

2023 - IPlytics - Closing the SEP Transparency Gap Part 1:

How to Deal with Data Accuracy, Over Declaration, and Blanket Declaration Challenges

Tim Pohlmann CEO @ IPlytics GmbH

Video Recording: https://youtu.be/-pcjdwdUpd0

IPlytics Webinar Series 2023

Part 1: "How to Deal with Data Accuracy Challenges" July 27th, 2023

Register: https://www.iplytics.com/events/upcoming/

 Part 2: "How to Deal with SEP Determination Valuation Challenges" August 22nd, 2023

Register: https://www.iplytics.com/events/upcoming/

III. <u>Part 3:</u> "How to Deal with FRAND Determination Challenges" **September 19**th, 2023

Register: https://www.iplytics.com/events/upcoming/



Today's Speaker









- CEO and founder of IPlytics.
- 2023 IAM Strategist 300. Recognized thought leader.
- **Economic expert** and author of studies for the EU Commission, WIPO and German government.
- Appointed faculty lecturer (TU Berlin, EPF Lausanne, CEIPI Strasbourg, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law)
- Author of over 50 industry articles published at <u>IAM</u> <u>Magazine</u>, <u>IPWatchdog</u> and <u>Managing IP</u>.

















Today's Agenda

- The Challenge of Retrieving Declared Patent Data
- II. The Challenge of Matching Declared Patent Data
- III. The Challenge of Cleaning Declared SEP Data
- IV. The Challenge of Expanding Declared Patent Data
- V. The Challenge of Ultimate Ownership Declared Patent Data
- VI. The Challenge of Blanket Patent Declarations
- VII. Takeaways.



I. The Challenge of Retrieving Declared Patent Data



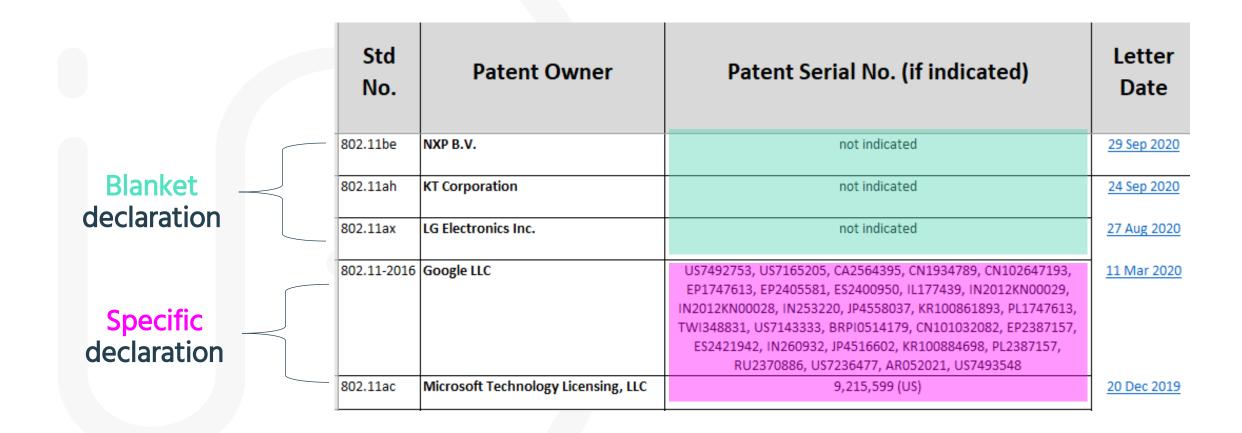
How to retrieve declared SEP data?

Standard Setting Organization (SSO) Websites

- Declarations of potential SEPs are **not referenced on the final standard** but hosted on the **SSO's websites** such as *IPR.ETSI.org, IEEE LOA Records, IPR ITU-T, ISO Standards...*
- SOO's websites list all declaration letters that were submitted by the SSO's members.
- As to the SSO's bylaws members must make timely declarations about patents potentially essential to the standard.
 - Some SSO's encourage specific declarations such as ETSI, ATSC, ISO, IEC
 - ➤ Other SSO's allow blanket declarations such as IEEE or ITU-T



