

**UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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Patent Public Advisory Committee
Quarterly Meeting

Reexaminations, Reissues & Supplemental
Examination
in the Central Reexamination Unit

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Director, Central Reexamination Unit

August 2, 2018

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Central Reexamination Unit (CRU) Staff

- 1 Director
- 10 Supervisory Patent Reexamination Specialists (SPRS)
- 79 Reexamination Specialists
 - 15 Chemical
 - 49 Electrical
 - 15 Mechanical
- Technical Support
 - One Supervisory Paralegal Specialist
 - 7 Paralegals
 - 3 Legal Instrument Examiners (LIE)

CRU Proceedings

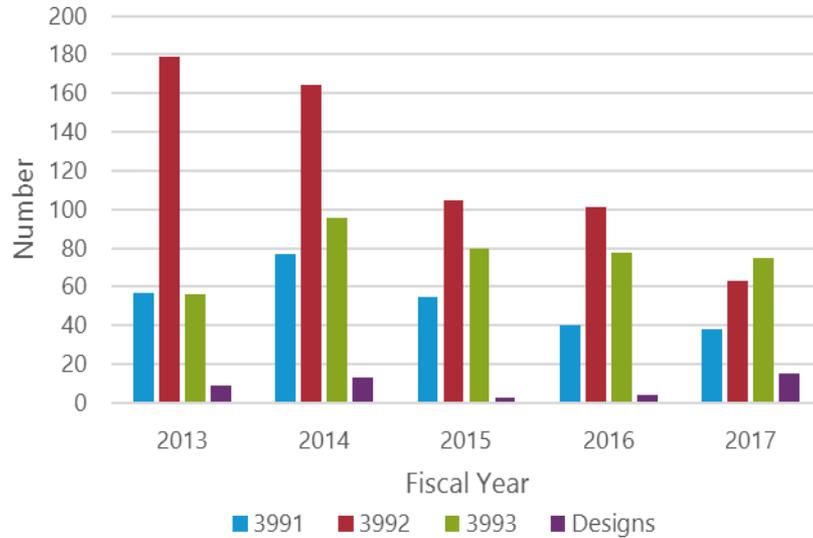
- All utility patent ex parte Reexamination Proceedings (EP) and Supplemental Examination Proceedings (SE).
- All reissue applications filed on utility patents.
- Legacy *inter-partes* Reexamination Proceedings (*IP*)

***Inter-Partes* Reexamination, Supplemental Examination and the America Invents Act**

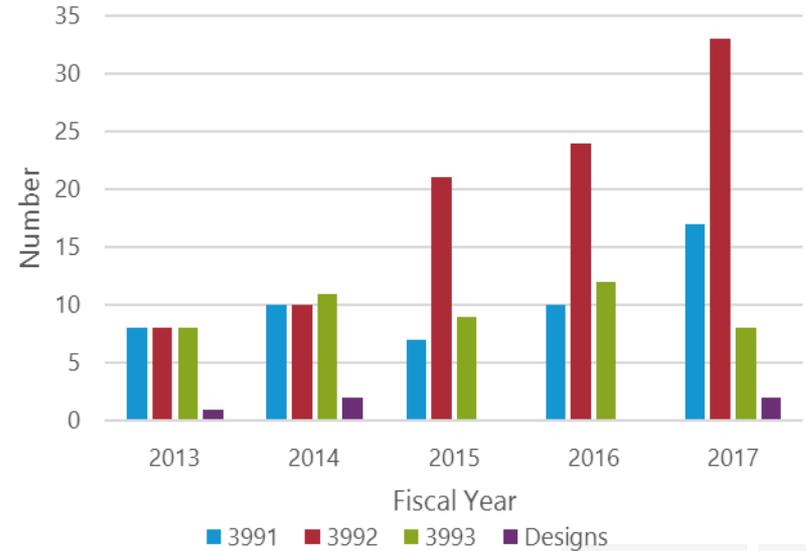
- With the implementation of the America Invents Act (AIA) in September 2012, *inter partes* reexamination proceedings became no longer available and were replaced with *inter-partes* review proceedings.
- The passage of the AIA also introduced the Supplemental Examination proceeding as a mechanism for Patent Owners to have information considered, reconsidered or corrected in an issued patent.

