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2016 ANALYSIS ON PTAB CONTESTED PROCEEDINGS

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FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO



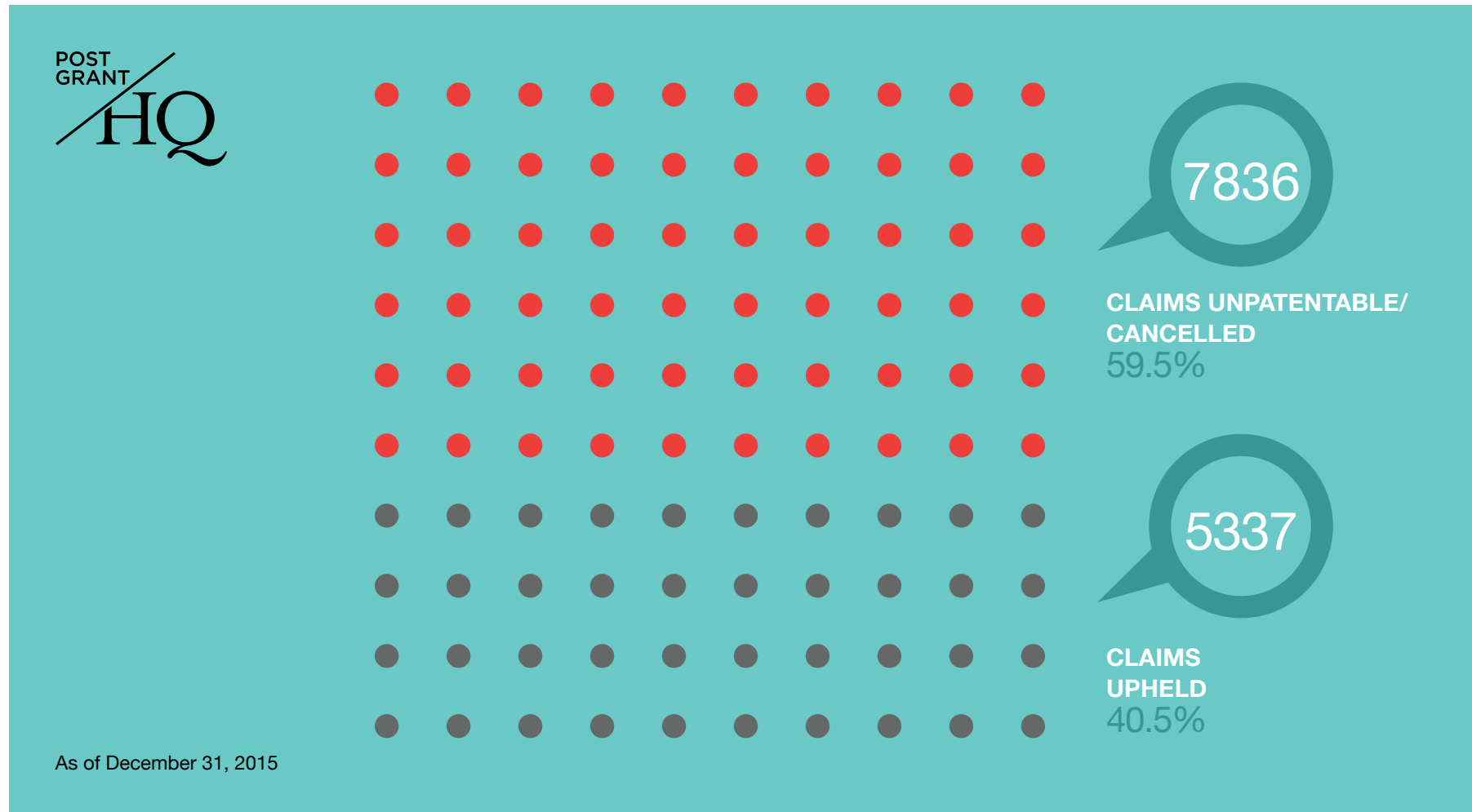
INTRODUCTION

Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto undertook this Report on Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) Contested Proceedings to provide objective information on the results of Inter Partes Review (IPR) and the Transitional Program for Covered Business Method Patents (CBM) proceedings. The analysis is based on a review of all final written decisions issued through 2015 and all decisions denying institution issued through 2014. Because final written decisions issue about one year after institution decisions, we did not include decisions denying institution in 2015 to avoid improper skewing.

Much discussion has focused on how the expedited reviews offered by IPRs and CBMs would evolve, with many worrying that the proceedings would improperly terminate patent rights.

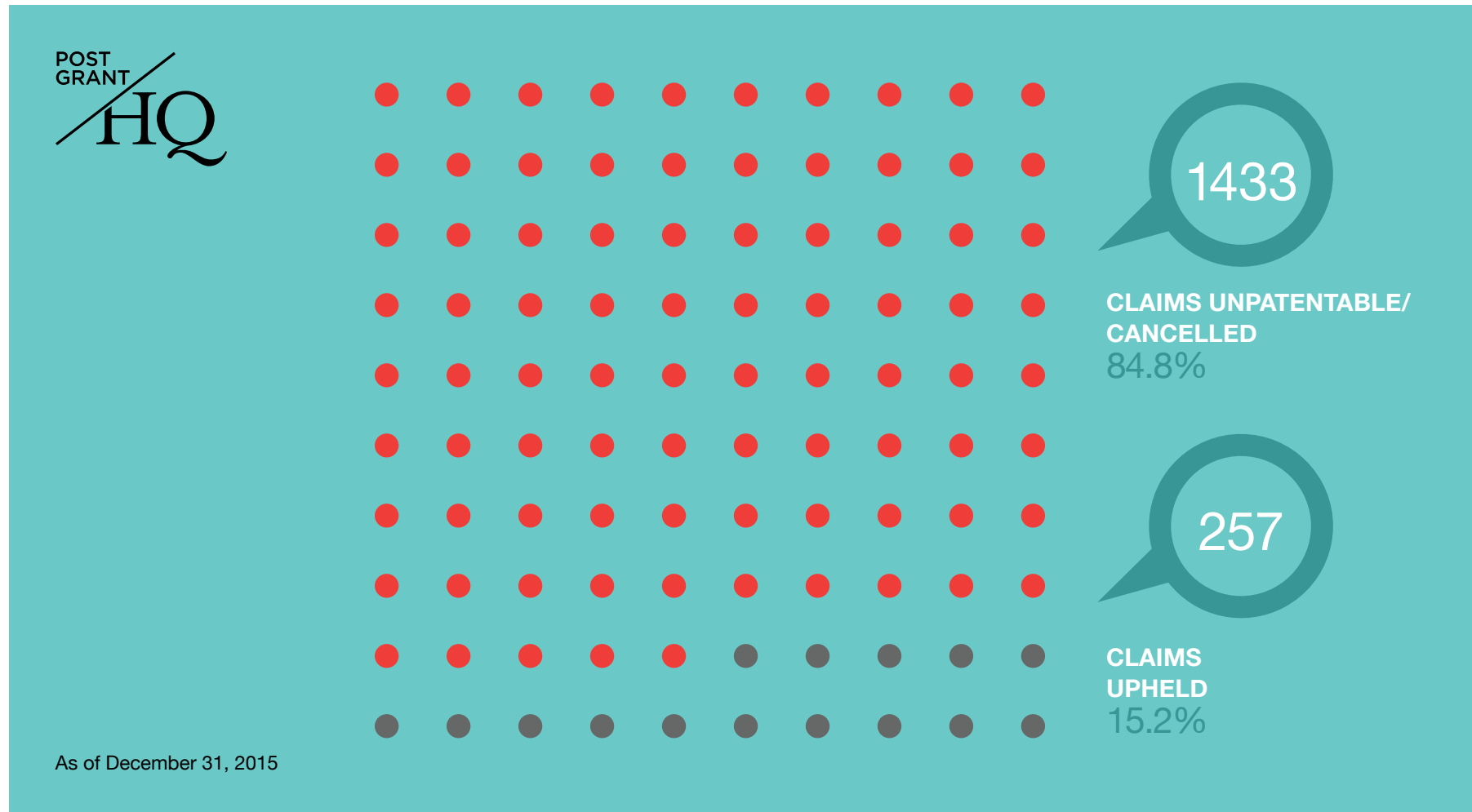
This report provides perspective on the effects of IPRs and CBMs based on a large pool of decisions and a rigorous methodology that accounts for duplicate petitions and other factors that could paint an incorrect picture. We believe this comprehensive report provides valuable insights regarding both the usefulness of these proceedings to challengers and effective lines of defense for patent owners.

