

WHAT SORT OF INFORMATION CAN I GET FROM THE AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY?

Here is a list of some of the Library's material and services

- Basic informational brochures published by the USPTO
- **Subject Matter Index of Patents for Inventions 1790-1873**
- Patent Office Reports in print 1845-1871
- **Index of Patents in print 1870-2000**
- Official Gazettes in print 1872-2002
- **Patents 1872-September 2002**
- Trademarks 1872-current
- **Plant Patents in print March 12, 1996-current**
- Access to PubWEST for advanced patent searching (please call the Library to schedule)
- **Index to U.S. Classification**
- Internet service available with your Akron-Summit County Public Library card
- **Books to check out**
- Classes on patent searching and other types of intellectual property
- **Specially trained library staff**



PTRC patent & trademark resource center
www.uspto.gov/ptrc

**Akron-Summit County Public Library**
330-643-9075
Science & Technology Division
60 S. High Street, Akron, OH 44326
www.akronlibrary.org

ST-4420/400/11-11/kc

The PATENT AND TRADEMARK RESOURCE CENTER at AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



WHAT IS A PATENT AND TRADEMARK RESOURCE CENTER?

A Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC) is a library designated by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to receive and house copies of U.S. patents and patent and trademark materials, to make them readily available to the public, and to actively disseminate patent and trademark information. To be designated, a library must meet the specific requirements and promise to fulfill the obligations as set forth by the USPTO.

WHEN DID AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BECOME A PTRC?

The Akron-Summit County Public Library was designated a Patent and Trademark Depository Library in 1995. The USPTO changed the program name in 2011.

WHY IS PATENT AND TRADEMARK INFORMATION IMPORTANT?

The premise of the U.S. patent system lies in its mutual benefit to both the inventor and our country. In return for full public disclosure, a U.S. patent offers certain rights to an inventor for up to twenty years. During this time, the inventor may exclude all others from making, using, importing or selling his or her invention. The patent is published and disseminated to the public so that others may study the invention and improve upon it. The constant evolution of science and technology, spurred by the monetary incentive the U.S. patent system offers to inventors, strengthens our nation's economy. New inventions lead to new technologies, create new jobs, and improve our quality of life.

Strong trademark protection can be as important as a strong patent portfolio to a successful business. The rise of global communication networks and easily accessible commercial markets significantly increases the importance of obtaining trademark protection for even the smallest companies.

WHAT DOES THE AKRON-SUMMIT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DO AS A PTRC?

Our Science & Technology staff provide a link between local inventors and the Patent and Trademark Office. One of these ways is by offering introductory patent searching classes where inventors are introduced to the classification systems by which patents are organized. This enables them to do a thorough patent search. We also offer introductory classes on trademarks and general intellectual property, as well as lectures and workshops by intellectual property experts. (Contact the Science & Technology department for a class schedule.)

Because The Akron-Summit County Public Library is a PTRC, the US Patent & Trademark Office staff will travel to Akron to provide live presentations on patent and trademark information.