

7-Step U.S. Patent Search Strategy Quick Start

Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL) staff are available to provide training on U.S. patent search processes and research tools including the **Cassis DVD-ROM** system, the **PubWEST** database, and the **USPTO website**.

C lassification

1. Brainstorm keywords related to the purpose, use and composition of the invention.
2. Look up the words in the *Index to the U.S. Patent Classification* (pictured at right) to find potential class/subclasses.
3. Verify the relevancy of the class/subclasses by using the Classification Schedule in the *Manual of Classification* (pictured below).
4. Read the *Classification Definitions* to verify the scope of the subclasses and note "see also" references.

Land Vehicle	See Specific Types	280
Air bags	280 / 728.1+
Seat belts	280 / 801.1+
Spare tire compartment	296 / 37.2
Stub axles	280 / 124.125+
Tires and wheels resilient	152
Toilets	4 / 458+
Vertically adjustable wheels	280 / 43+
Wheel substitutes	305
Wheels and axles	301

A ccess Full-Text

5. Search the *Issued Patents* and the *Published Applications* databases by "Current US Classification" and access full-text patents and published applications.

Class 301 LAND VEHICLES: WHEELS AND AXLES

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- 1
- 2
- 2.5
- 3.1
- 5.21
- 5.22
- 5.23
- 5.24
- 5.301
- 5.7
- 5.302
- 5.303

COMBINED WHEEL AND AXLE MODIFICATION

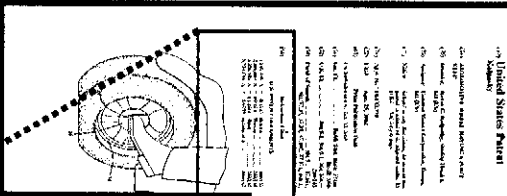
- Cushion lateral thrust
- With pedal crank

WHEEL

- Balancing device
- Self-operating
- With peripheral roller
- Having housing for tire inflation means
- Skate wheel
- With antifriction bearing
- Traction increasing
- ... Shape

R eview & References

6. Review the claims, specifications and drawings of documents retrieved for relevancy.
7. Check all references and note the "U.S. Cl." and "Field of Search" areas for additional class/subclasses to search (pictured at right).



United States Patent

301/5.1; 301/5.1; 301/108.4; 301/165

Field of Search

301/37.25; 37.28; 37.102; 37.371; 108.1; 108.4; 280/163; 164.1; 165

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

1,149,338 A *	8/1915	Butcher	280/165
2,218,060 A *	10/1940	Watson	280/165
3,288,488 A *	11/1966	Shima	280/165
3,734,534 A *	5/1973	Brooks et al.	280/163



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