IPR: SURVIVAL RATE OF CHALLENGED CLAIMS



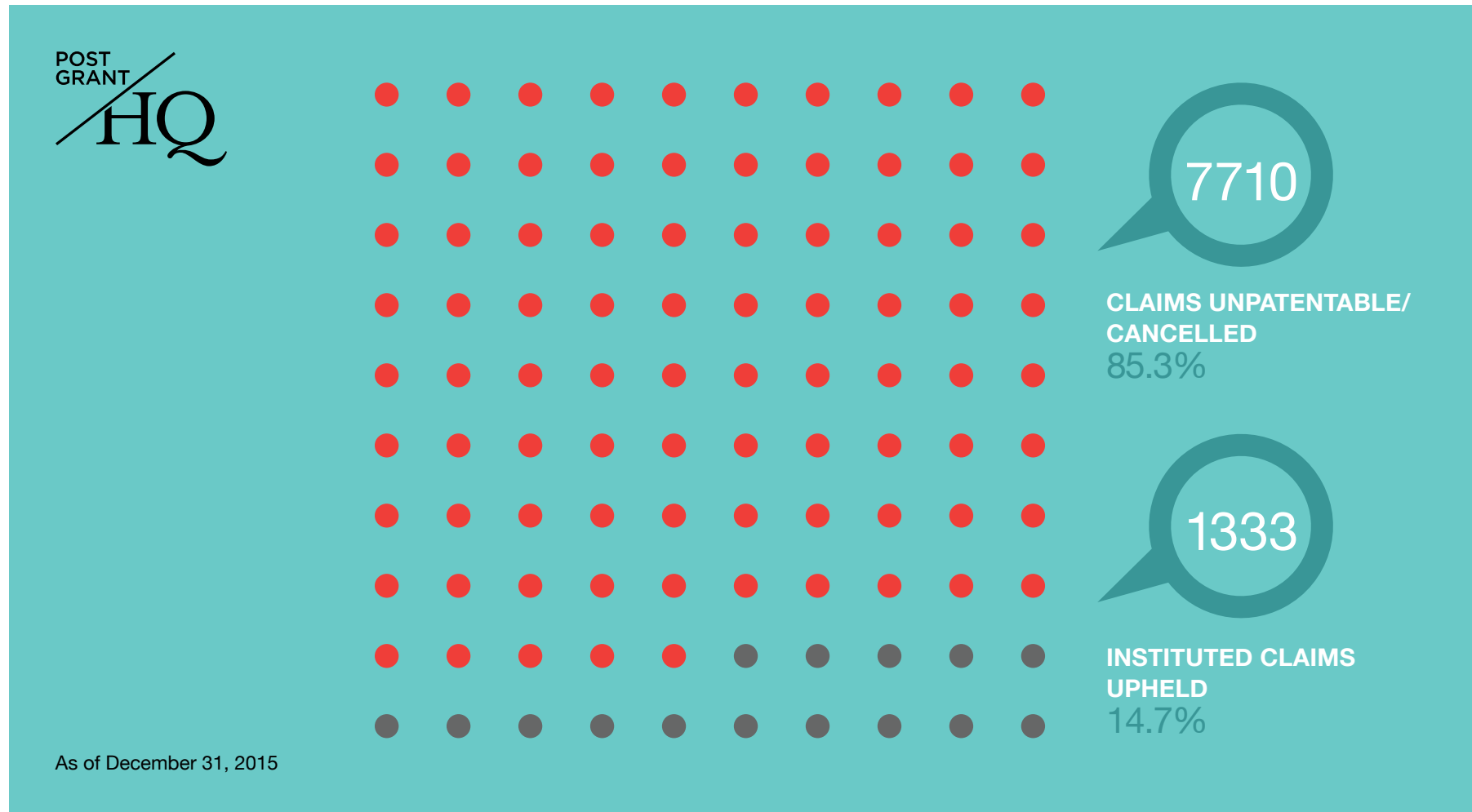
Key Finding: In cases that reached final written decisions or were substantively denied institution, about 60% of claims that were originally *challenged* in the IPR petitions were cancelled or found unpatentable. This statistic accounts for challenged claims which were denied institution for substantive reasons, as opposed to procedural reasons (e.g., time-barred). The analysis includes decisions not to institute through 2014, and final decisions through 2015, due to the temporal relationship between these types of decisions. Specifically, final decisions typically issue about one year after the decisions to institute. Accounting for that one year differential avoids an improper skewing toward the outcomes of decisions not to institute. Of the claims that did not survive review, 11.3% of challenged claims were cancelled by patent owners. This analysis does not factor in challenges that did not reach a decision on the merits because of settlement.