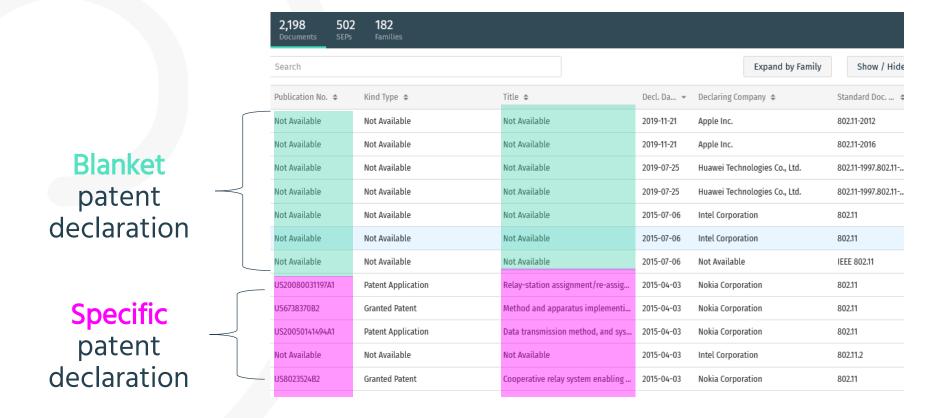
Databases format differences - IEEE example





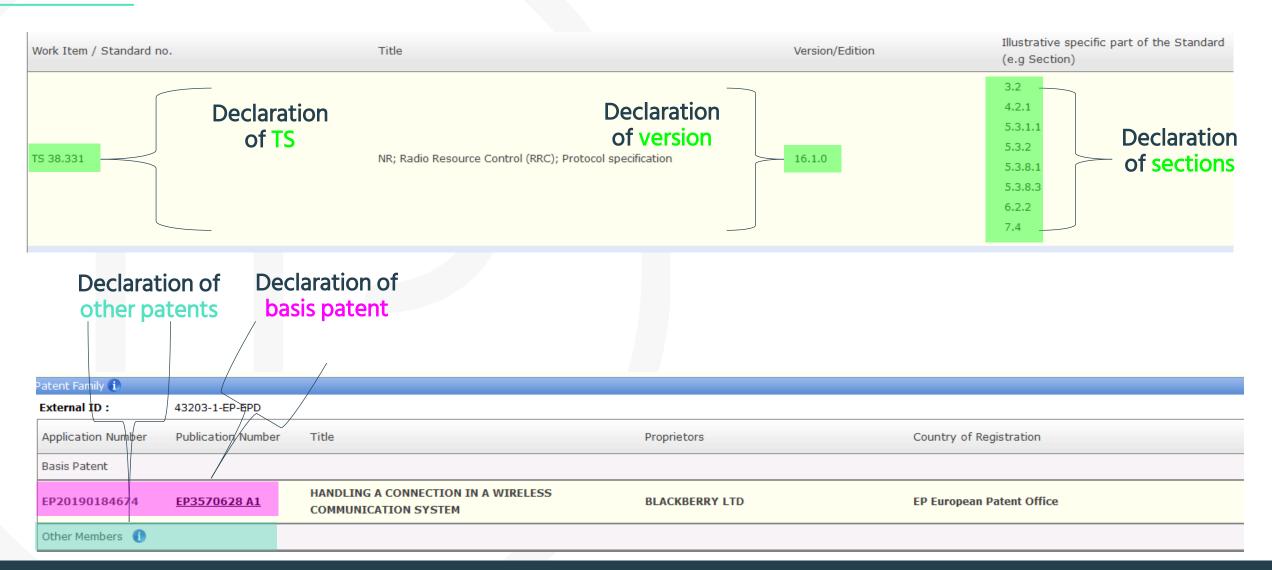
Databases format differences – IPlytics integration