Ex Parte Reexamination and Supplemental Examination Filings

Ex Parte Reexamination Request Filings

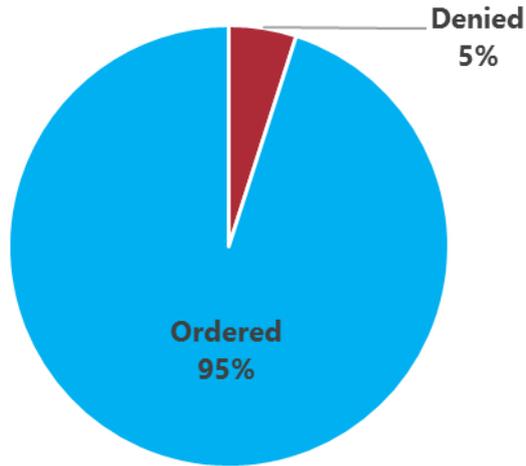


Supplemental Examination Request Filings

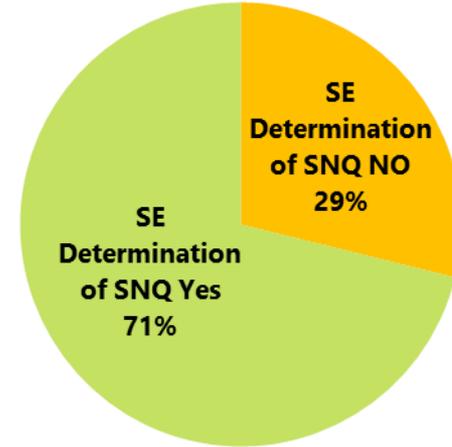


Findings of Substantial New Questions (SNQ) of Patentability (2013- 2018)

Disposition of *Ex Parte* Reexamination Requests



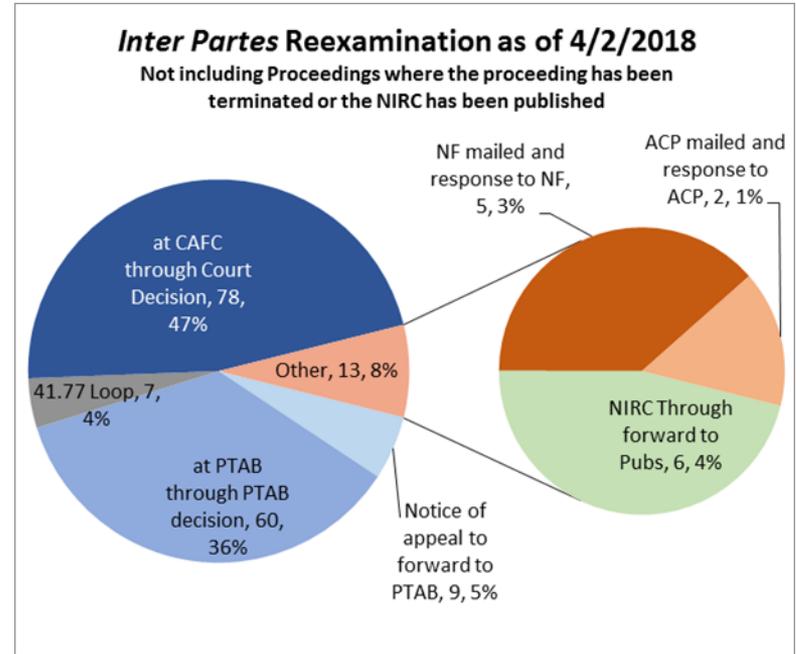
Disposition of Supplemental Examination Requests