CBM: SURVIVAL RATE OF CHALLENGED CLAIMS



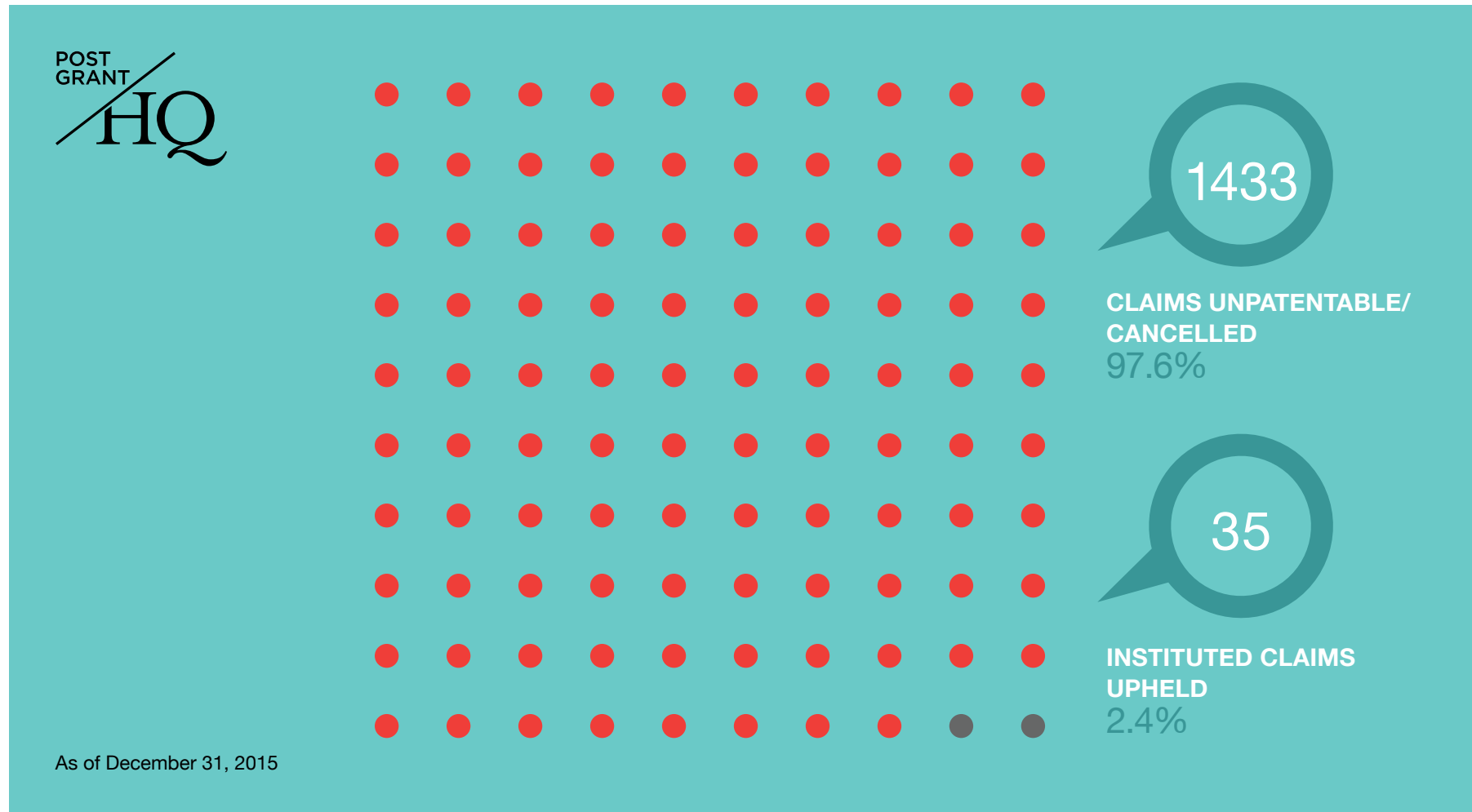
Key Finding: This statistic accounts for final written decisions and substantively denied petitions. It excludes challenged claims that were denied CBM review for procedural reasons (e.g., time-barred) and cases in which the PTAB determined the patents did not claim a qualifying business method. The analysis includes decisions not to institute through 2014, and final decisions through 2015. Final decisions typically issue about one year after the decisions to institute. Accounting for that one-year differential avoids an improper skewing toward the outcomes of institution decisions. As compared to IPR proceedings, CBM proceedings allow for additional statutory grounds of unpatentability and relate only to qualifying business method patents (which opens the door to Section 101 challenges). The availability of Section 101 challenges largely accounts for the higher rate of unpatentability as compared to IPRs.

IPR: SURVIVAL RATE OF INSTITUTED CLAIMS



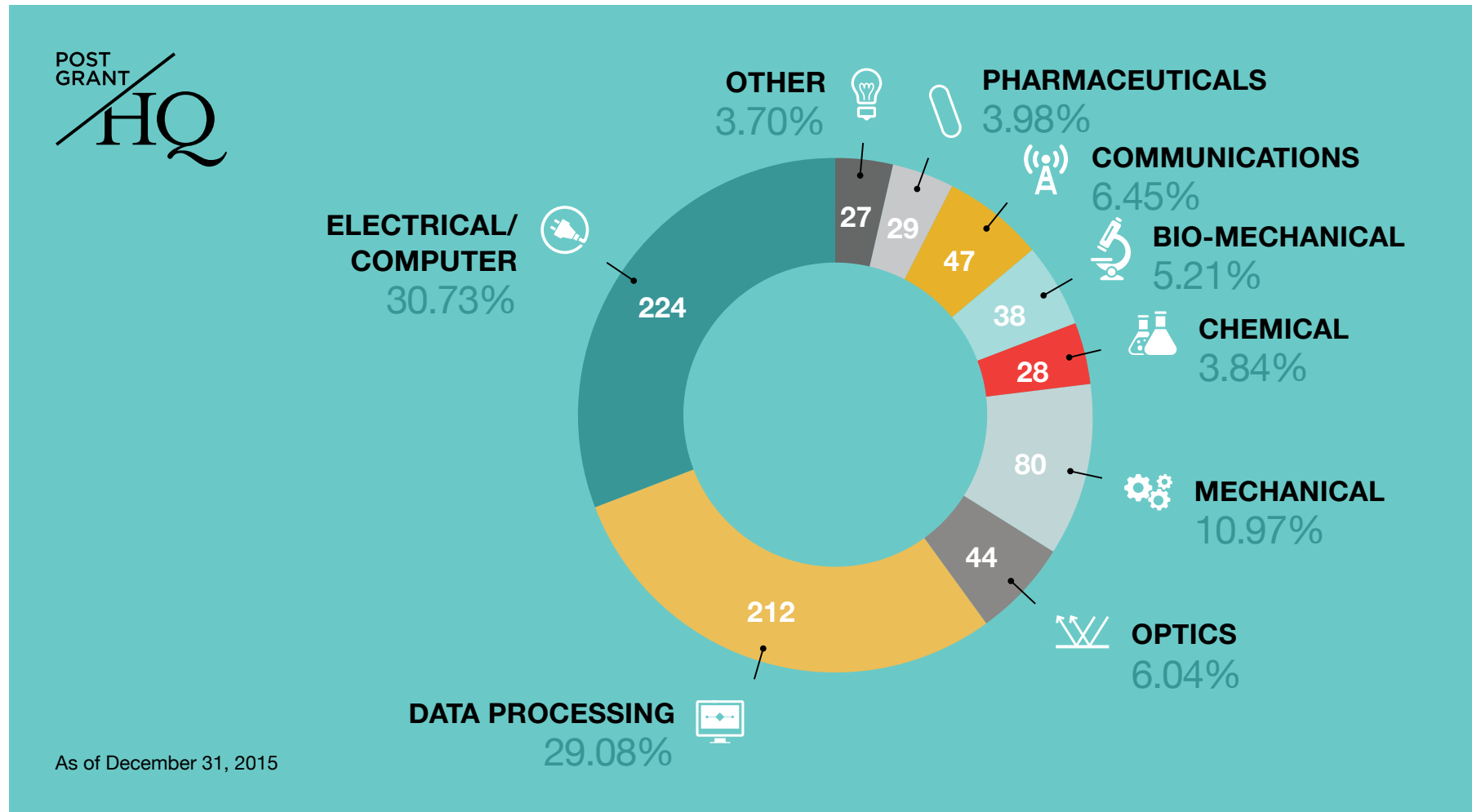
Key Finding: Institution of a trial may be based on all of the challenged claims or some subset of claims. This chart shows the survival rate of *instituted* claims in IPR proceedings that reach a final written decision (as compared to prior charts that show the survival rates relative to claims originally *challenged*, some of which were not instituted). Trial is instituted on a claim if the PTAB believes that “it is more likely than not that” the claim is unpatentable. This initial institution has a large impact on the ultimate outcome.

