UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Patent Public Advisory Committee Quarterly Meeting OPQA search feedback pilot

Patricia Bianco August 8, 2019



General premise

- For a set of randomly selected cases, RQASes will conduct their own search of the case and evaluate the examiner's recorded search strategy and history.
- A feedback form is completed by the RQASes and shared with the examiner via email that includes the RQAS's search strategy.
- The examiner may request a meeting with the RQAS to discuss the search feedback and share best practices on search in general.



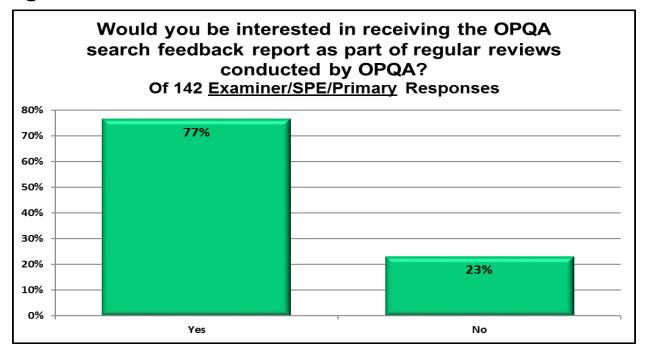
Status update

- The pilot began at the end of February.
- To date there have been 529 cases reviewed.
- To date there have been 157 pilot meetings have been held.
- After a meeting, participants complete a survey to assess the feedback form information and the meeting.

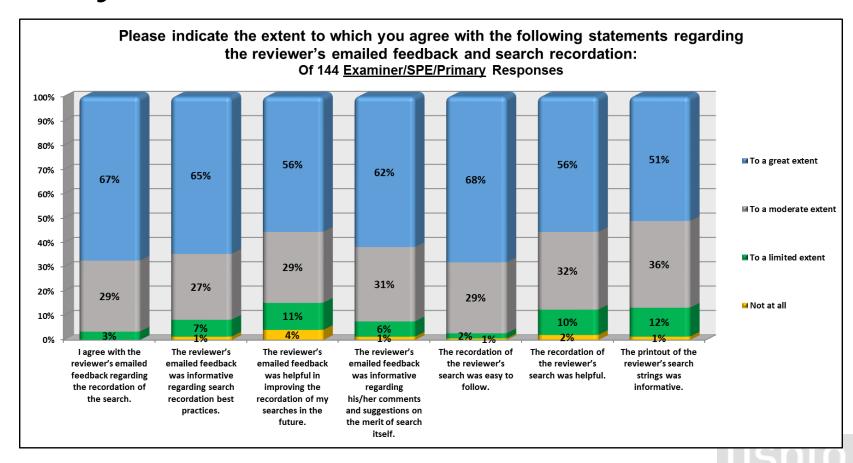


Survey data

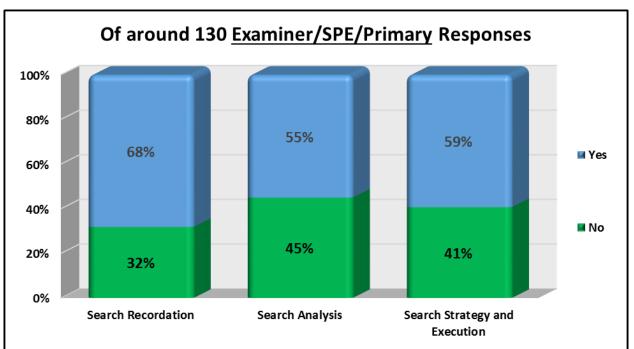
The examiners, SPEs, and primary examiners have shown an interest in receiving a **feedback form** in the future.





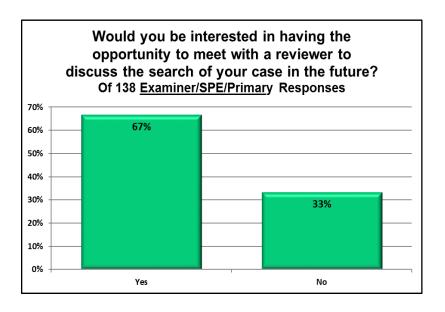


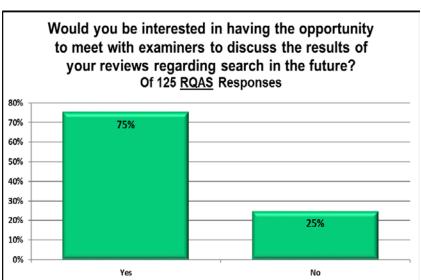
The examiners, SPEs, and primary examiners have indicated they have learned **additional** information in addition to the form in the meeting.