IPlytics data integration of all specific and blanket patent declaration



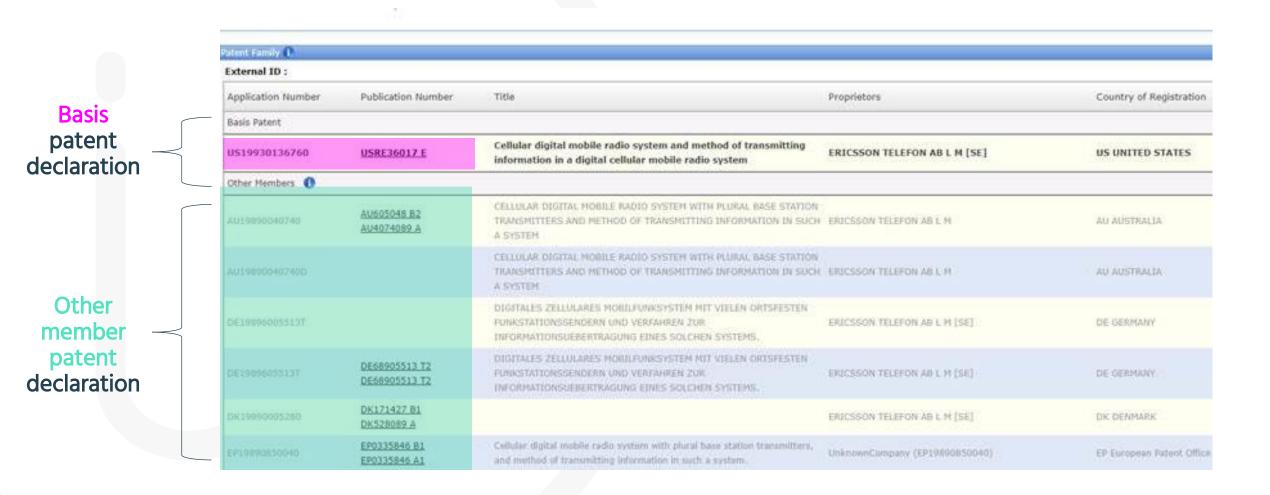


Databases format differences - ETSI example





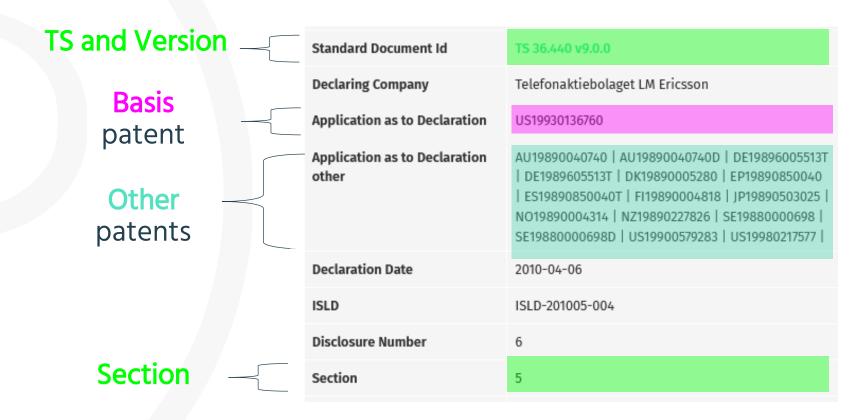
Databases format differences - ETSI example





Databases format differences – IPlytics integration

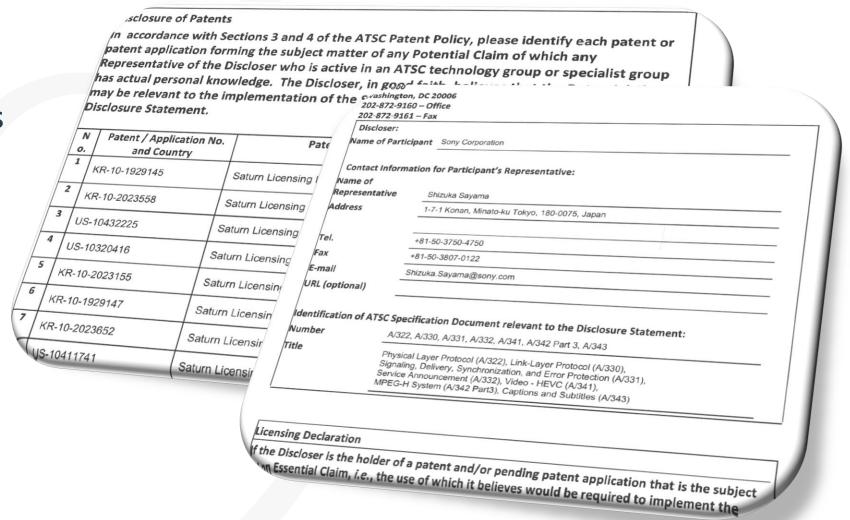
integration of basis and other patents as well as TS, version and section information.