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IPR AND CBM FINAL DECISIONS BY TECHNOLOGY



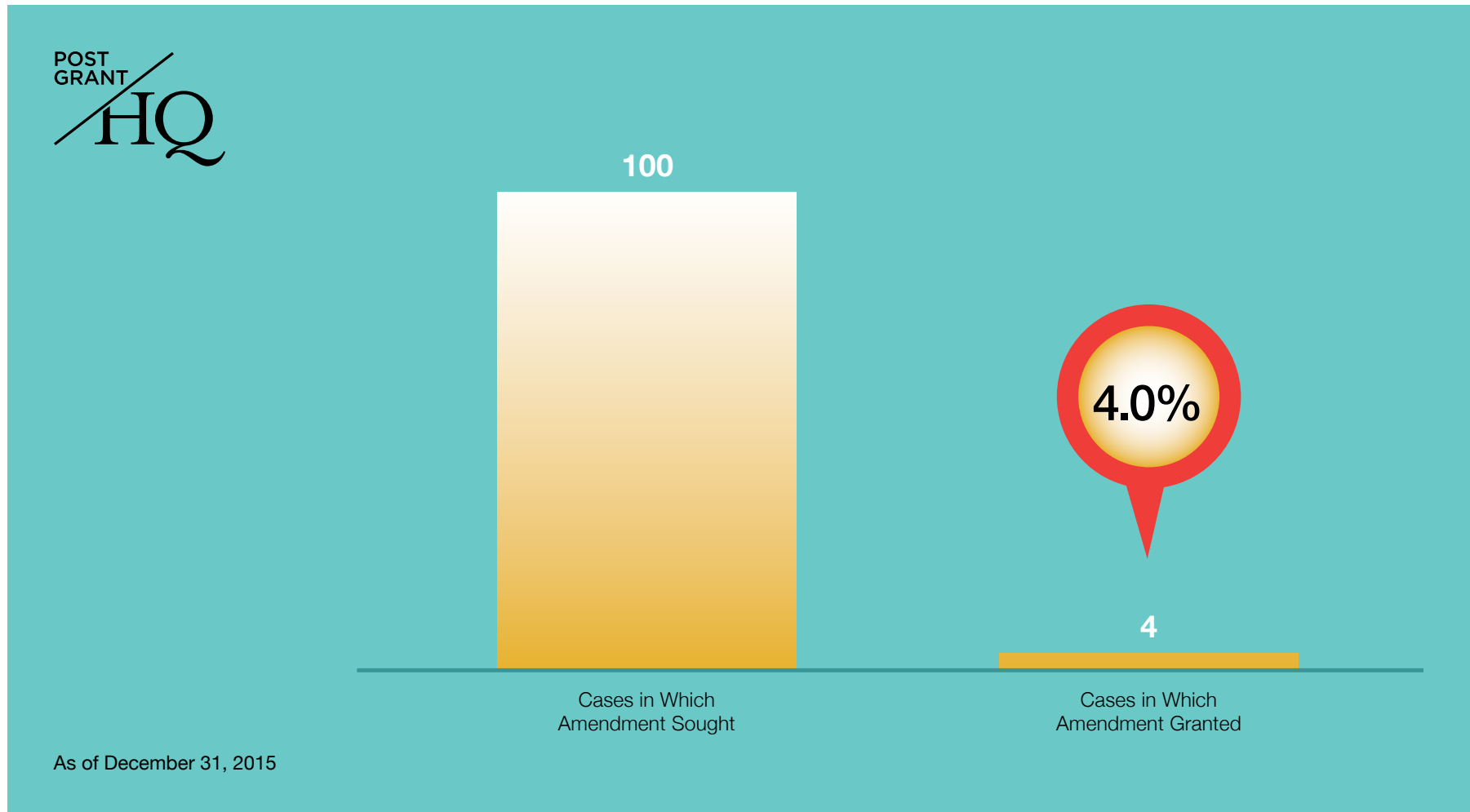
Key Finding: This chart shows the technology areas for the patents for which the PTAB issued final decisions. Two technology categories—electrical/computer and data processing—have been at issue in about 60% of all final decisions issued in IPR and CBM proceedings through 2015. The next four categories combined—optics, mechanical, communications, and biomechanical—account for only about 29% of all final decisions.

PERCENTAGE OF IPRS WITH A CONCURRENT LITIGATION



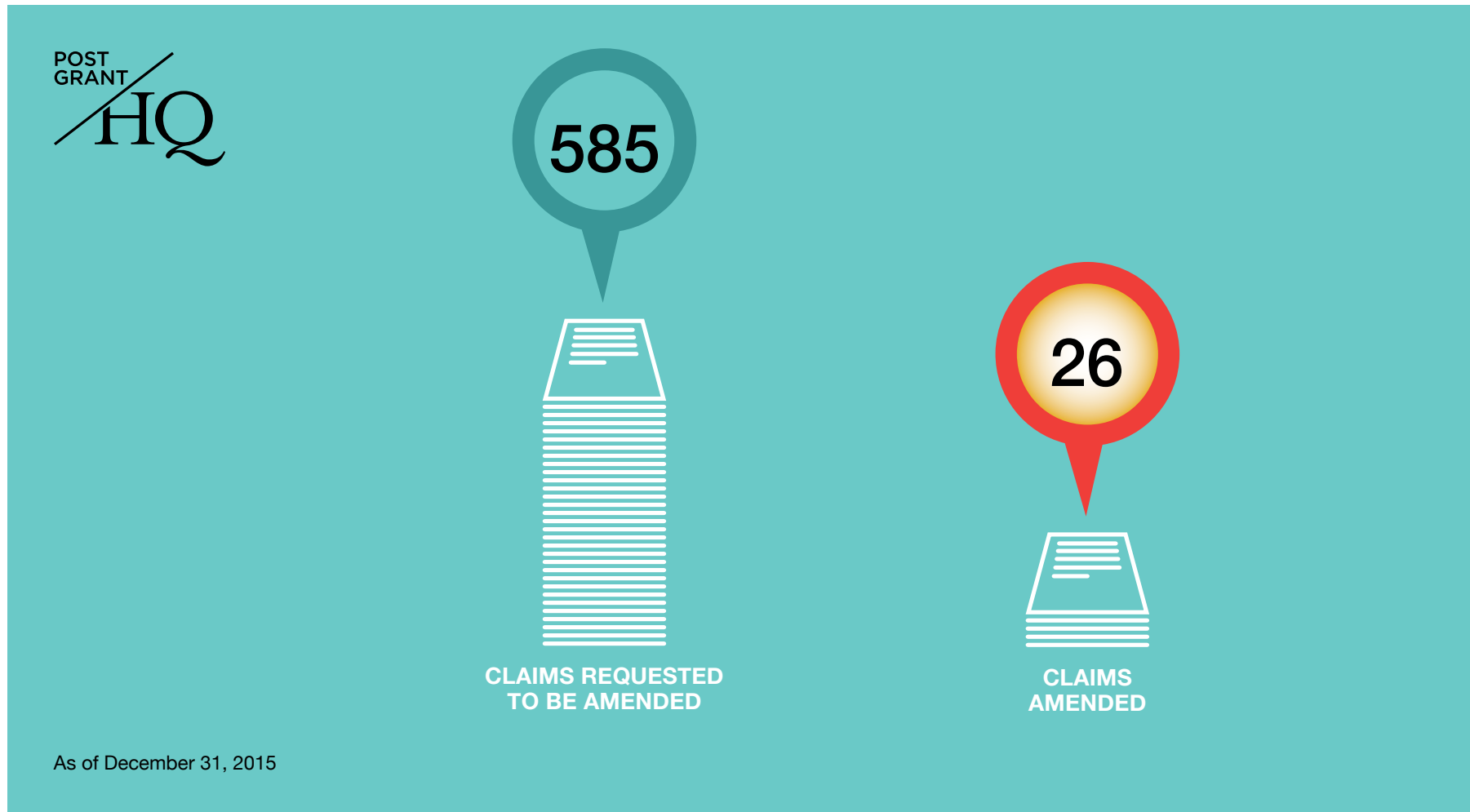
Key Finding: The majority of IPR proceedings involved patents embroiled in concurrent district court litigations. This supports the notion that defendants in patent infringement suits are driving the filing of IPR petitions. An article by Fitzpatrick attorney Ha Kung Wong in July 2014 notes that district courts may be inclined to stay litigations while the PTAB makes its decision on the validity of the patents at issue. Such stays could effectively transfer validity determinations from the federal courts to the PTAB.

