

Examination of Inventions Based on the Fisher Tropsch Synthesis

Johann R. Richter, Ph.D., Esq.
Supervisory Patent Examiner
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC

Abstract

A brief survey of Fisher Tropsch based patents from around the 1920's to 2002 will be presented. A description of how the Fisher Tropsch process is classified in the Patent Office will also be presented. The various subclasses will be discussed and the areas of most patent activity within the last five years will be identified. The examination process, including assignment, searching of both the non-patent literature and patented publications, search engines employed, and how examiners generally determine patentability under 35 USC 101, 112, 102, and 103, will also be discussed.

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