U.S. Department of Commerce U.S. Patent and Trademark Office



Privacy Impact Assessment for the Patent Business and Content Management Services (PBCMS) **EventHub** (EventHub)

Reviewed by: Henry J. Holcombe, Bureau Chief Privacy Officer

- ☐ Concurrence of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer
- ☐ Non-concurrence of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer

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U.S. Department of Commerce Privacy Impact Assessment USPTO Patent Business and Content Management Services (PBCMS) EventHub (EventHub)

Unique Project Identifier: PPL-PBCMS-01-00

Introduction: System Description

Provide a brief description of the information system.

EventHub services provides file transformation functionality for the USPTO enterprise. As part of the file transformation, the system captures metadata related to the files. This metadata is stored locally within Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud managed by USPTO Amazon Cloud Services (UACS) and provided to the requesting system/application for processing. EventHub is implemented in AWS cloud by leveraging its services to provide resiliency, scalability and reliability. The boundary for EventHub is contained within UACS environment.

Address the following elements:

- (a) Whether it is a general support system, major application, or other type of system EventHub is a major application.
- (b) System location
 EventHub is a cloud system within Amazon Web Services (AWS) East/West multiple availability zones.
- (c) Whether it is a standalone system or interconnects with other systems (identifying and describing any other systems to which it interconnects)

 EventHub interacts with the following systems:

USPTO AWS Cloud Services (UACS) - is a general support system and standard infrastructure platform used to support PTO Application Information Systems (AIS) hosted in the AWS East/West environment. The AWS East/West environment is comprised of several sub-components including, Virtual Private Cloud (VPC), Elastic Cloud Computing (EC2), Identity and Authentication Management (IAM), and Simple Storage Service.

Network and Security Infrastructure System (NSI) - is an infrastructure information system, and provides an aggregate of subsystems that facilitates the communications, secure access, protective services, and network infrastructure support for all USPTO IT applications.

Enterprise Software Services (ESS) - is a system that provides Enterprise Directory Services, Role-Based Access Control System, Email as a Service, PTO Exchange Services, Symantec Endpoint Protection, Enterprise SharePoint Services, etc.

Patent Capture and Application Processing System - Capture and Initial Processing (PCAPS-IP) - is a major application, and supports initial patent application process with data capture, application processing, and reporting.

- (d) The way the system operates to achieve the purpose(s) identified in Section 4 The EventHub system achieves its purpose by providing enterprise service pattern that can be leveraged by USPTO systems for processing documents conversion.
- (e) How information in the system is retrieved by the user The common components will have User Interfaces (UIs) that utilize the Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) provided by the Event Collector common component. To date, no other common components have users.
- (f) How information is transmitted to and from the system The common components currently use APIs to transmit information. The APIs are on AWS and APIs in other common services.
- (g) Any information sharing The Portable Document Format (PDF) files ingested by EventHub will be converted to Tagged Image File Format (TIFF) and sent to receiving patent systems.
- (h) The specific programmatic authorities (statutes or Executive Orders) for collecting, maintaining, using, and disseminating the information 0651-0031 Patent Processing and OMB 0651-0032 Initial Patent Processing.
- (i) The Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 199 security impact category for the svstem Moderate

S

<u>Sect</u>	tion 1: Status of the Info	rmation	System			
1.1	Indicate whether the in	formation	n system is a new or	existing	g system.	
	☐ This is a new informatio☐ This is an existing information all that apply.)	•		nat crea	ate new privacy risks. (Chec	ck
	Changes That Create New	Privacy Ri	isks(CTCNPR)			
	a. Conversions		d. Significant Mergin	g 🗆	g. New Interagency Uses]