IPR: DECISIONS ON REQUESTS TO AMEND THE CLAIMS



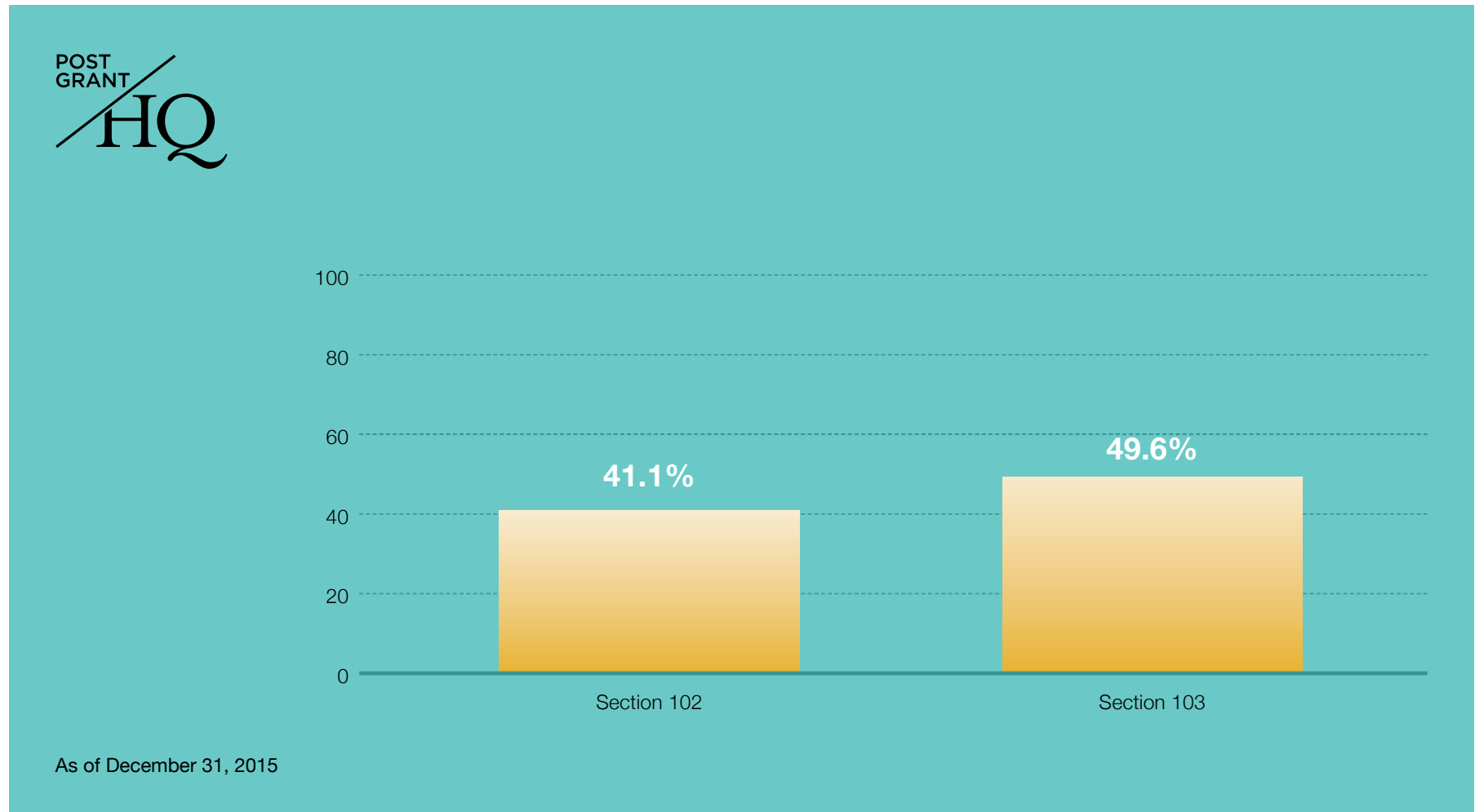
Key Finding: In IPR proceedings, the PTAB has granted motions to amend claims sparingly. This chart presents the number of times a motion to amend the claims was granted compared to the total number of motions made. The PTAB often denied these motions for failure to comply with the PTAB's high threshold for entering claim amendments; however, in a few instances, a contingent motion to amend was not granted because the original claims were upheld. This can be contrasted with European Opposition proceedings in which, in 2015, 38% of the cases upheld the patent in amended form. Interestingly, in European practice, claims survived in unamended form in 31% of cases, whereas 43% of the claims challenged in IPR proceedings survived unamended.

IPR: NUMBER OF CLAIMS AMENDED/DENIED AMENDMENT



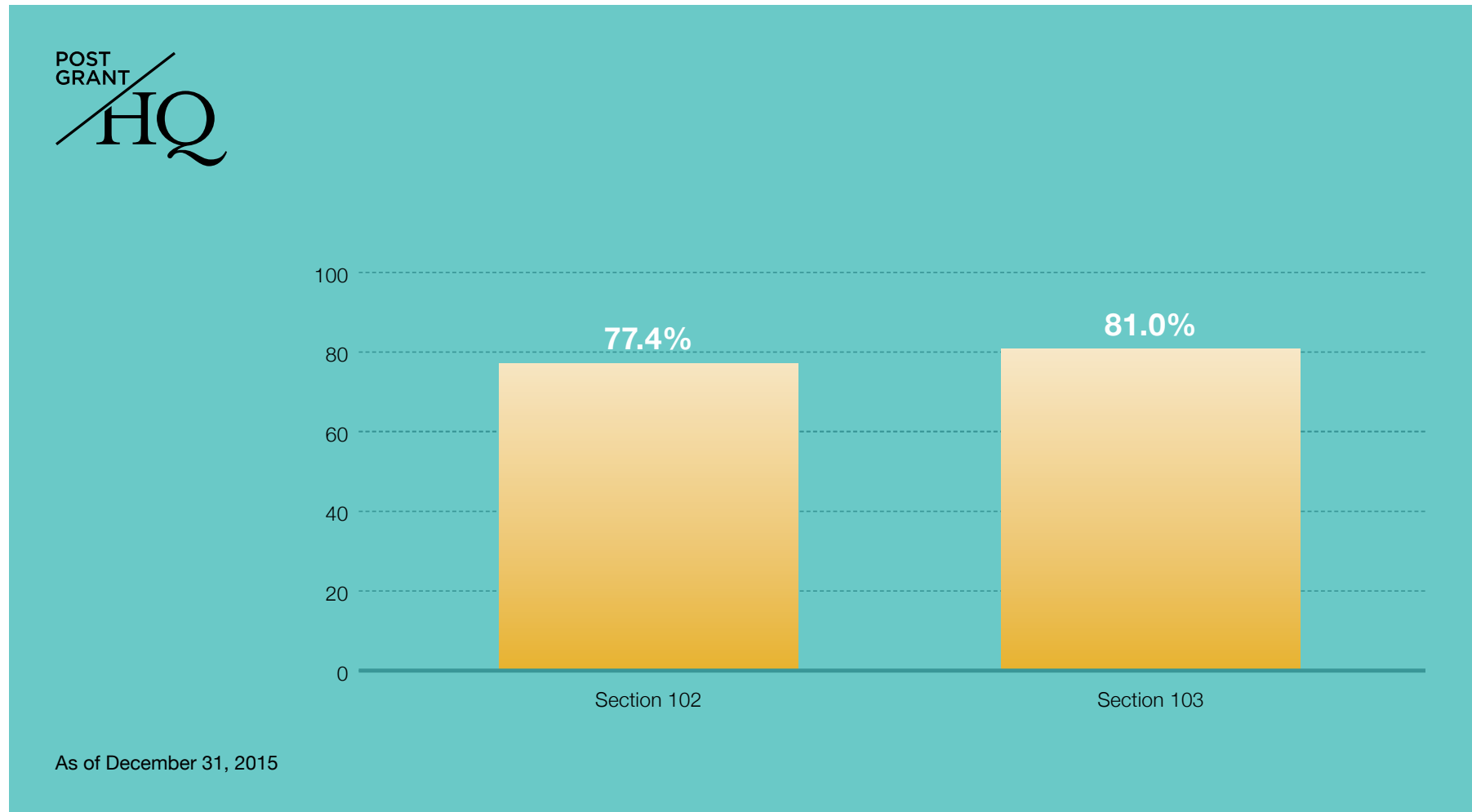
Key Finding: As compared to the previous chart, this chart shows the total number of claims for which amendment was granted (rather than the number of proceedings), as well as the total number of claims for which patent owners sought amendment. Patent owners may seek amendment on all or some of the claims instituted in a proceeding.