Data as of 4/2/2018

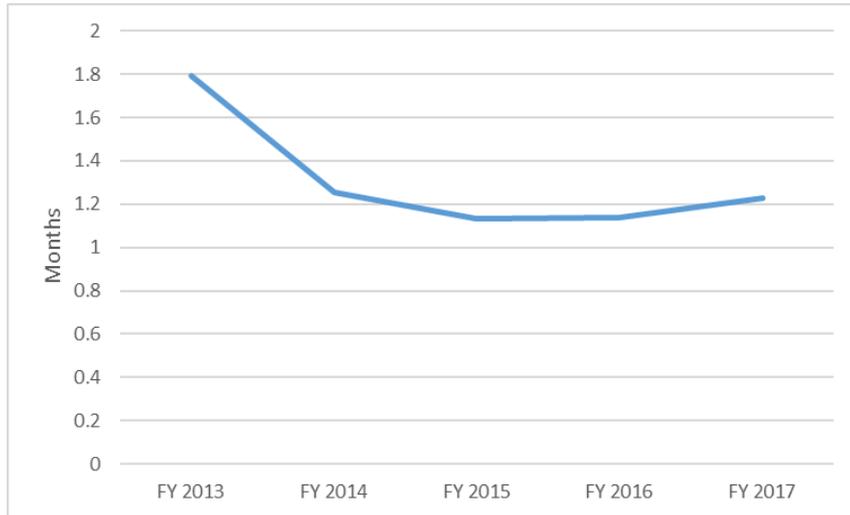
Legacy *Inter Partes* Reexaminations

- 167 *inter-partes* Reexamination proceedings are currently still pending
- 7 are before CRU, the remaining proceedings are awaiting disposition by the PTAB or CAFC.

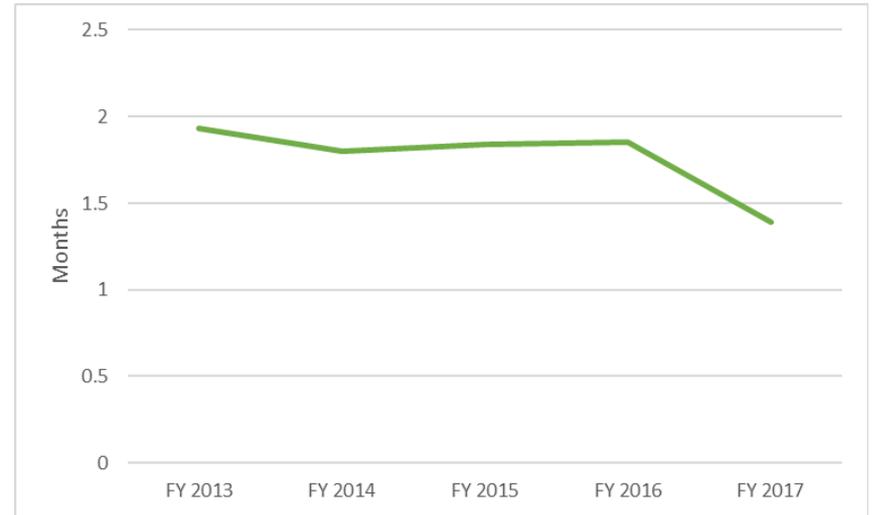


Time to Determination of *Ex Parte* Reexamination Proceedings and Supplemental Examination Certificate

Average Time to *Ex Parte* Reexamination Determination (Order Granting/Denying Reexamination)

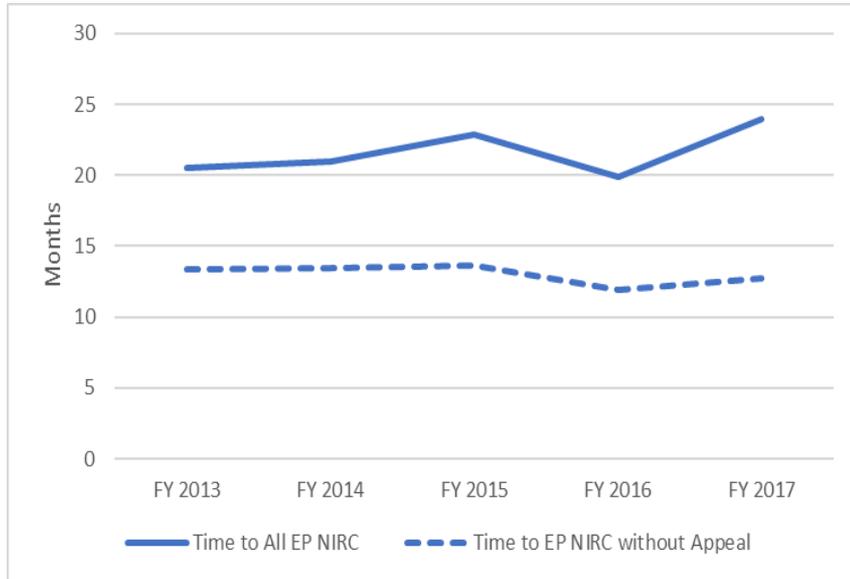


Average Time from Filing to Issuance of Supplemental Examination Certificate (SNQ Yes/No)