b. Anonymous to Non- Anonymous			e. New Public Access		h. Internal Flow or Collection	
c. Significant System Management Changes			f. Commercial Sources		i. Alteration in Character of Data	
j. Other changes that crea	ate nev	v priva	cy risks (specify):		01 Data	
☐ This is an existing info	ormati	ion sy	ystem in which change	s do i	not create new privacy risk	S
· ·		•	proved Privacy Impact		•	Σ,
			• •		not create new privacy risk	S.
•		•	ed Privacy Impact Ass		•	~,
WALL WALL IN W. 21.2		PPTO	ou I II. wej III.pwe I Ie.			
Section 2: Information in	the S	ys te n	1			
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±	-		able information (PII) r disseminated. (Chec	,	iness identifiable information that apply	n
(BII) is concetted, the	иписи	icu, o	disseminated. (Chee	n an	ιπαι αρριγ.)	
Identifying Numbers (IN)				1		
a. Social Security*			Oriver's License		j. Financial Account	
b. Taxpayer ID		_	assport		k. Financial Transaction	
c. Employer ID			Alien Registration		1. Vehicle Identifier	
d. Employee ID		i. (Credit Card		m. Medical Record	
e. File/Case ID	\boxtimes					
n. Other identifying numbers	(specif	ÿ):				
*Explanation for the business	needto	collec	ct. maintain, or dis seminate	the S	ocial Security number, including	<u></u>
truncated form:			,		, ,	7
General Personal Data (GPD	7					
a. Name	\boxtimes	h. D	ate of Birth		o. Financial Information	П
b. Maiden Name		i. P	ace of Birth		p. Medical Information	H
c. Alias			ome Address		q. Military Service	H
d. Gender		5	elephone Number		r. Criminal Record	
e. Age			mail Address		s. Marital Status	
f. Race/Ethnicity			ducation			H
•					t. Mother's Maiden Name	
g. Citizenship			eligion	Ш		
u. Other general personal dat	a (spec	1fy):				
Work-Related Data (WRD)						
a. Occupation	\boxtimes	e. V	Vork Email Address	\boxtimes	i. Business Associates	\boxtimes
b. Job Title	\boxtimes	f. S	Salary		j. Proprietary or Business Information	\boxtimes
c. Work Address	\boxtimes	g. V	Work History		k. Procurement/contracting records	

d. Work Telephone Number		h. Employment Performance Ratings or other Performance Information			
1. Other work-related data (s	pecify):			
Dietingwicking Footones /Dies	4	a (NED)			
Distinguishing Features/Bior a. Fingerprints	netric	f. Scars, Marks, Tattoos		k. Signatures	
b. Palm Prints				Vascular Scans	
c. Voice/Audio Recording		g. Hair Color h. Eye Color		m. DNA Sample or Profile	
d. Video Recording		i. Height		n. Retina/Iris Scans	
e. Photographs		j. Weight		o. Dental Profile	
	res/bio	=		o. Dentari forme	
p. Other distinguishing featu	168/010	inetics (specify).			
System Administration/Audi	t Data				
a. UserID	\boxtimes	c. Date/Time of Access		e. ID Files Accessed	
b. IP Address	\boxtimes	f. Queries Run		f. Contents of Files	
g. Other system administrati	on/aud	it data (specify):			
Other Information (specify)					
other mior matron (specify)					
2.2 Indicate sources of the	e PII/	BII in the system. (Check	all the	ut apply.)	
Directly from Individual abou	ut Wh	om the Information Pertains			
In Person		Hard Copy: Mail/Fax		Online	
Telephone		Email			
Other(specify):					
Government Sources					
Within the Bureau	\boxtimes	Other DOC Bureaus	Ιп	Other Federal Agencies	Ιп
State, Local, Tribal		Foreign	\Box		
Other(specify):			<u> </u>		
Non-government Sources					
Public Organizations		Private Sector		Commercial Data Brokers	
Third Party Website or Applic	ation				
Other(specify):			•		

2.3	Describe how	the accuracy of the	information in t	he system is ensured.
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Because the files and metadata are being transferred from on-prem to the AWS cloud and then through several AWS services for conversion before going back to USPTO, there are validation checks at every event. Data is encrypted in transit and at rest.