IPR: BREAKDOWN OF UNPATENTABILITY FINDINGS IN FINAL DECISIONS RELATIVE TO CLAIMS CHALLENGED



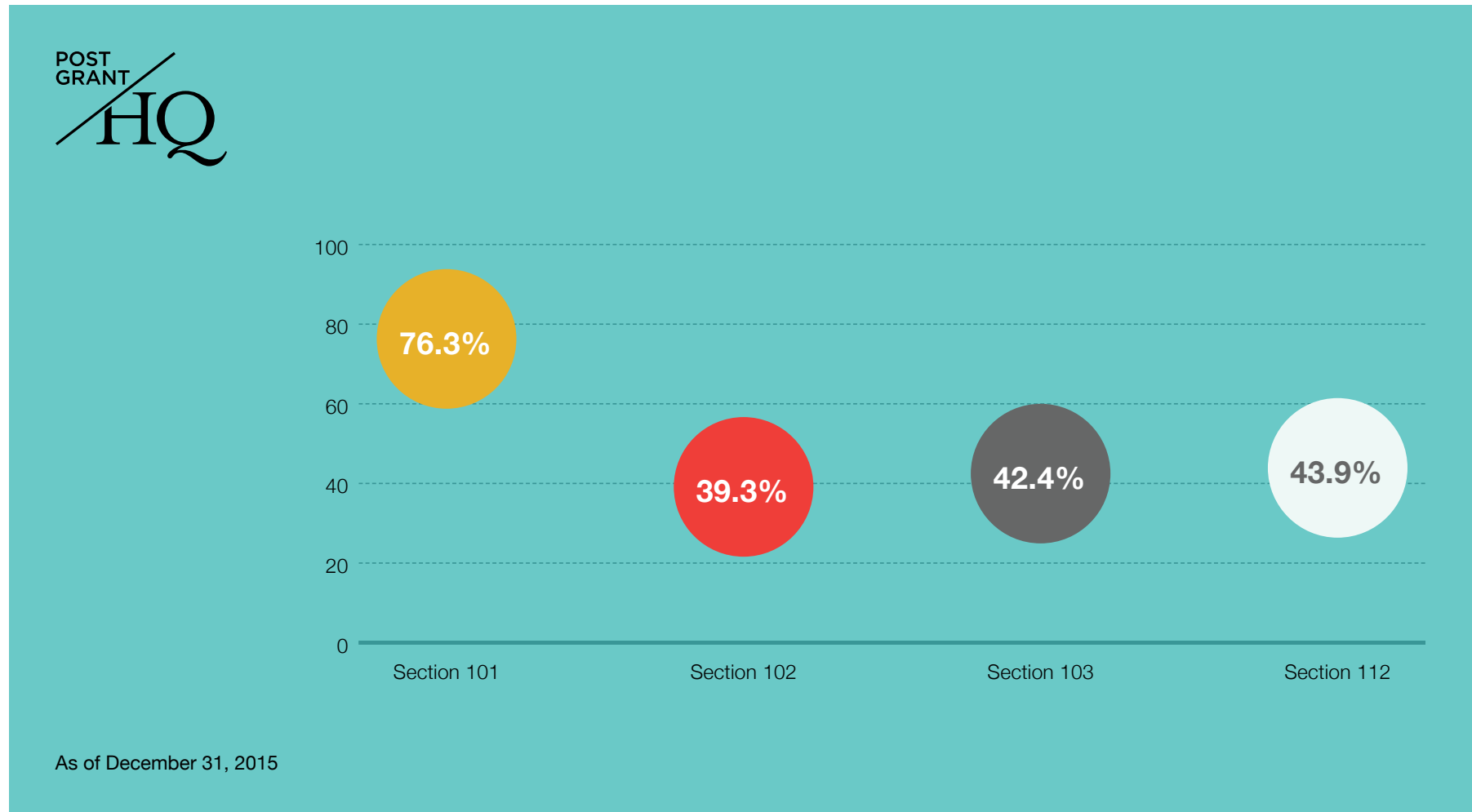
Key Finding: This chart presents the percentage of claims found unpatentable under Sections 102 and 103 for IPR petitions that reached a final written decision or were substantively denied institution. The analysis includes decisions not to institute through 2014, and final decisions through 2015, which typically issue about a year apart. That differential avoids an improper skewing toward the outcomes of decisions to institute. This analysis excludes claims cancelled by the patent owner. While petitioners still have a better chance of invalidating claims under Section 103 than Section 102, since the inception of IPR practice we have observed a decline in the number of 102 challenges, yet a rise in the success rate. Also, the Section 102 success rate is not much higher than the corresponding rate in district court litigations (31.1%), while the success rate for Section 103 is much higher in IPR proceedings than in district courts (27.8%).