Databases format differences

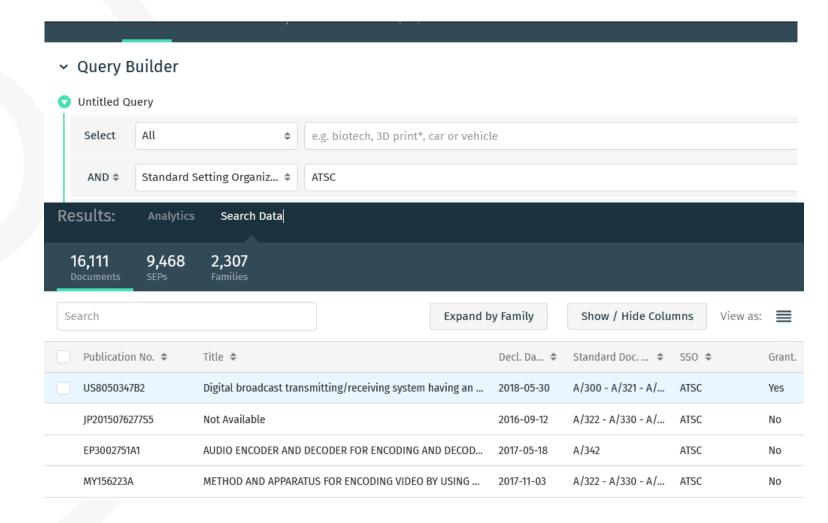
PDF scan of disclosure letters e.g. ISO, ATSC, ARIB





Databases format differences - IPlytics integration

Technology to parse PDF files and integrate and index all declared patent numbers





II. The Challenge of Matching Declared Patent Data



How to match, normalize, categorize declared SEP data?

SEP declaration data is messy and often unstructured and subject to errors:

- Declared patent numbers may be **unpublished**, **include typos** are **wrongly parsed** from OCR and some numbers are **ambiguous** when the **kind code is missing**.
- Companies self-declare lists of patents in various formats:
 - > HTML Websites
 - Excel/CSV spreadsheets
 - ► Word Docs
 - > PDF scans
- Companies declare patent numbers in various formats as well as various patent status e.g.:
 - Unpublished priority/provision application
 - Published application
 - Granted patent number



How to match, normalize, categorize declared SEP data?

> Patent number **format differences** need normalization:

Declared number	Type according to declaration	Match type	Number modification	Kind code	Matched application number
WO2006KR <mark>0</mark> 3250	application	application	wo_year_cc_drop_zeroes	False	WO2006KR3250A
KR2002 <mark>00</mark> 63942	application	application	cc_year_drop_zeroes	False	KR200263942A
HK2001 <mark>0</mark> 104144	application	application	cc_year_drop_zeroes	False	HK2001104144A
KR1998 <mark>00</mark> 53228	application	application	cc_year_drop_zeroes	False	KR199853228A
KR1999 <mark>00</mark> 54258	application	application	cc_year_drop_zeroes	False	KR199954258A
US2006 <mark>0</mark> 420323	application	application	cc_year_drop_zeroes	False	US2006420323A
US <mark>2011</mark> 13303489	application	application	cc_drop_year	False	US13303489A
US2005 <mark>0</mark> 218277	application	application	cc_year_drop_zeroes	False	US2005218277A



Monitoring SEP Matching Performance

Data Source	This week	Last week	Previous week	Year start	Target
ETSI Working Number Recall	96.52	96.51	96.51	88.14	>=95
Access Adv. Working Number Recall	90.9	90.9	90.9	56.37	>=90
ITUT Working Number Recall	93.94	93.07	93.07	60.81	>=90
MPEG LA Working Number Recall	95.62	95.62	95.62	70.17	>=90
SISVEL Working Number Recall	94.82	94.82	94.82	3	>=90
IEEE Working Number Recall	94.31	94.24	94.24	90.03	>=90
Via Licensing Working Number Recall	92.32	92.32	92.32	56.58	>=90
IEC Working Number Recall	97.09	97.09	97.09	96.11	>=90
ISO Working Number Recall	90.37	90.37	90.37	79.1	>=90
ATSC Working Number Recall	71.28	69.5	69.5	61.33	>=90
Wireless Pow. Working Number Recall	95.7	95.34	95.34	72.51	>=90
ISO/IEC Working Number Recall	89.61	89.51	89.51	80.57	>=90
ITUR Working Number Recall	17.25	17.25	17.25	15.72	>=90
SAE Working Number Recall	100	100	100	100	>=90
IETF Working Number Recall	94.03	94.03	94.03	47.1	>=90



III. The Challenge of Cleaning Declared Patent Data



How to match, normalize, categorize declared SEP data?

False positive matches:

• ~30% of all declared patents are ambiguous (one patent matches two patent families) which may introduce false positive matches

Ruling out false positive matches:

- Check if declaring company corresponds to applicant, assignee or highest parent of the matched patent.
- Check if IPC/CPC of matched patent corresponds to a given list of relevant IPC/CPC.
- Check if publication date corresponds relevant time-span.