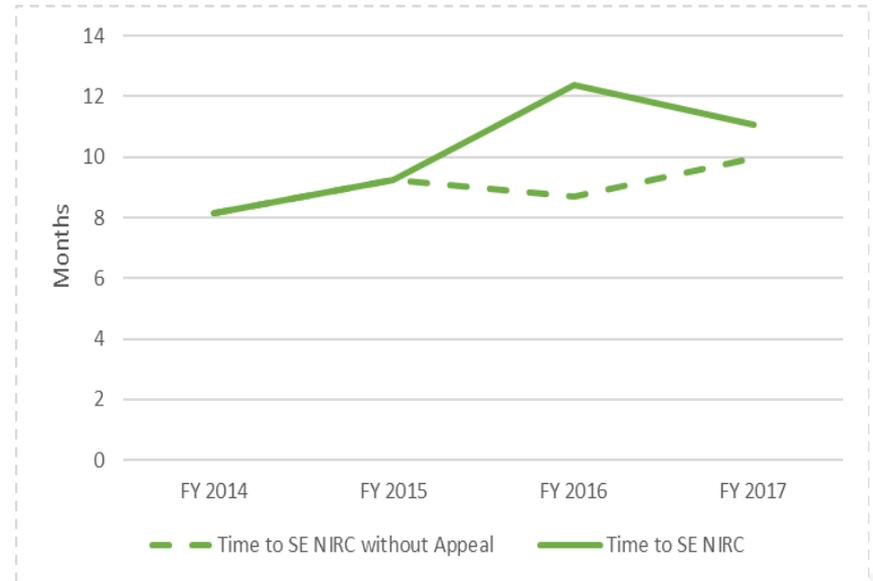
Time to Conclusion of *Ex Parte* Reexamination Proceedings and Supplemental Examination Requests

Average time to *ex parte* Reexamination (EP) NIRC



EP without appeals average 13 months to NIRC

Average time to *ex parte* reexamination NIRC based on Supplemental Examination (SE)



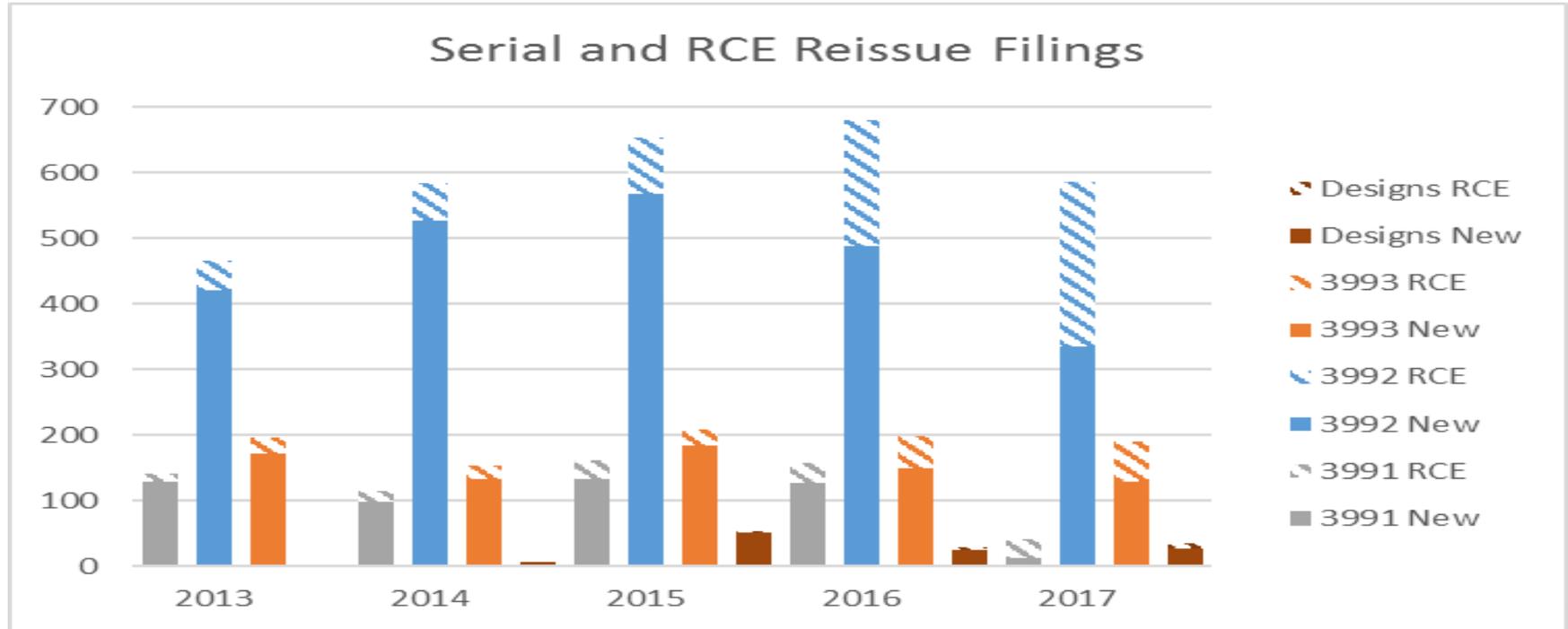
SE without appeals average 9 months to NIRC