IPR: BREAKDOWN OF UNPATENTABILITY FINDINGS IN FINAL DECISIONS RELATIVE TO CLAIMS INSTITUTED



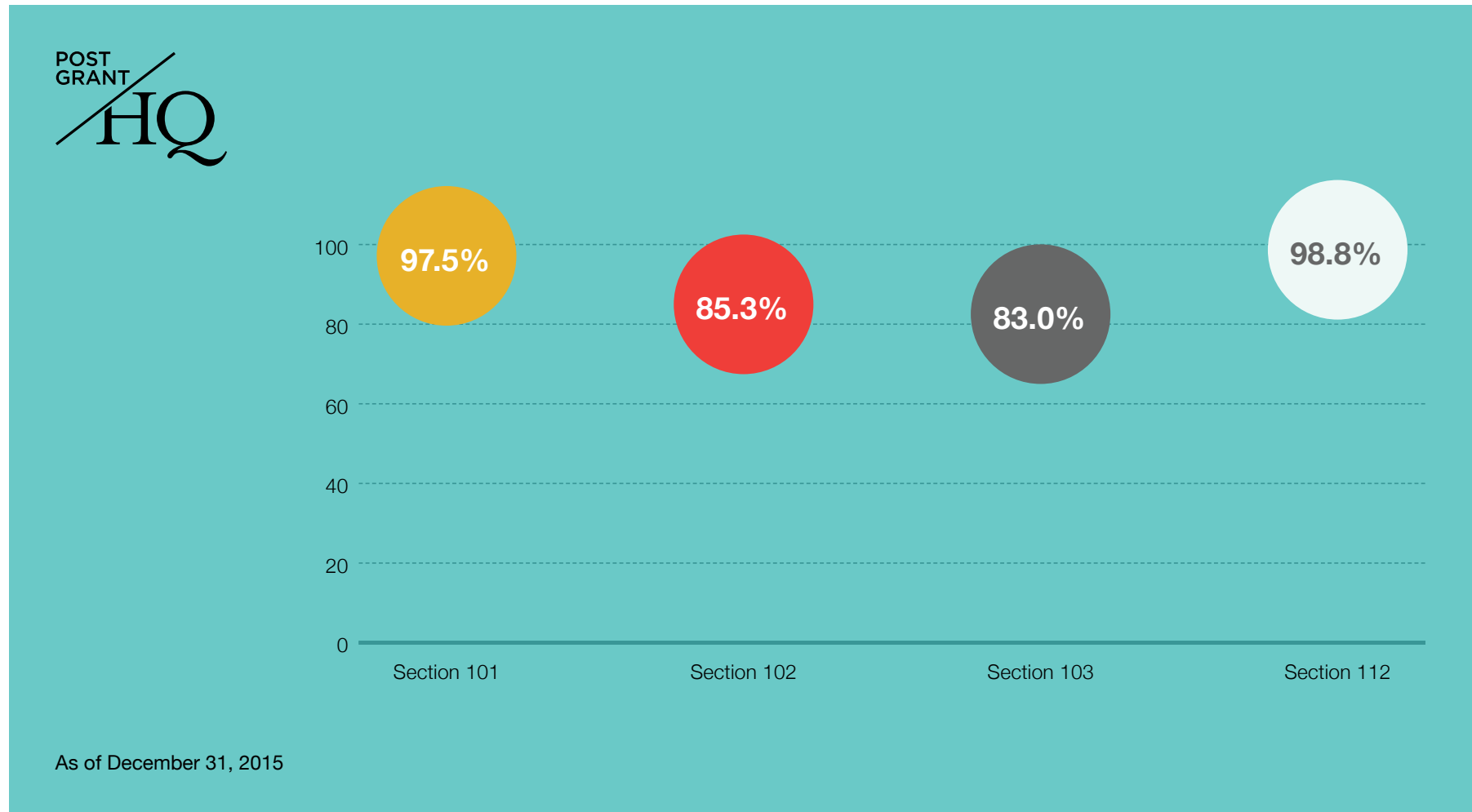
Key Finding: This chart presents the percentage of claims found unpatentable under Sections 102 and 103 out of the claims for which trial was *instituted* in IPR proceedings that reached final written decisions. Some claims were invalidated under both grounds. We excluded cancelled claims for which the PTAB could not issue a ruling under Sections 102 and/or 103. The higher rates show that the likelihood of a successful challenge jumps significantly once a trial is instituted.

CBM: BREAKDOWN OF UNPATENTABILITY FINDINGS IN FINAL DECISIONS RELATIVE TO CLAIMS CHALLENGED



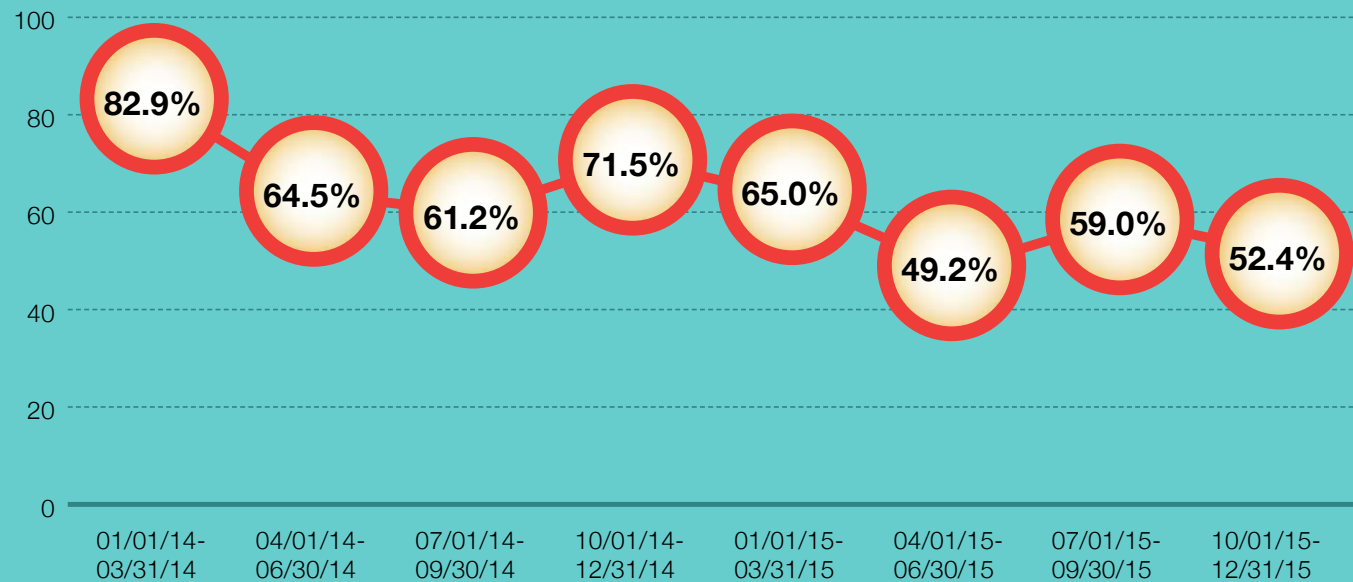
Key Finding: This chart presents the percentage of claims found unpatentable under Sections 101, 102, 103, and 112 for all CBM petitions which either reached a final written decision, or were denied institution for substantive reasons rather than procedural reasons (e.g., time-barred). The analysis includes decisions not to institute through 2014, and final decisions through 2015, due to the temporal relationship between these types of decisions. That one year differential avoids an improper skewing toward the outcomes of decisions not to institute. The rate of unpatentability of claims challenged under Section 101 is higher than the corresponding rate under Sections 102, 103, and 112. Note that some claims were found unpatentable on multiple bases. Claims cancelled by patent owner and cases denied institution for failing to claim a qualifying business method are excluded from the analysis.

CBM: BREAKDOWN OF UNPATENTABILITY FINDINGS IN FINAL DECISIONS RELATIVE TO CLAIMS INSTITUTED



Key Finding: This chart presents the percentage of claims found unpatentable under Sections 101, 102, 103, and 112 for all claims for which trial was *instituted* in CBM proceedings that reached final written decisions. The high rate of unpatentability under Section 101 can be tied to the requirement for institution in a CBM (a qualifying business method) and the effect of the Supreme Court's decision in *Alice*. Even for the other instituted grounds, the rates of invalidation are much higher compared to that for challenged claims. Some claims were found unpatentable on multiple bases.