- → Algorithms that identifies and filters out false positive patents
- → Manual double check to improve above algorithm



Monitoring SEP Filtering Performance

	Α	В	С	D	E
1	Metric	This week	Last week	Previous week	Year start
2	ETSI Multiple Applications per Working Number	0.17%	0.17%		0.17%
3	Access Advance Multiple Applications per Working	6.42%	6.42%		6.42%
4	ITUT Multiple Applications per Working Number	7.52%	7.52%		7.52%
5	MPEG LA Multiple Applications per Working Numb	NaN	NaN		NaN
6	SISVEL Multiple Applications per Working Number	3.03%	3.06%		3.06%
7	IEEE Multiple Applications per Working Number	2.11%	2.26%		2.26%
8	Via Licensing Multiple Applications per Working Nu	NaN	NaN		NaN
9	IEC Multiple Applications per Working Number	0%	0%		0%
.0	ISO Multiple Applications per Working Number	5.83%	5.88%		5.88%
11	ATSC Multiple Applications per Working Number	1.77%	1.84%		1.84%
.2	Wireless Power Consortium Multiple Applications	1.34%	1.34%		1.34%
.3	ISO/IEC Multiple Applications per Working Number	2.24%	2.24%		2.24%
.4	ITUR Multiple Applications per Working Number	0%	0%		0%
.5	SAE Multiple Applications per Working Number	0%	0%		0%
.6	IETF Multiple Applications per Working Number	1.91%	1.98%		1.98%



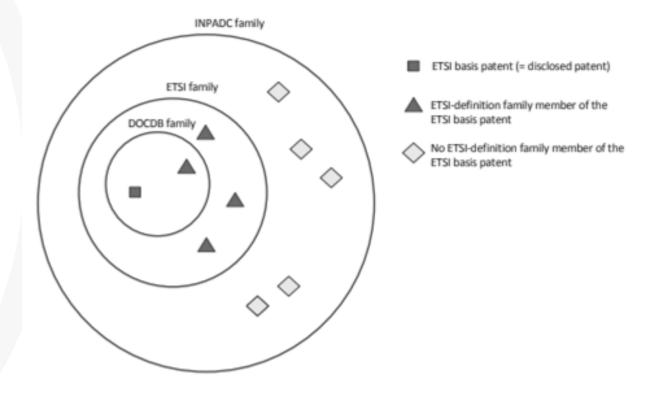
IV. The Challenge of Expanding Declared Patent Data



Data enhancement – missing family counterparts

ETSI Patent Family – basis patent

• The FRAND obligation covers all ETSI family (simple family DOCDB) members of initially declared so called "basis patents". In other words, the ETSI FRAND obligation only requests the declaring company to declare at least one patent family member (ETSI family definition) assuming all other family members are covered by the FRAND commitment.





Data enhancement – missing family counterparts

Patent Family Expansion - ETSI

- ETSI expands its database by ETSI family members through the API of the worldwide.espacenet.com, however this extension does not cover many declared "basis patent" from offices such as WO, JP, KR and CN.
- Plytics therefore matches the missing "basis patent" family members to IP 5 granted patent family counterparts.
- As of June 2022, IPlytics added 56,882 US, EP, CN, KR and JP patent counterparts where at least one family member (ETSI family definition) was declared.

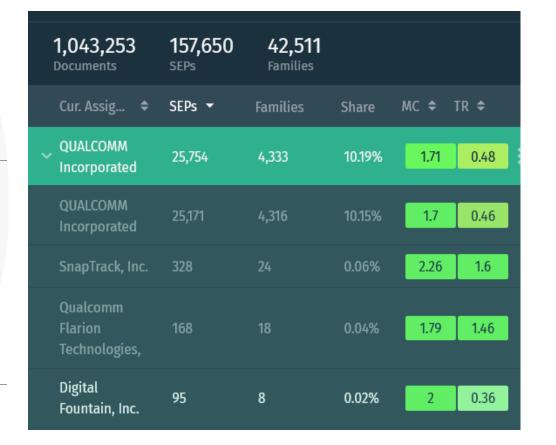


V. The Challenge of Ultimate Ownership Declared Patent Data



Corporate Tree Data

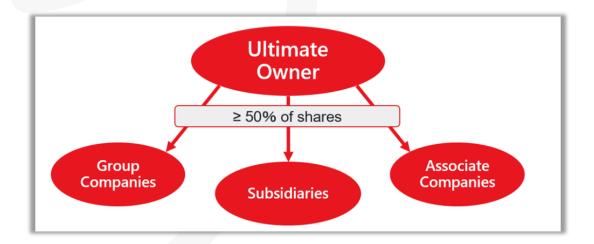
 There are variations of assignee names as well as subsidiary patent owners





