

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CPC NOTICE OF CHANGES 1678

DATE: JANUARY 1, 2025

PROJECT MP12461

The following classification changes will be effected by this Notice of Changes:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Subclass</u>	<u>Group(s)</u>
SCHEME:		
Titles Changed:	B23K	37/00, 37/003, 37/006, 37/0531, 37/0533, 37/0535, 37/0536, 37/0538

No other subclasses/groups are impacted by this Notice of Changes.

This Notice of Changes includes the following *[Check the ones included]:*

1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

- A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)
- B. New, Modified or Deleted Warning(s)
- C. New, Modified or Deleted Note(s)
- D. New, Modified or Deleted Guidance Heading(s)

2. DEFINITIONS

- A. New or Modified Definitions (Full definition template)
- B. Modified or Deleted Definitions (Definitions Quick Fix)

3. REVISION CONCORDANCE LIST (RCL)

4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

5. CHANGES TO THE CROSS-REFERENCE LIST (CRL)

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1. CLASSIFICATION SCHEME CHANGES

A. New, Modified or Deleted Group(s)

SUBCLASS B23K - SOLDERING OR UNSOLDERING; WELDING; CLADDING OR PLATING BY SOLDERING OR WELDING; CUTTING BY APPLYING HEAT LOCALLY, e.g. FLAME CUTTING; WORKING BY LASER BEAM

<u>Type*</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Indent Level</u> <u>Number of</u> <u>dots (e.g. 0,</u> <u>1, 2)</u>	<u>Title</u> <u>“CPC only” text should normally be</u> <u>enclosed in {curly brackets}**</u>	<u>Transferred to#</u>
M	B23K 37/00	0	Auxiliary devices or processes, not specially adapted for a procedure covered by only one of the other main groups of this subclass ({laser protective screens B23K 26/706;} eye-shields for welders worn on the operator's body or carried in the hand A61F 9/00; applicable to metal-working machines other than soldering, welding, or flame-cutting machines B23Q; other protective shields F16P 1/06)	
M	B23K 37/003	1	Cooling means for welding or cutting	
M	B23K 37/006	1	Safety devices for welding or cutting	
U	B23K 37/02	1	Carriages for supporting the welding or cutting element	
U	B23K 37/04	1	for holding or positioning work	
U	B23K 37/047	2	moving work to adjust its position between soldering, welding or cutting steps (B23K 37/053 takes precedence)	
U	B23K 37/053	2	aligning cylindrical work; Clamping devices therefor	
M	B23K 37/0531	3	Internal pipe alignment clamps	
M	B23K 37/0533	3	External pipe alignment clamps	
M	B23K 37/0535	3	Longitudinal pipe seam alignment clamps	
M	B23K 37/0536	3	for maintaining flanges on tubes	
M	B23K 37/0538	3	for rotating tubes, e.g. rollers	
U	B23K 37/06	1	for positioning the molten material, e.g. confining it to a desired area	
U	B23K 37/08	1	for flash removal	

*N = new entries where reclassification into entries is involved; C = entries with modified file scope where reclassification of documents from the entries is involved; Q = new entries which are firstly populated with documents via administrative transfers from deleted (D) entries. Afterwards, the transferred documents into the Q entry will either stay or be moved to more appropriate entries, as determined by intellectual reclassification; T = existing entries with enlarged file scope, which receive documents from C or D entries, e.g. when a limiting reference is removed from the entry title; M = entries with no change to the file scope (no reclassification); D = deleted entries; F = frozen entries will be deleted once reclassification of documents from the entries is completed; U = entries that are unchanged.

NOTES:

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- **No {curly brackets } are used for titles in CPC only subclasses, e.g. C12Y, A23Y; 2000 series symbol titles of groups found at the end of schemes (orthogonal codes); or the Y section titles. The {curly brackets } are used for 2000 series symbol titles found interspersed throughout the main trunk schemes (breakdown codes).
- U groups: it is obligatory to display the required “anchor” symbol (U group), i.e. the entry immediately preceding a new group or an array of new groups to be created (in case new groups are not clearly subgroups of C-type groups). Always include the symbol, indent level and title of the U group in the table above.
- All entry types should be included in the scheme changes table above for better understanding of the overall scheme change picture. Symbol, indent level, and title are required for all types .
- “Transferred to” column must be completed for all C, D, F, and Q type entries. F groups will be deleted once reclassification is completed.
- When multiple symbols are included in the “Transferred to” column, avoid using ranges of symbols in order to be as precise as possible.
- For administrative transfer of documents, the following text should be used: “< administrative transfer to XX>”, “<administrative transfer to XX and YY simultaneously>”, or “<administrative transfer to XX, YY, ...and ZZ simultaneously>” when administrative transfer of the same documents is to more than one place.
- Administrative transfer to main trunk groups is assumed to be the source allocation type, unless otherwise indicated.
- Administrative transfer to 2000/Y series groups is assumed to be “additional information”.
- If needed, instructions for allocation type should be indicated within the angle brackets using the abbreviations “ADD” or “INV”: <administrative transfer to XX ADD> , <administrative transfer to XX INV>, or < administrative transfer to XX ADD, YY INV, ... and ZZ ADD simultaneously>.
- In certain situations, the “D” entries of 2000-series or Y-series groups may not require a destination (“Transferred to”) symbol, however it is required to specify “<no transfer>” in the “Transferred to” column for such cases.
- For finalisation projects, the deleted “F” symbols should have <no transfer> in the “Transferred to” column.
- For more details about the types of scheme change, see CPC Guide.

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4. CHANGES TO THE CPC-TO-IPC CONCORDANCE LIST (CICL)

<u>CPC</u>	<u>IPC</u>	<u>Action*</u>
B23K 37/003	B23K 37/003	UPDATE
B23K 37/006	B23K 37/006	UPDATE
B23K 37/0531	B23K 37/0531	UPDATE
B23K 37/0533	B23K 37/0533	UPDATE
B23K 37/0535	B23K 37/0535	UPDATE
B23K 37/0536	B23K 37/0536	UPDATE
B23K 37/0538	B23K 37/0538	UPDATE

*Action column:

- For an (N) or (Q) entry, provide an IPC symbol and complete the Action column with "NEW."
- For an existing CPC main trunk entry or indexing entry where the existing IPC symbol needs to be changed, provide an updated IPC symbol and complete the Action column with "UPDATED."
- For a (D) CPC entry or indexing entry complete the Action column with "DELETE." IPC symbol does not need to be included in the IPC column.
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry which is positioned within the main trunk scheme (breakdown code) provide an IPC symbol and complete the action column with "NEW".
- For an (N) 2000 series CPC entry positioned at the end of the CPC scheme (orthogonal code), with no IPC equivalent, complete the IPC column with "CPCONLY" and complete the action column with "NEW".

NOTES:

- F symbols are not included in the CICL table above.
- T and M symbols are not included in the CICL table above unless a change to the existing IPC is desired.