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QPAT REINVENTED: A NEW PATENT INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TOOL FOR THE ENTIRE ORGANIZATION

McLean, VA (June 5, 2003)—Questel•Orbit, Inc. (www.questel.orbit.com), the leading provider of leading edge patent and trademark information services and the world's largest collection of patent information, announced today at the Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting in New York City the release on June 12th of significant enhancements on QPAT, the Internet's first patent search tool. Enhancements include: more extensive coverage of the patent delivery service, a shopping basket that lets users to track and directly download patent document copies, greater ease in navigation and, a new patent citation analysis and visualization feature.

"We're turning QPAT from a flexible patent search tool into a power tool that lets users of all levels retrieve the patents they need, analyze the data and generate reports with extensive, reliable data," said Patent Business Unit Director David Dickens. "Patent information is becoming an indispensable tool across an organization's departments," said Charles Besson, Questel•Orbit CEO. "Users should have all the features they need to gather, process and distribute information all in one tool. It's only fitting that the Internet's first patent search tool becomes the industry's benchmark for patent information management tools."

The enhanced patent delivery ensures the most extensive information:

- PCT documents available on the day of publication
- Expanded country coverage, including Canadian and Australian patents
- Publication stages, such as European B patents and WO A3 search reports
- Better availability tagging: PDF icons indicate that patent copies are deliverable.

The shopping basket's enhancements let users track patents with patent number details and the new order tracking status. They can then use information, such as number of pages per document and PDF file sizes, to download patent copies directly from the shopping basket. Users can also directly display and save information.

Navigation has been simplified by letting users go directly from their search to the Hit List display, where they can choose from several record display options.

The anacubis Citation analysis and visualization feature now ***included in all QPAT subscriptions*** lets users explore the complex relationships between cited and citing patents, automatically link related assignees, inventors and ECLAs and

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USPCLs. These links will automatically open the anacubis Viewer with the requested patent.

This new tool helps customers

- identify and monitor competitors
- Find corporate level citing relationships
- locate classification codes for further searching
- identify prior art for validity searching
- identify the significant inventors in a technology area
- combine patent data with other corporate information retrieved from other anacubis supported data-providers

The anacubis™ Viewer automatically creates a visual representation of data in real-time, which can be easily manipulated and acted upon. It does this by automatically representing entities, such as people and organizations, pictorially as icons and shows the relationships between such entities as link types. Each entity and relationship holds the source information, meaning that the user can see the 'big picture' in one View. These views can subsequently be dragged into anacubis™ desktop tools for further analysis and consolidation with other business information.

About Questel•Orbit, S.A.:

Questel•Orbit has been helping manage some of the world's most important IP portfolios for the last 25 years. The company provides best-of-breed IP data and search products, including a database containing the world's most comprehensive collection of patents.

The Intellectual Property Group is Questel•Orbit's major shareholder and specializes in patent and trademark rights.