Ultimate Owner Data

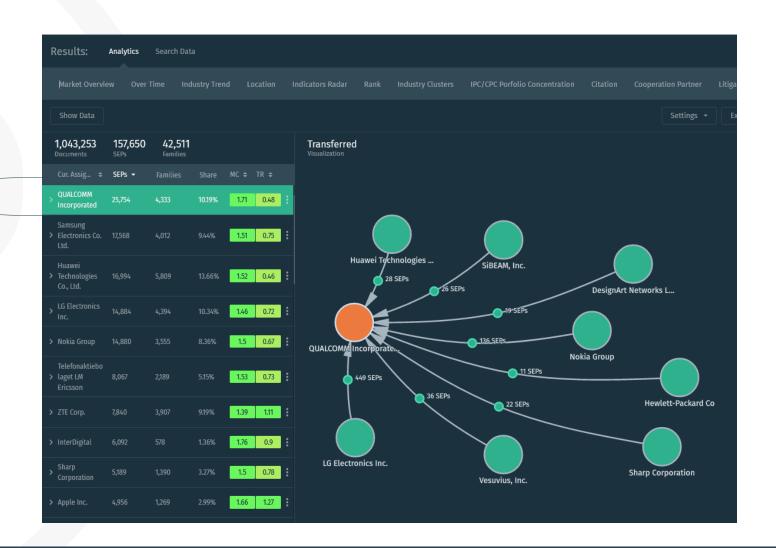
- For the correct evaluation of patent portfolios, it is crucial to know the ultimate owner of each patent family.
- An ultimate owner has no known majority shareholder and owns patent families that belong to its portfolio either directly or through its group companies, subsidiaries, and/or associate companies (each being majority-owned by the Ultimate Owner who holds at least 50% of shares).





Latest assignee data

The portfolio analysis aggregates patents as to the ultimate owner field by normalizing names and make use of corporate tree data





VI. The Challenge of Blanket Patent Declarations



Video Codec patent declaration data

Available video codec declaration data:

- O IUT-T patent declaration database include over 70% so called "blanket" declarations → Companies state to own video codec SEPs without proving lists of declared patents.
- Patent pools such as MPEG LA, Access Advance or Velos Media only cover a fraction of the video codec patent owners.
- We identify almost 150 entities that have submitted standards contributions for video codec technologies. Patent declaration information or patent pools are missing over for over 65% of these companies.



Video Codec Transparency Situation

The "minimal declaration" situation due to blanket statements

Approximately only about 20-30% of all AVC /HEVC or VVC SEPs are declared at ITU-T

*The numbers quoted above are examples of expert reports and may vary when considering other reports. No matter what the percentages are all reports show that patent declaration databases either include non-essential patents (e.g. ETSI and others) or are incomplete (e.g. IEEE, ITUT and others).



Wi-Fi patent declaration data

Available Wi-Fi declaration data:

- The Wi-Fi patent declaration database (IEEE IPR) include over 50% so called "blanket" declarations → Companies state to own Wi-Fi SEPs without proving lists of declared patents.
- Patent pools such as SISVEL only cover a fraction of the Wi-Fi patent owners.
- We identify almost 100 entities that have submitted standards contributions for Wi-Fi technologies (IEEE Mentor). Patent declaration information or patent pools are missing over for over 60% of these companies.



Wi-Fi Transparency Situation

The "minimal declaration" situation

Approximately only about <u>10-20%</u> of all Wi-Fi SEPs are declared at IEEE

*The numbers quoted above are examples of expert reports and may vary when considering other reports. No matter what the percentages are all reports show that patent declaration databases either include non-essential patents (e.g. ETSI and others) or are incomplete (e.g. IEEE, ITUT and others).



VII. Wi-FI and Video Codec SEP Market Pain Points

Use cases for Wi-Fi and video codec patent owners



Patent portfolio manager:

- How to compare and value your portfolios against competitors for Wi-Fi or HEVC or VVC patents?
- What is my market share for Wi-Fi, HEVC or VVC patents compared to others?
- How can I identify strength and weaknesses to further develop my own portfolio?



Licensing executives / deal maker:

- How do I find all relevant Wi-Fi or HEVC or VVC patents in my portfolio?
- How do I identify patents to commercialize/license, sell or which ones should I abandon?
- How can I weed out 'weaker' patents, focusing resources on higher ranked patents



Use cases for Wi-Fi and video codec licensees



Licensing manager / legal division:

- How do I identify the market share of patents offered for licensing-in technologies like Wi-Fi or HEVC or VVC?
- How can I get access to objective data to consider for FRAND preparation, negotiations, argument formulation
- How do I know the offered SEP portfolio is "essential"?



