

ECLA - European Patent Classification

A	Human Necessities
A01	Agriculture; forestry; animal husbandry; hunting; trapping; fishing
A21	Baking; edible doughs
A22	Butchering; meat treatment; processing poultry or fish
A23	Foods or foodstuffs; their treatment, not covered by other classes
A24	Tobacco; cigars; cigarettes; smokers' requisites
A41	Wearing apparel
A42	Headwear
A43	Footwear
A44	Haberdashery; jewellery
A45	Hand or travelling articles
A46	Brushware
A47	Furniture; domestic articles or appliances; coffee mills; spice mills; suction cleaners in general
A61	Medical or veterinary science; hygiene
A62	Life-saving; fire-fighting
A63	Sports; games; amusements

B	Performing Operations; Transporting
B01	Physical or chemical processes or apparatus in general
B02	Crushing, pulverizing, or disintegrating; preparatory treatment of grain for milling
B03	Separation of solid materials using liquids or using pneumatic tables or jigs; magnetic or electrostatic separation of solid materials from solid materials or fluids; separation by high-voltage electric fields
B04	Centrifugal apparatus or machines for carrying-out physical or chemical processes
B05	Spraying or atomising in general; applying liquids or other fluent materials to surfaces, in general
B06	Generating or transmitting mechanical vibrations in general
B07	Separating solids from solids; sorting
B08	Cleaning
B09	Disposal of solid waste; reclamation of contaminated soil
B21	Mechanical metal-working without essentially removing material; punching metal
B22	Casting; powder metallurgy
B23	Machine tools; metal-working not otherwise provided for
B24	Grinding; polishing
B25	Hand tools; portable power-drive tools; manipulators
B26	Hand cutting tools; cutting; severing
B27	Working or preserving wood or similar material; nailing or stapling machines in general
B28	Working cement, clay, or stone
B29	Working of plastics; working of substances in a plastic state, in general
B30	Presses
B31	Making paper articles; working paper
B32	Layered products

B	Performing Operations; Transporting
B41	Printing; lining machines; typewriters; stamps
B42	Bookbinding; albums; files; special printed matter
B43	Writing or drawing implements; bureau accessories
B44	Decorative arts
B60	Vehicles in general
B61	Railways
B62	Land vehicles for traveling otherwise than on rails
B63	Ships or other waterborne vessels; related equipment
B64	Aircraft; aviation; cosmonautics
B65	Conveying; packing; storing; handling thin or filamentary material
B66	Hoisting; lifting; hauling
B67	Opening or closing bottles, jars or similar containers; liquid handling
B68	Saddlery; upholstery
B81	Micro-structure technology
B82	Nano-technology

C	Chemistry; Metallurgy
C01	Inorganic chemistry
C02	Treatment of water, wastewater, sewage, or sludge
C03	Glass, mineral or slag wool
C04	Cements; concrete; artificial stone; ceramics; refractories
C05	Fertilisers, Manufacture thereof
C06	Explosives; matches
C07	Organic chemistry
C08	Organic macromolecular compounds; their preparation or chemical working-up; compositions based thereon
C09	Dyes; paints; polishes; natural resins; adhesives; miscellaneous compositions; miscellaneous applications of materials
C10	Petroleum; gas or coke industries; technical gases containing carbon monoxide; fuels; lubricants; peat
C11	Animal and vegetable oils, fats, fatty substances and waxes; fatty acids therefrom; detergents; candles
C12	Biochemistry; beer; spirits; wine; vinegar; microbiology; enzymology; mutation or genetic engineering
C13	Sugar or starch industry
C14	Skins; hides; pelts; leather
C21	Metallurgy of iron
C23	Metallurgy; ferrous or non-ferrous alloys; treatment of alloys or non-ferrous metals
C25	Coating metallic material; coating metallic material with metallic material; chemical surface treatment; diffusion treatment of metallic material; coating by vacuum evaporation, by sputtering, by ion implantation or by chemical vapour deposition, in general
C26	Electrolytic or electrophoretic processes; apparatus thereof
C30	Crystal growth
C40	Combinatorial chemistry

D Textiles; Paper	
D01	Natural or artificial threads or fibres; spinning
D02	Yarns; mechanical finishing of yarns or ropes; warping or beaming
D03	Weaving
D04	Braiding; lace-making; knitting; trimmings; non-woven fabrics
D05	Sewing; embroidering; tufting
D06	Treatment of textiles or the like; laundering; flexible materials not otherwise provided for
D07	Ropes; cables other than electric
D21	Paper-making; production of cellulose

E Fixed Constructions	
E01	Construction of roads, railways, or bridges
E02	Hydraulic engineering; foundations; soil shifting
E03	Water supply; sewerage
E04	Building
E05	Locks; keys; window or door fittings; safes
E06	Doors, windows, shutters, or roller blinds in general; ladders
E21	Earth-drilling; mining

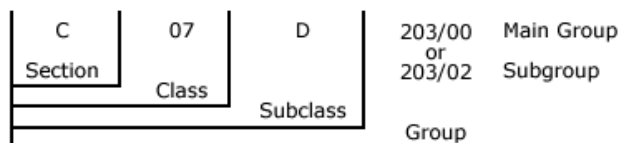
F Mechanical Engineering; Lighting; Heating; Weapons; Blasting Engines or Pumps	
F01	Machines or engines in general; engine plants in general; steam engines
F02	Combustion engines; combustion-product engine plants
F03	Machines or engines for liquids; wind, spring weight and miscellaneous motors; producing mechanical power; or a reactive propulsive thrust, not otherwise provided for
F04	Positive displacement machines for liquids; pumps for liquids or elastic fluids
F15	Fluid-pressure actuators; hydraulics or pneumatics in general
F16	Engineering elements and units; general measures for producing and maintaining effective functioning of machines or installations; thermal insulation in general
F17	Storing or distributing gases or liquids
F21	Lighting
F22	Steam generation
F23	Combustion apparatus; combustion processes
F24	Heating; ranges; ventilating
F25	Refrigeration or cooling; combined heating and refrigeration systems; heat pump systems; manufacture or storage of ice; liquefaction solidification of gases
F26	Drying
F27	Furnaces; kilns; ovens; retorts
F28	Heat exchange in general
F41	Weapons
F42	Ammunition; blasting

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G Physics	
G01	Measuring; testing
G02	Optics
G03	Photography; cinematography; electrography; holography
G04	Horology
G05	Controlling; regulating
G06	Computing; calculating; counting
G07	Checking-devices
G08	Signalling
G09	Education; cryptography; display; advertising; seals
G10	Musical instruments; acoustics
G11	Information storage
G12	Instrument details
G21	Nuclear physics; nuclear engineering

H Electricity	
H01	Basic electric elements
H02	Generation, conversion or distribution of electric power
H03	Basic electronic circuitry
H04	Electric communication technique
H05	Electric techniques not otherwise provided for

Y General Tagging of New Technological Developments	
Y01	Broad technical fields characterised by dimensional aspects



ECLA Hierarchy

Notes

ECLA is a patent classification system based on the International Patent Classification (IPC). It contains about 134,000 groups, roughly twice as many as the 8th edition of the IPC.

There are approximately 28 million documents in esp@cenet dating back to 1836 that have been classified in ECLA. About 37 million documents in esp@cenet have IPC codes.

Unlike IPC codes, ECLA codes are not printed on patent documents.

Source: European Patent Office (www.epo.org)