

INPI establishes phase II of pilot-project PPH with Japan (JPO)

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The BPTO (Brazilian Patent and Trademark Office) published, by means [Resolution No. 235/2019](#), the phase II of the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Project agreed with the Japanese Patent Office (JPO) last month. The program will come into force on April 1, 2019 and shall last for two years.

This new phase of the PPH basically follows the same criteria set out in the original PPH Japan project, in force from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2019. In this sense, patent applications belonging to a family whose first application was filed in the BPTO or JPO or, under the PCT, have Brazil or Japan as receiving office and that have at least one application of the family granted by the Japanese Office will be entitled to a priority examination in Brazil.

A differential of this new phase is the expansion of the scope of the patent applications accepted in the program, now contemplating patents in the areas of metallurgy and materials, macromolecular chemistry and polymers, agrochemicals, microorganisms and enzymes, in addition to patents related to information technology, mechanical engineering and automobile technology previously accepted in this project. The list of all classes of the International Patent Classification (IPC) that will be accepted are presented [in this link](#).

Another update is the limitation in relation to the amount of patent applications per Applicant. There will be a limitation of one application per Applicant per month, in contrast to the six patent applications per Applicant for each four-month period established in the previous phase. In addition, the BPTO may accept up to 200 applications during the term of the program. In this context, it was determined that in the last month of this project there will be no limitation on the amount of requests per Applicant.

Should you want to receive more information on this new phase of the program or to engage therein immediately, please feel free to contact us by our e-mail: mail@kasznarleonardos.com.