

CONVENTION v. PCT



FACT FILE

Comparative Facts File – Convention Vs. PCT

S. No.	Attributes	Convention Route	PCT Route
1	Time limit for Filing of Application after First Filing [say India]	Within 12 Months [any other country]	Within 12 Months
2	Economic	Economical if applicant wants to file only in <5 Foreign Countries	Economical if applicant wants to file in >5 Foreign Countries
3	National Phase	Within 12 Months	Within 20 - 31 Months, varies from country to country. In most of the countries the 30 Months time period is available.
4	Receiving Office for foreign filing	Individual Applications to be filed at National Patent Offices of each of the target countries.	Single Application to be filed within 12 months at National Patent Office or International Bureau Individual Applications to be filed at National Patent Offices of each of the target countries within the time period mentioned in 3 above.
5	Breathing time for deciding and doing market research	12 Months	Upto 30 Months to decide to go to National Patent Offices
6	Provision for International Search & Examination Report	Not available	Available, this will assist the applicant to decide whether the invention is worth filing in countries or not, helps to save money indirectly.

N.B.: All the time lines mentioned above are from the date of first filing of an application.