Strategic IP attorneys / legal divisions:

- Which SEPs are in fact relevant for my products?
- Who are the leading patent owners for Wi-Fi or HEVC or VVC patents and how many patents do the patent pools (Access Advance / MPEGLA or Velos Media / Sisvel) cover?
- What are the risk to be litigated in that market?



VIII. The Wi-Fi and Video Codec SEP Identification Approach



The IPlytics data team has been utilizing different inputs including a smart combination of IPC/CPC, time ranges, tested against contribution and inventor data from video codec patent declarations, patent pool programs, and standards contributions.

CPC/IPC concentration

We make use of pooled patents and declared patents' main IPC/CPC classes





CPC/IPC concentration

> We utilize the time periods during which the video codec standard generations were developed

Patent 18 months until public application On average 32 months until granted Often submitted and published a few months (0-2) after the provisional application **Standard** contribution Often approved an accepted with a few weeks after the meeting

Contributor Applicant Correlation

- We correlate patents' first applicants and inventors with standards contributor entities and authors
- Submitted approved and incorporated VVC (H.266) contribution at meeting
- Patent filed by same applicant or inventor





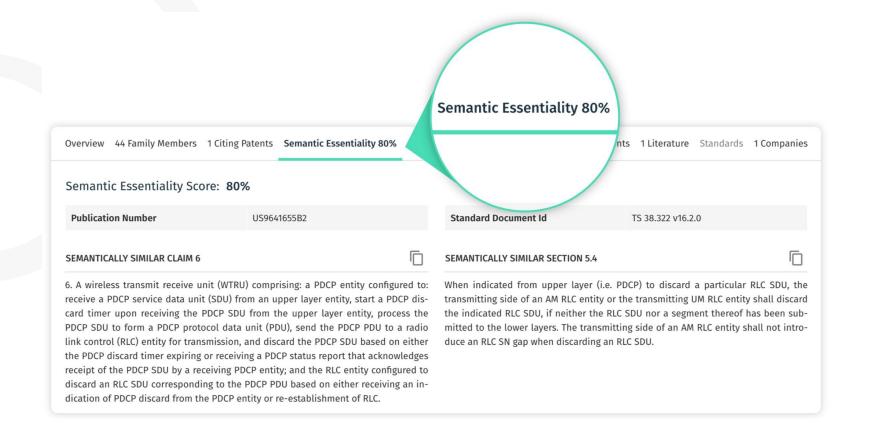






Semantic analysis of patent claims and standards

We semantically map patent claims to video codec standard sections





Patent Universe
provides a Wi-Fi and
video coding landscape
of potentially essential
patents.

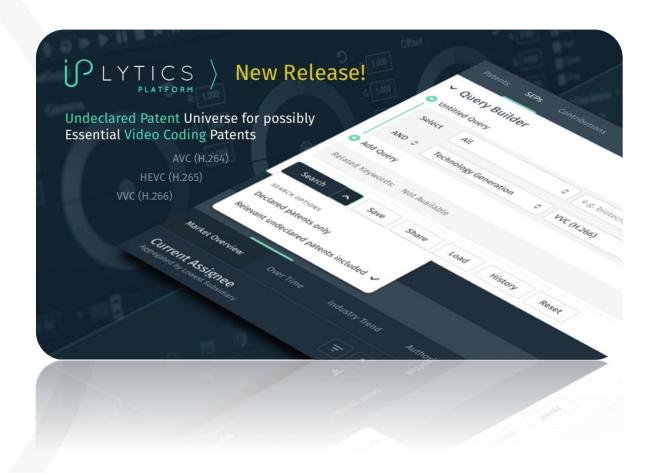


- ➤ It allows to discover patents that may be essential, even though they're hidden behind blanket declarations.
- ➤ It enables to gain a clear view of the competition in the video coding sector.