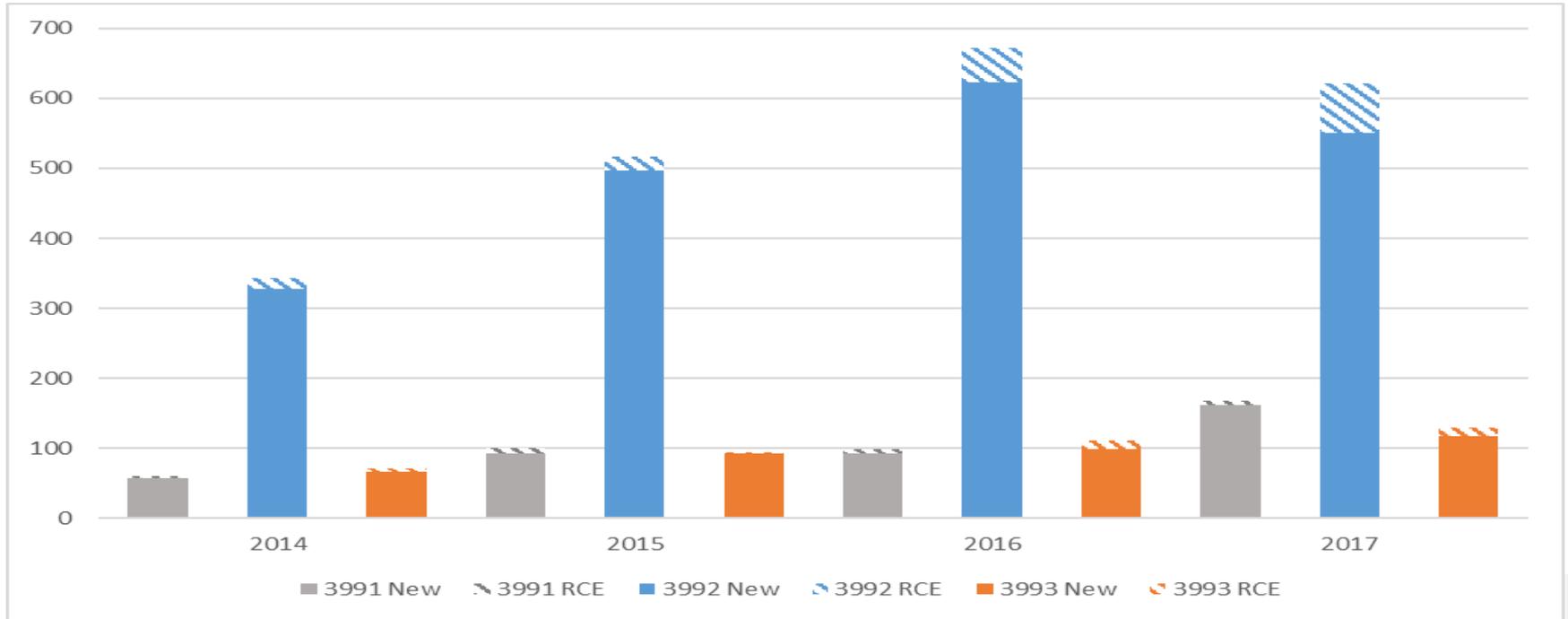
Reissue Applications Before the CRU

- The CRU assumed responsibility for examination of all reissue applications in spring 2015.
- The purpose of bringing reissue applications under the purview of the CRU was to provide consistent and quality handling of all reissue applications.

Reissue Filings



Utility Patent Reissue Inventory Awaiting First Action



Questions and Comments

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