EventHub is secured using appropriate administrative, physical and technical safeguards in accordance with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) security controls (encryption, access control, auditing). Mandatory IT Awareness and role-based training is required for staff who have access to the system and addresses how to handle, retain, and dispose of data. All access has role-based restrictions, and individuals with access privileges have undergone vetting and suitability screening. The USPTO maintains an audit trail and performs random periodic reviews (quarterly) to identify unauthorized access and changes as part of verifying the integrity of administrative account holder data and roles. Inactive accounts will be deactivated and roles will be deleted from the application.

	2.4	Is the	information	covered by	the Pa	aperwork l	Reduction	Act?
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\boxtimes	Yes, the information is covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act. Provide the OMB control number and the agency number for the collection. 0651-0031 Patent Processing and OMB 0651-0032 Initial Patent Processing
	No, the information is not covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act.

2.5 Indicate the technologies used that contain PII/BII in ways that have not been previously deployed. (Check all that apply.)

Technologies Used Containing PII/BII Not Previously Deployed (TUCPBNPD)					
Smart Cards		Biometrics			
Caller-ID		Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Cards			
Other(specify):					

There are not any technologies used that contain PII/BII in ways that have not been previously deployed.

Section 3: System Supported Activities

3.1 Indicate IT system supported activities which raise privacy risks/concerns. (Check all that apply.)

Activities		
Audio recordings	Building entry readers	
Video surveillance	Electronic purchase transactions	
Other(specify): Click or tap here to enter text.		

☐ There are not any IT system supported activities which raise privacy risks/concerns.

Section 4: Purpose of the System

4.1 Indicate why the PII/BII in the IT system is being collected, maintained, or disseminated. (Check all that apply.)

Purpose			
For a Computer Matching Program		For administering human resources programs	
For administrative matters	\boxtimes	To promote information sharing initiatives	
Forlitigation		For criminal law enforcement activities	
For civil enforcement activities		For intelligence activities	
To improve Federal services online	\boxtimes	For employee or customer satisfaction	
For web measurement and customization		For web measurement and customization	
technologies (single-session)	_	technologies (multi-session)	
Other(specify):			

Section 5: Use of the Information

5.1 In the context of functional areas (business processes, missions, operations, etc.) supported by the IT system, describe how the PII/BII that is collected, maintained, or disseminated will be used. Indicate if the PII/BII identified in Section 2.1 of this document is in reference to a federal employee/contractor, member of the public, foreign national, visitor or other (specify).

EventHub services provides file transformation functionality for the USPTO enterprise. As part of the file transformation, the system captures metadata related to the files. The purpose of the system is to migrate current legacy services to the new cloud based services that leverage cloud native capabilities and technologies to reduce infrastructure and operational maintenance cost to the USPTO.

The information is about members of the public, USPTO employees, contractors, and foreign nationals.

5.2 Describe any potential threats to privacy, such as insider threat, as a result of the bureau's/operating unit's use of the information, and controls that the bureau/operating unit has put into place to ensure that the information is handled, retained, and disposed appropriately. (For example: mandatory training for system users regarding appropriate handling of information, automatic purging of information in accordance with the retention schedule, etc.)

In the event of computer failure, insider threats, or attack against the system by adversarial or foreign entities, any potential PII data stored within the system could be exposed. To avoid a breach, the system has certain security controls in place to ensure that information is handled, retained, and disposed of appropriately. Access to individual's PII is controlled through the application, and all personnel who access the data must first authenticate to the system at which time an audit trail is generated when the database is accessed. These audit trails are based on application server out-of-the-box logging reports reviewed by the Information System Security Officer (ISSO) and System Auditor and any suspicious indicators such as browsing will be immediately investigated and appropriate action taken. Also, system users undergo annual mandatory training regarding appropriate handing of information.

