3G	3H	3I	3K	3L	
4B	4C	4D	4E	4F	4G	4H	4I	4K	4L	4M
5B	5C	5D	5E	5F	5G	5H	5I	5K	5L	5M

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There are two ways to acquire F-term data using the “inquiry” search function. One way is to click on the “classification” link, which allows you to select a theme code from the theme code list. Another way is to type the F-term theme code into a search box. This will take you to the corresponding F-term list.

IV. Reference tool

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 8/14

Inquiry Search by keyword IPC-FI Concordance Search

After selecting the query entry screen, please click each classification, or input a classification into an input box and click.

FI (Classification)

Query Screen FI FI Handbook

Classification

F-term (Classification)

Query Screen F-term List F-term Description

Classification

Display Type List Target The same Hierarchy

Jump to the definition of each term and other information of a specific theme by selecting the “F-term description” button and entering its theme code, e.g., “5B020”

Descriptions of F-terms

This screen displays a description of the F-term theme code “5B020”. about the point of view“AA”.

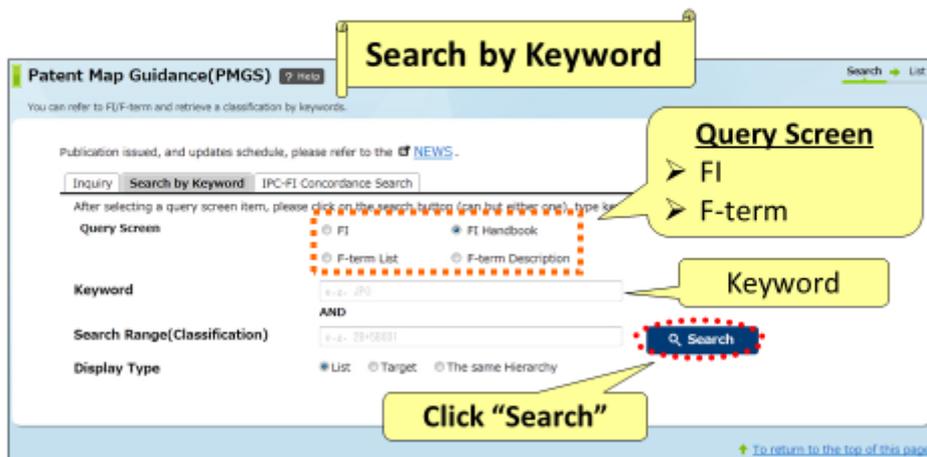
Term	Explanation
AA00	Input data This viewpoint covers the subject matter for data inputted with input devices. When input data are unknown, classification is not made under this viewpoint.
AA01	. Numbers
AA02	. Alphanumeric characters
AA03	. Kana This place covers the subject matter for kana input of word processors or the like.
AA04	. . Japanese syllabaries Example: A, I, U, E, O . . . in Kana

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You can obtain a definition of an F-term by checking the “F-term description” option, entering a theme code, and clicking the search button.

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 9/14



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The “search by keyword” function will be explained next.

By typing a specified keyword, you can search for the FI or F-term information related to that term.

First, you choose the “query screen” depending on whether you want to search for FI or F-term. Then, type the keyword in the search box and click the search button.

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 10/14

The search results list is displayed.

- Query Screen = FI
- Keyword = toy

Click the FI "**A41D11/00@K**".

FI	Explanation
A41D11/00@K	. Equipped with a toy
• A47G19/22@S	. having an accessory (toy , etc.)
• A63B69/04	. simulating the movement of ho

Click "A41D11/00@K"

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This shows the search results obtained by choosing FI as a "query screen" and entering the keyword "toy".

Let's click on A41D11/00@K from among the list in the search results, for example.

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 11/14

FI(List Indication)

This screen shows all FIs contained in the main group "A41D11/00", (HB : FI Handbook)

- Display Type
 List Target The same Hierarchy

FI	Explanation
• 11/00	Garments for children
	A Kinds of clothes for children
	B . Jackets
	C . Coverall
	D . . One-piece dresses
	E . Lower clothes
	F . . Lower clothes with chest and shoulder straps
	G . Overcoats
	H Functions of clothes for children
	J . Adjustment of height
	K . Equipped with a toy
	L . for both men and women

Main group "A41D11/00"

Clicked FI "A41D11/00@K"

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The whole list of the main group “A41D11/00” is then displayed

You can see that there are many FIs that are subdivisions of “A41D11/00”. “A41D11/00@K”, which you just clicked, is shown in the list. You will be able to browse the explanations of each FI.

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 12/14



The screenshot shows the 'Patent Map Guidance (PMGS)' interface. At the top, there is a yellow callout box labeled 'IPC-FI Concordance Search'. Below this, the page title is 'Patent Map Guidance (PMGS)' and there are 'Search' and 'List' buttons. A note says 'You can refer to FI/FI-term and retrieve a classification by keywords.' Below that, there is a link to 'NEWS'. The main content area has three tabs: 'Inquiry', 'Search by Keyword', and 'IPC-FI Concordance Search'. Below the tabs, it says 'Input IPC code to the query box and click Search button.' There is a 'Classification' input field with the example 'e.g. A61B' and a 'Search' button. Below the input field, there are radio buttons for 'Display Type': 'List' (selected), 'Target', and 'The same Hierarchy'. At the bottom right, there is a link 'To return to the top of this page'.

