

FOI Release
Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Assigned patents which have been licensed

Date of release: 9 July 2014

Information request:

Following a clash that one of my patents had with a patent troll in the UK, I am interested in knowing how widespread the problem has become in this country.

Would it be possible to undertake a search for live, granted UK patents which satisfy the following criteria:

- (a) an assignment has been recorded
- (b) ten or more licensees have been recorded?

If the number from that search turned out to be excessive, one might limit it by specifying that the invention was software related, using the IPC.

All that I would need by way of results would be a file of publication numbers.

Information released:

We have identified only one patent application on which there has been an assignment and on which there are ten or more licences recorded on the patent and this is GB0317362.2 published as GB2391101.

Full details of the case can be viewed on our website via on our line patent information and document inspection service (Ipsum) at www.ipo.gov.uk/types/patent/p-os/p-find/p-ipsum.htm.