NIST security controls are in place to ensure that information is handled, retained, and disposed of appropriately. For example, advanced encryption is used to secure the data both during transmission and while stored at rest. Access to individual's PII is controlled through the application and all personnel who access the data must first authenticate to the system at which time an audit trail is generated when the database is accessed. USPTO requires annual security role-based training and annual mandatory security awareness procedure training for all employees. The following are current USPTO policies; Information Security Foreign Travel Policy (OCIO-POL-6), IT Privacy Policy (OCIO-POL-18), IT Security Education Awareness Training Policy (OCIO-POL-19), Personally Identifiable Data Removal Policy (OCIO-POL-23), USPTO Rules of the Road (OCIO-POL-36). All offices of the USPTO adhere to the USPTO Records Management Office's Comprehensive Records Schedule that describes the types of USPTO records and their corresponding disposition authority or citation.

Section 6: Information Sharing and Access

6.1 Indicate with whom the bureau intends to share the PII/BII in the IT system and how the PII/BII will be shared. (Check all that apply.)

Recipient	Но	w Information will be S	Shared
	Case-by-Case	Bulk Transfer	Direct Access
Within the bureau		\boxtimes	
DOC bureaus			
Federalagencies			
State, local, tribal gov't agencies			
Public			
Private sector			
Foreign governments			
Foreign entities			
Other(specify):			

The PII/BII in the system will not be shared.

all that apply.) Class of Users	5.2	Does the DOC bureau/operating unit	it place	a limitation on re-dissemination of PII	i/BII					
dissemination of PII/BII.		shared with external agencies/entities	es?							
dissemination of PII/BII. No, the bureau/operating unit does not share PII/BII with external agencies/entities. Solution So			ed to veri	fy with the DOC bureau/operating unit before	re-					
5.3 Indicate whether the IT system connects with or receives information from any other IT systems authorized to process PII and/or BII. Yes, this IT systemconnects with or receives information from another IT system(s) authorized to process PII and/or BII. Provide the name of the IT system and describe the technical controls which prevent PII/BII leakage: PCAP-IP, UACS, and ESS NIST security controls are in place to ensure that information is handled, retained, and disposed of appropriately. For example, advanced encryption is used to secure the data both during transmission and while stored at rest. Access to individual's PII is controlled through the application and all personnel wh access the data must first authenticate to the systemat which time an audit trail is generated when the database is accessed. USPTO requires annual security role-based training and annual mandatory security awareness procedure training for all employees. The following are current USPTO policies; Information Security Foreign Travel Policy (OCIO-POL-6), IT Privacy Policy (OCIO-POL-18), IT Security Education Awareness Training Policy (OCIO-POL-19), Personally Identifiable Data Removal Policy (OCIO-POL-23), USPTO Rules of the Road (OCIO-POL-36). All offices of the USPTO adhere to the USPTO Records Management Office's Comprehensive Records Schedule that describes the types of USPTO records and their corresponding disposition authority or citation. No, this IT systemdoes not connect with or receive information from another IT system(s) authorized to process PII and/or BII. 6.4 Identify the class of users who will have access to the IT system and the PII/BII. (Check all that apply.)		dissemination of PII/BII.			ore re-					
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Class of Users General Public ☐ Government Employees Contractors ☒			n or recei	ve information from another IT system(s) auth	orized to					
General Public Government Employees Contractors	5.4	•	have ac	cess to the IT system and the PII/BII.	(Check					
Contractors \boxtimes				Government Employees						
				Government Employees						
Section 7: Notice and Consent										

7.1 Indicate whether individuals will be notified if their PII/BII is collected, maintained, or disseminated by the system. (Check all that apply.)