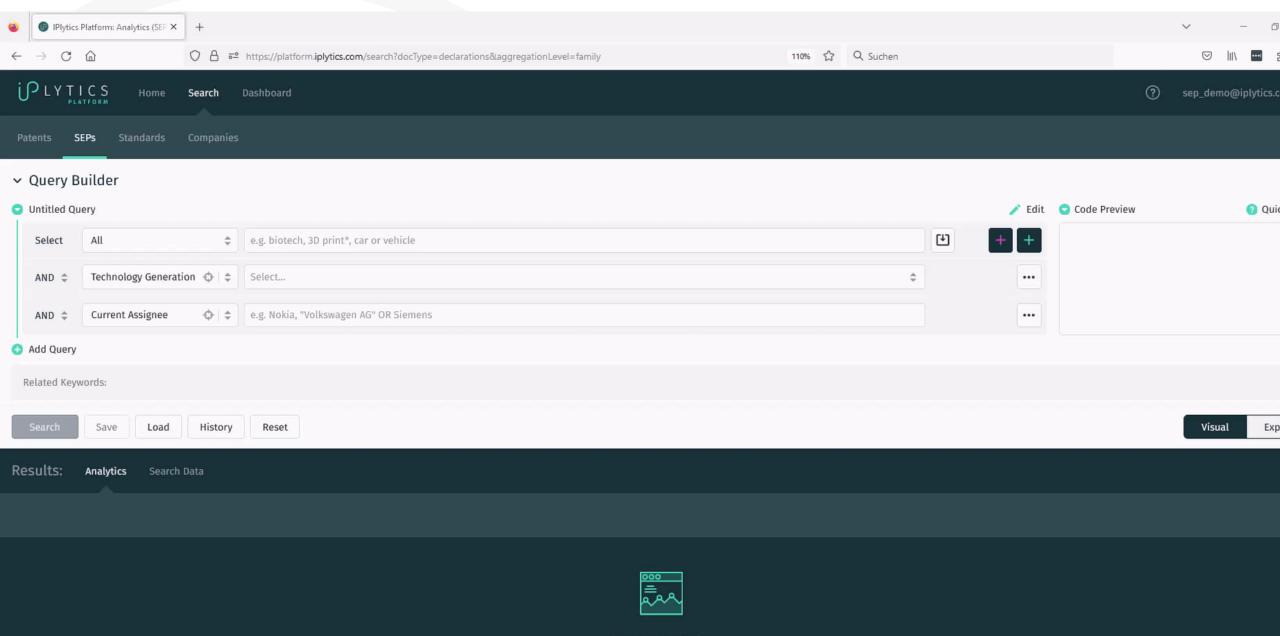




- It empowers users to easily recognize the proportion of the landscape of players in the video coding space.
- It enables users to adjust the portfolio strategy for video coding based on more accessible data.







Results: Analytics

Currently no analytics visible. Please use the query builder above to construct a relevant search.

The Wi-Fi and Video Codec Undeclared SEP Data Limitation



Limitations

- The IPlytics undeclared patents identification follows a precision/recall approach.
- Patent characteristics like IPC/CPC, priority dates, inventors or patent applicants are utilized to identify potentially essential video codec patents.
- Our approach identifies 96% of all declared or pooled patents with a data noise rate of 2% (known false positives).
- Not all identified undeclared Wi-Fi and video patents are essential!
- The Semantic Essentiality Score (SES) provides accurate results only for English original language patents (e.g. US, EP, CA, GB and so on)



VII. Takeaways



Why information is key!

Patent Declaration Data is incomplete and ambiguous:

- Most reports that provide rankings of declared patents rely on raw data that does not consider:
 - 1. rigorous data matching and cleaning
 - 2. false positive determination and cleaning
 - 3. consideration of worldwide ownership changes as well as corporate trees, M&As and beneficiary shares.
 - 4. accurate patent family expansion
 - 5. undeclared patent identification



SEP licensors (patent owners)



SEP licensors use of IPlytics Platform:

- Align R&D investments, standards development, patent prosecution, patent portfolio management and licensing/monetarization strategy to **file valid and essential patents** and to **commercialize SEPs** in worldwide licensing campaigns.
- Compare SEP portfolios for cross-license negotiations and monitor competition making sure to sustain revenues both on the downstream product market as well as upstream licensing market.
- Monitor competitors' standards development investments (contribution count) and identify new standards groups to maintain leading positions in standards development.

SEP licensees (standards implementers)



- Value and determine SEP portfolios offered for license. Prepare for FRAND negotiation. Identify the numerator and denominator to measure the patent holder's market share.
- ➤ Identify standards subject to SEPs in the complex value chain of suppliers as SEP holder approach OEMs or at least module supplier
- Monitor SEP filing, SEP change of ownership and litigation to quantify risks and plan royalty payments.
- ▶ Identify industry related (e.g. M2M, IoT, IIoT) standards development initiatives to have a seat at the table when future connectivity technology is developed.



IPlytics Europe and US

For more information on IPlytics Products and Services, please contact us on:

https://www.iplytics.com/request-a-demo/







Register for Part 2: How to deal with SEP determination