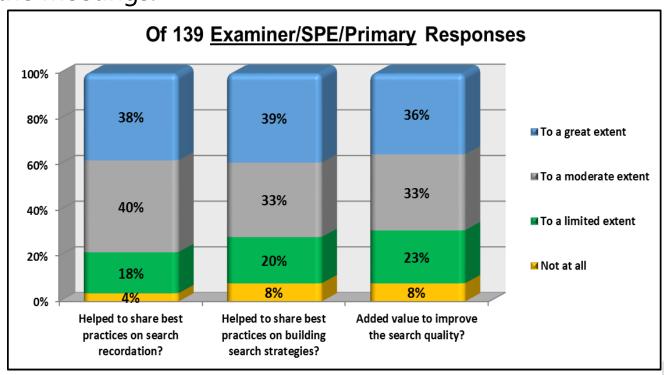
Interest in future meetings:



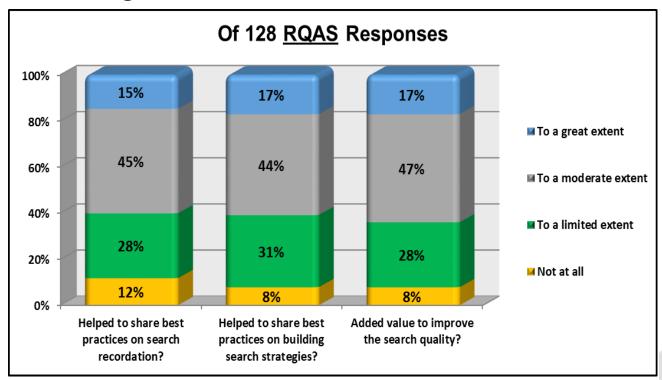




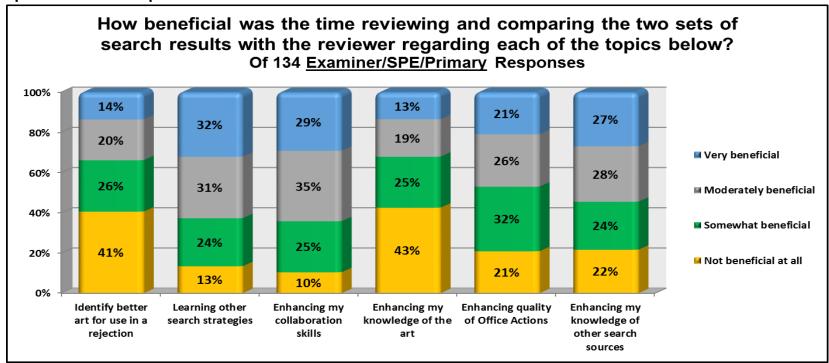
The survey asks all participants questions focused on collaboration in the meetings.



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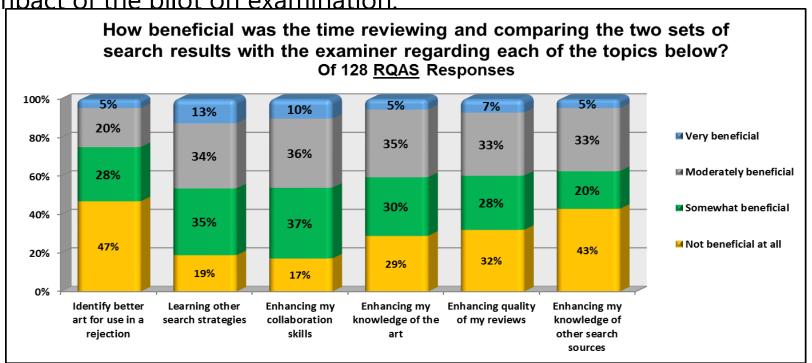


The pilot participants were asked questions that focused on the overall impact of the pilot on examination.



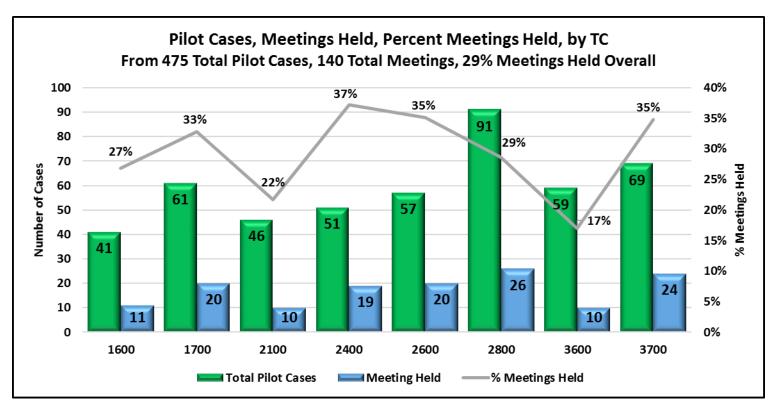


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Pilot demographics





Next steps

- Complete the evaluation of applications from a random sample.
- We will hold focus sessions with three groups:
 - Examiners who participated in a pilot meeting.
 - Examiners who did not participate in a pilot meeting.
 - RQASes.
- Analyze the final survey data.



Questions and comments

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