\boxtimes	Yes, notice is provided pursuant to a sys discussed in Section 9.	tem of records notice published in the Federal Register and
	and/or privacy policy can be found at: h	
\boxtimes	Yes, notice is provided by other means.	Specify how: Audit logs.
	No, notice is not provided.	Specify why not:
7.2	Indicate whether and how individua	ls have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII.
	Yes, individuals have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII.	Specify how:
	No, individuals do not have an opportunity to decline to provide PII/BII.	Specify why not: The EventHub system only processes the data that is part of the document. The EventHub Team does not collect PII/BII information from the user directly but ingests application files in PDF form from the front-end patent systems.
	Indicate whether and how individua their PII/BII.	ls have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of
	Yes, individuals have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII.	Specify how:
	No, individuals do not have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII.	Specify why not: The users do not have any opportunity to consent to particular uses of the PII/BII data since the system does not differentiate between data types. The system only processes data as part of the document conversion. There is no user interface (UI) components for individual user, all processing is conducted via application processing interfaces (APIs) and between systems.
	Indicate whether and how individual pertaining to them.	ls have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII
\boxtimes	Yes, individuals have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them.	Specify how: USPTO employees and contractors can update their information via human resources.
	No, individuals do not have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them.	Specify why not: The users do not have an opportunity to review/update the PII/BII data since the system does not differentiate between data types. The system only processes data as part of the document conversion. There is no UI components for individual user, all processing is conducted via APIs and between systems.

Section 8: Administrative and Technological Controls

8.1 Indicate the administrative and technological controls for the system. (Check all that apply.)

\boxtimes	All users signed a confidentiality agreement or non-disclosure agreement.
\boxtimes	All users are subject to a Code of Conduct that includes the requirement for confidentiality.
\boxtimes	Staff (employees and contractors) received training on privacy and confidentiality policies and practices.
\boxtimes	Access to the PII/BII is restricted to authorized personnel only.
\boxtimes	Access to the PII/BII is being monitored, tracked, or recorded.
	Explanation: Audit logs
\boxtimes	The information is secured in accordance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act
	(FISMA) requirements.
	Provide date of most recent Assessment and Authorization (A&A): 5/10/2022
	☐ This is a new system. The A&A date will be provided when the A&A package is approved.
	The Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 199 security impact category for this system is a
\boxtimes	moderate or higher.
	NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-122 and NIST SP 800-53 Revision 4 Appendix J recommended
\boxtimes	
	security controls for protecting PII/BII are in place and functioning as intended; or have an approved Plan
	of Action and Milestones (POA&M).
\boxtimes	A security assessment report has been reviewed for the information system and it has been determined
	that there are no additional privacy risks.
\boxtimes	Contractors that have access to the system are subject to information security provisions in their contracts
	required by DOC policy.
\boxtimes	Contracts with customers establish DOC ownership rights over data including PII/BII.
\boxtimes	Acceptance of liability for exposure of PII/BII is clearly defined in agreements with customers.
П	Other(specify):

8.2 Provide a general description of the technologies used to protect PII/BII on the IT system. (Include data encryption in transit and/or at rest, if applicable).

PII within the system is secured using appropriate management, operational, and technical safeguards in accordance with NIST requirements. Such management controls include the Life Cycle review process to ensure that management controls are in place and documented in the System Security Privacy Plan (SSPP). The SSPP specifically addresses the management, operational, and technical controls that are in place and planned during the operation of the system. Operational safeguards include restricting access to PII/BII data to a small subset of users. All access has role-based restrictions and individuals with access privileges have undergone vetting and suitability screening. Data is maintained in areas accessible only to authorize personnel. The system maintains an audit trail and the appropriate personnel is alerted when there is suspicious activity. Data is encrypted in transit and at rest.