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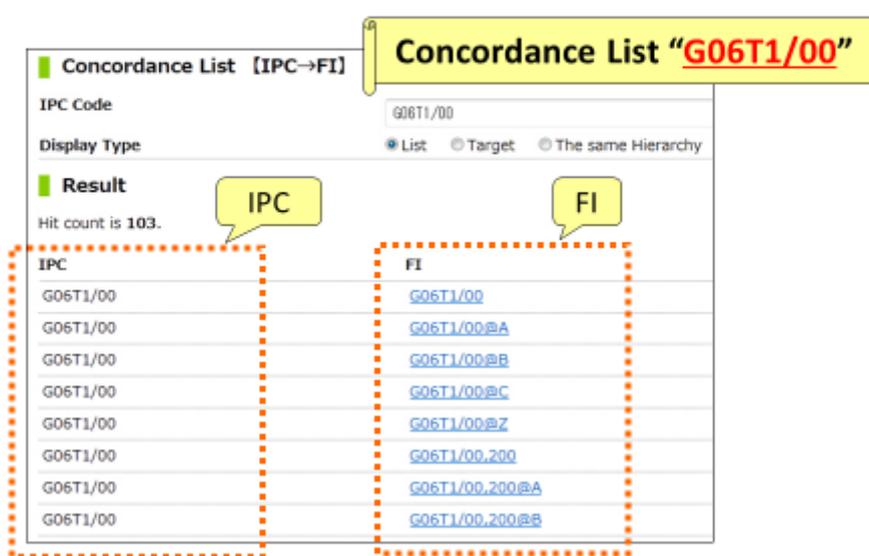
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Lastly, I will explain searches using the “IPC-FI concordance search” function.

Click on the tab “IPC-FI concordance search” and specify the IPC to obtain the corresponding FI information.

If you already know the target IPC, type it in a search box and click the search button.

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 13/14



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This example of the display shows a concordance list.

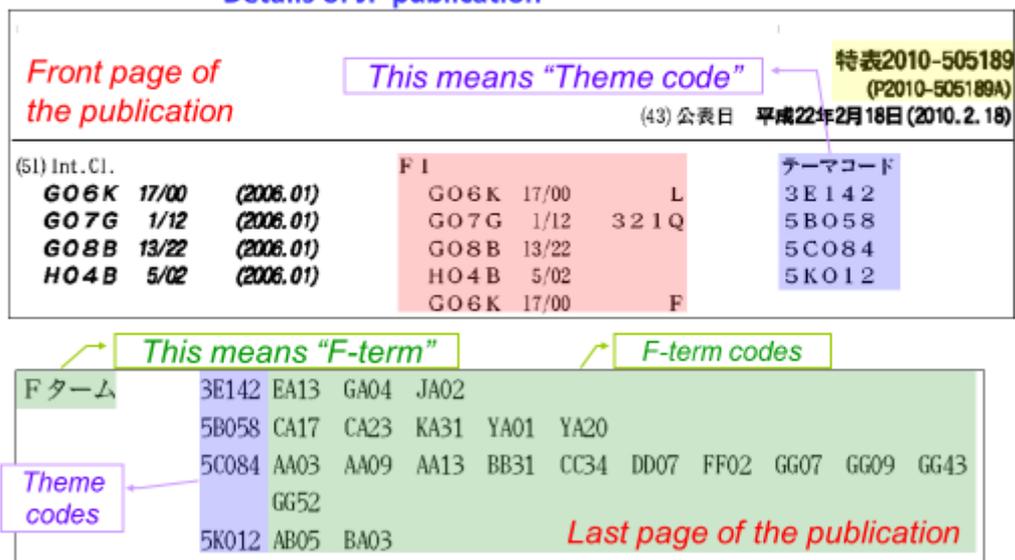
You're looking at the search result obtained by typing IPC "G06T1/00" in a search box.

FIs are listed on the right side, all of which fall under the IPC "G06T1/00", which is shown on the left side.

This is the end of the introduction to PMGS.

IV. Reference tool

B. Patent Map Guidance (PMGS) – 14/14 Details of JP publication



Front page of the publication

特表2010-505189 (P2010-505189A)
(43) 公表日 平成22年2月18日 (2010.2.18)

This means "Theme code"

(51) Int. Cl.	FI			テーマコード
G06K 17/00 (2006.01)	G06K 17/00		L	3E142
G07G 1/12 (2006.01)	G07G 1/12	321Q		5B058
G08B 13/22 (2006.01)	G08B 13/22			5C084
H04B 5/02 (2006.01)	H04B 5/02			5K012
	G06K 17/00		F	

Last page of the publication

This means "F-term"

F-term codes

Fターム	Theme codes
3E142 EA13 GA04 JA02	
5B058 CA17 CA23 KA31 YA01 YA20	
5C084 AA03 AA09 AA13 BB31 CC34 DD07 FF02 GG07 GG09 GG43	
GG52	
5K012 AB05 BA03	

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Finally, I will explain how to obtain the classification information assigned to the Japanese patent publication.

The classification information assigned to the application can be very helpful in cases where there is a Japanese patent family with the patent application to be searched.

These are the partial images of the front and last pages of the Japanese patent publication information.

However, please note that the layout of the patent publication information may vary according to the year of publication.

Generally speaking, FI and F-term are posted on the front and last pages, although it depends on the year of publication.

Now we have finished the patent classification lecture.

As you can see, FI and F-term are very useful tools to use when searching for Japanese patent publications.

You can access the information regarding FI and F-term through the J-PlatPat. We hope all of you are utilizing this resource!