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November 4th, 2005

Letter of reference for SJM Consulting – Stephen McDermott

In May 2005, we contracted Stephen McDermott to provide operational classification services to the Patent Branch, Patent Appeal Board, Copyright and Industrial Designs Branch, Information Branch of the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) for a 6 month period.

He was quickly able to provide services as a Classification Advisor making sound decisions by taking into consideration all of the internal and external organizational contexts. Stephen participated and chaired a number of classification committees which required the revision and evaluation of many contentious cases.

Stephen arrived in the middle of a reorganization for the Information Branch and succeeded to complete almost all classification actions before the end of his contract. He was able to provide insightful and informed advice on reorganization options in order to address structural anomalies within this branch.

His level of professionalism was outstanding and appreciated by all. He handled difficult situations and clients with tact and much respect.

Thank you for all your hard work,

Lise Lanthier
Head, Classification
Human Resources Branch
CIPO