Section 9: Privacy Act

9.1	Is the P	PII/BII searchable by a personal identifier (e.g, name or Social Security number)?	
	\boxtimes	Yes, the PII/BII is searchable by a personal identifier.	
		No, the PII/BII is not searchable by a personal identifier.	
9.2	§ 552a. by an e. As per the information to the indiv		hich
\boxtimes		his system is covered by an existing system of records notice (SORN). de the SORN name, number, and link. (list all that apply):	
	COMN	MERCE/PAT-TM-7 - Patent Application Files	
	Yes, a	SORN has been submitted to the Department for approval on <u>(date</u>).	╗
	No, thi	is system is not a system of records and a SORN is not applicable.	\exists
10.1		the whether these records are covered by an approved records control schedule and red for compliance. (Check all that apply.)	
\boxtimes	Provid	is an approved record control schedule. de the name of the record control schedule: 1-10-1:4.4, Patent Examination Feeder Records	
	No, the	de the stage in which the project is in developing and submitting a records control schedule:	
\boxtimes	Yes, re	etention is monitored for compliance to the schedule.	
	No, ret	etention is not monitored for compliance to the schedule. Provide explanation:	
10.2	Indicate	te the disposal method of the PII/BII. (Check all that apply.)	
	posal		
	edding	Overwriting Deleting	
	aussing	Deleting \(\sum \)]
Oth			

Section 11: NIST Special Publication 800-122 PII Confidentiality Impact Level

11.1 Indicate the potential impact that could result to the subject individuals and/or the organization if PII were inappropriately accessed, used, or disclosed. (The PII Confidentiality Impact Level is not the same, and does not have to be the same, as the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 199 security impact category.)

\boxtimes	Low – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a limited adverse
	effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.
	Moderate – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a serious
	adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational as sets, or individuals.
	High – the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a severe or
	catastrophic adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals.

11.2 Indicate which factors were used to determine the above PII confidentiality impact level. (Check all that apply.)

	Identifiability	Provide explanation: General data fields such as name, home address, telephone number, email address; work-related data such as work email address, business associates, proprietary or business information, work email address; or distinguishing features/biometrics such as signatures could uniquely identify an individual. EventHub processes documents that have PII, Name, Address, Phone number, Work Email, and business phone information. It is
		a conduit systemand does not store anything.
\boxtimes	Quantity of PII	Provide explanation: EventHub processes thousands of submissions of PDF documents daily
\boxtimes	Data Field Sensitivity	Provide explanation: System data fields such as user ID, first name, last name, and telephone number have little relevance outside the context of use.
\boxtimes	Context of Use	Provide explanation: EventHub processes documents that have PII, Name, Address, Phone number, Work Email, and bus iness phone information. It is a conduit system and does not store anything.
\boxtimes	Obligation to Protect Confidentiality	Provide explanation: NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-122 and NIST SP 800-53 Revision 5 recommended security controls for protecting PII/BII are in place and functioning as intended; or have an approved Plan of Action and Milestones (POA&M) and the Privacy Act of 1974.
\boxtimes	Access to and Location of PII	Provide explanation: EventHub does not store PII. The PII is on the document that is transmitted through EventHub.
	Other:	Provide explanation:

Section 12: Analysis

12.1 Identify and evaluate any potential threats to privacy that exist in light of the information collected or the sources from which the information is collected. Also, describe the choices that the bureau/operating unit made with regard to the type or quantity of information collected and the sources providing the information in order to prevent or mitigate threats to privacy. (For example: If a decision was made to collect less data, include a discussion of this decision; if it is necessary to obtain information from sources other than the individual, explain why.)

The PII in this system pose a risk if exposed. System users undergo annual mandatory training regarding appropriate handling of information. Physical access to servers is restricted to only a few authorized individuals. The servers storing the potential PII are located in a highly sensitive zones within the cloud and logical access is segregated with network firewalls and switches through an Access Control list that limits access to only a few approved and authorized accounts. USPTO monitors, in real-time, all activities and events within the servers storing the potential PII data and personnel review audit logs received on a regular bases and alert the appropriate personnel when inappropriate or unusual activity is identified.

1	2.2	Indicate whether the conduct of this PIA results in any required business process changes.
		Yes, the conduct of this PIA results in required business process changes. Explanation:
	\boxtimes	No, the conduct of this PIA does not result in any required business process changes.
1	2.3	Indicate whether the conduct of this PIA results in any required technology changes.

	Yes, the conduct of this PIA results in required technology changes. Explanation:
\boxtimes	No, the conduct of this PIA does not result in any required technology changes.

Appendix A:

