



# **Paul M. Rivard discusses the potential impact of the new first-to-file process on the USPTO backlog in BioWorld.**

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Mr. Rivard discusses how the patent backlog at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) could get worse before it gets better, especially as the March 16, 2013, deadline approaches for switching from the current first-to-invent system to the new first-to-file process laid out in the America Invents Act (AIA).

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