

James Skelley

Technology Law - IP Prosecution - Transactions

MAIN

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Expediting Portfolio Review

🕒 February 18, 2020 👤 SKELJ 📁 Uncategorized 💬 0

It's a federal holiday and the USPTO / my clients are on vacation, so you know what that means . . . more non-billable-software-showing-off-nonsense!

If you follow me on GitHub you know I have a [thing](#) for improving portfolio review efficiency. One tedious artifact that's bugged me for years is having to print a patent and match reference numbers in the text with those in the image. An automated tool perfectly matching reference numbers isn't feasible, but the process by hand can take ~45 minutes, so if I could build something whose errors took less time than that to correct, then I decided I'd call it a win.

Well, over the previous X-mas holiday I finally decided to do something about it and, having time today, I migrated a demo version onto my website.

Enter RefBot. RefBot takes a patent PDF and text then spits out a GUI with automated images <-> text matches. You can find an online demo [here](#) (n.b., as with all my browser tools, they're built for FireFox – so I take no responsibility if you're using something else! Actually, I take no responsibility no matter what you're using).

Now, I run this thing ragged when I'm using it in the office because I have a local copy of the patent database. For an online demo, uploading >100GB of PDFs isn't feasible, though. Pulling PATFT is feasible, but I'm always nervous about imposing on the USPTO's servers so . . . we're not going to do that either. Instead, the demo has a drop down in the top left corner letting you select from a handful of unprocessed assets on the server that you can play with.

RECENT UPDATES

DMCA Study

Skelley Snapshots

CPC Based Deal Search (i.e., not a COVID post)

NAVIGATION

Main

Updates

LawMux Knowledgebase

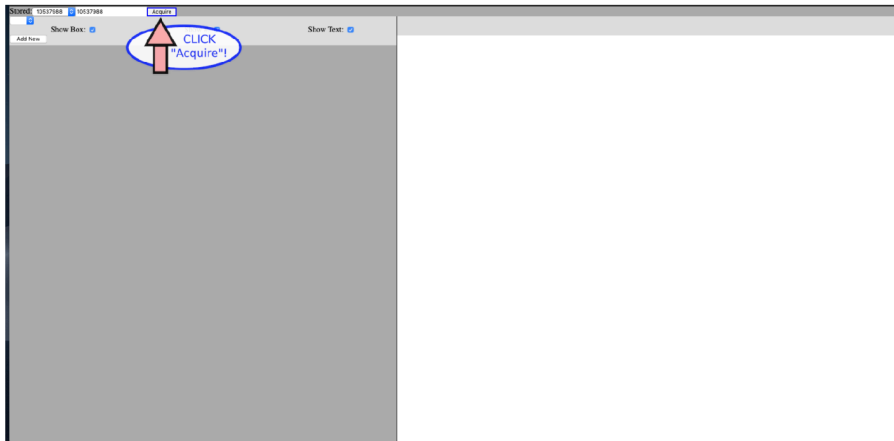
Software

FAQ

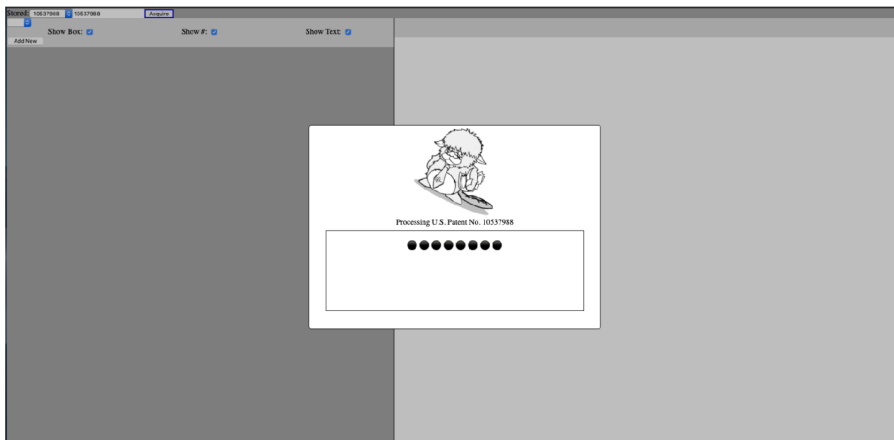
Contact

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So if you follow that [link](#) you'll see a page like this:



On the right side is where the text references will appear and on the left is where the annotated image will appear. By default, the search field is loaded with U.S. Pat. No. 10537988 (if you select from the drop-down to the left of the search box, you can play with some of the other assets I randomly selected). Per the flashing invitation, if you click on the “Acquire” button . . .

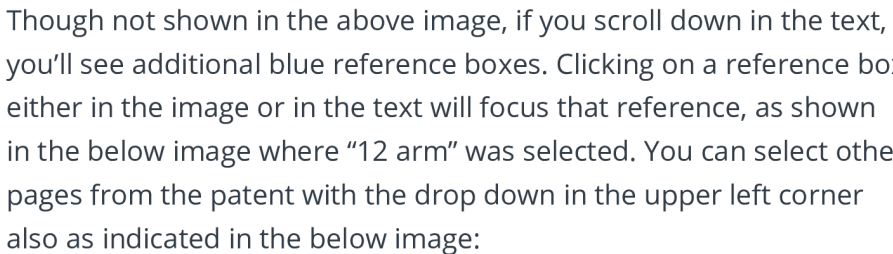
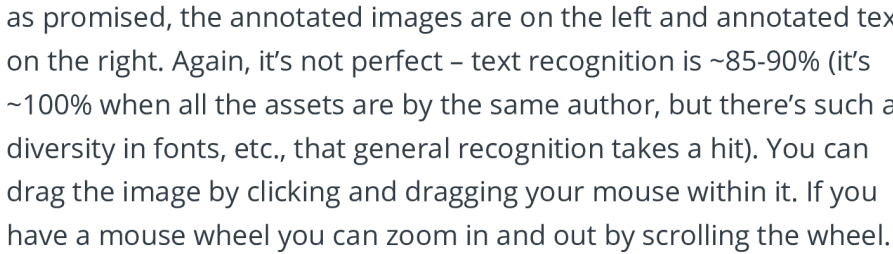


You'll be greeted with a dancing LawMux as the patent processes. Now, my local copy doesn't have these dots, instead presenting processing diagnostics (long story, but these are really useful when processing large portfolios). In my deep and profound ignorance, however, I still haven't figured out all the nuances of Flask + Passenger + Ajax on my website, so . . . you just get dots.

– “\$@% it Jim, I'm a lawyer not a programmer!”

It can take almost a full minute, so be patient.

Once finished, you will see . . .



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