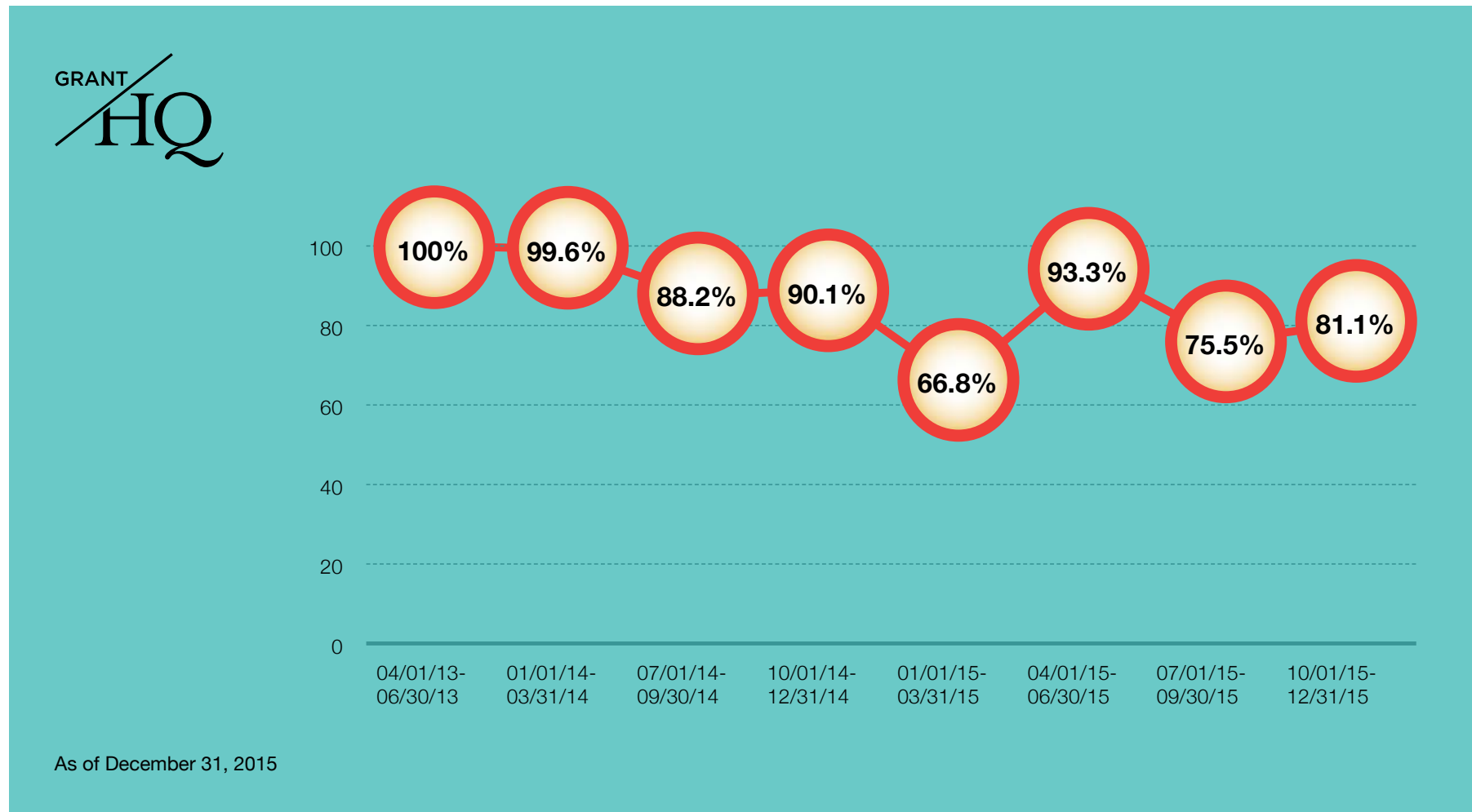
IPR: PERCENTAGE OF CHALLENGED CLAIMS FOUND UNPATENTABLE OR CANCELLED IN FINAL DECISIONS



As of December 31, 2015

Key Finding: This chart presents, per fiscal quarter, the percentage of claims that were found unpatentable or cancelled out of those *challenged* by the petitioner in IPR proceedings that reached final written decisions or were denied institution on substantive grounds. The data suggests that there has been a drop in unpatentability findings. It is unclear if this is due to adjustments by the PTAB, the quality of patents challenged by petitioners, the quality of petitions/defenses, or some combination thereof. The listed periods are for final written decisions. The analyzed decisions not to institute are from one year earlier.

CBM: PERCENTAGE OF CHALLENGED CLAIMS FOUND UNPATENTABLE OR CANCELLED IN FINAL DECISIONS



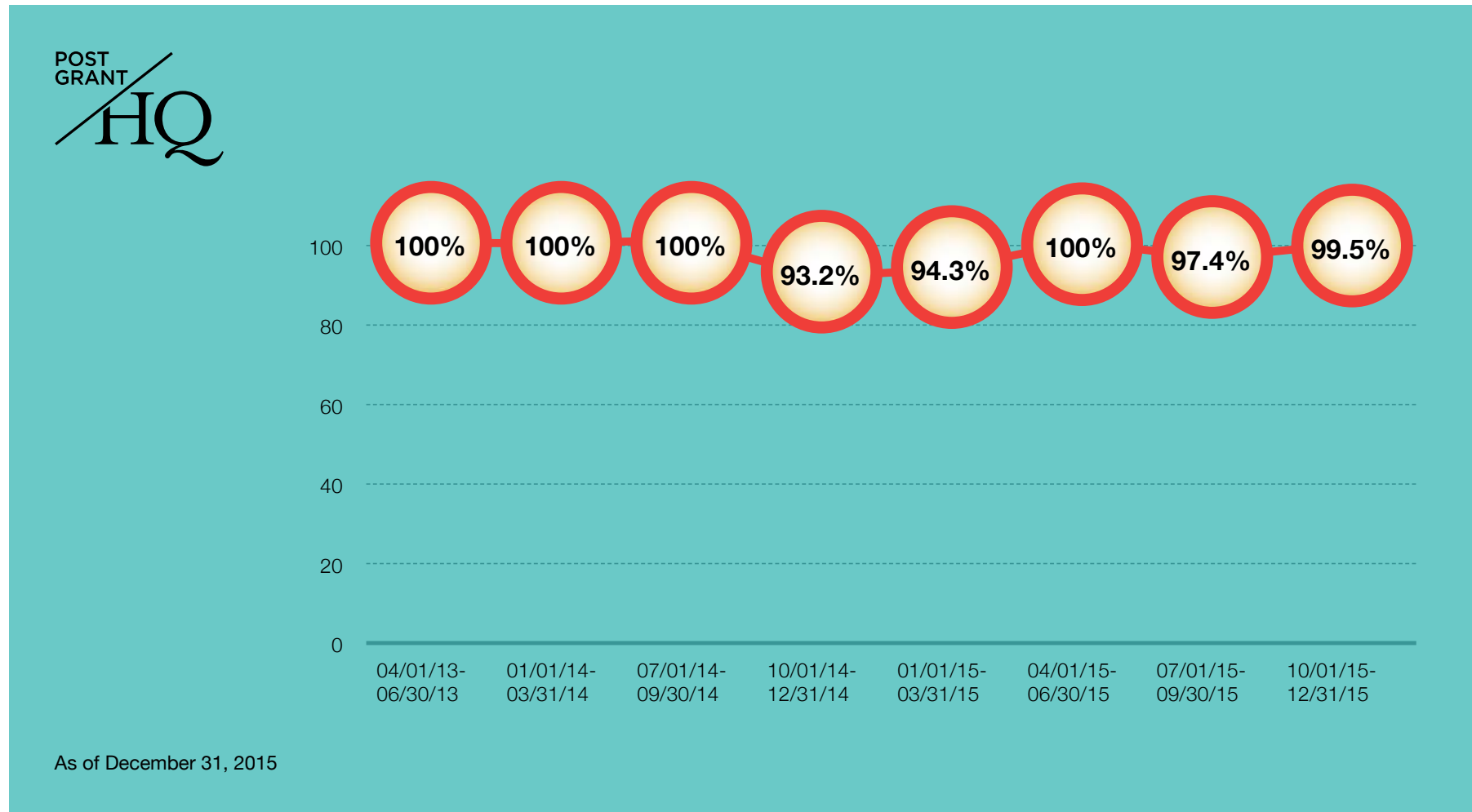
Key Finding: This chart presents, per fiscal quarter, the percentage of claims that were found unpatentable or cancelled out of those *challenged* by the petitioner in CBM proceedings that reached final written decisions or were denied institution on substantive grounds. The sample sizes for some quarters were small. The listed periods are for final written decisions. The analyzed decisions not to institute are from one year earlier.

IPR: PERCENTAGE OF INSTITUTED CLAIMS FOUND UNPATENTABLE OR CANCELLED IN FINAL DECISIONS



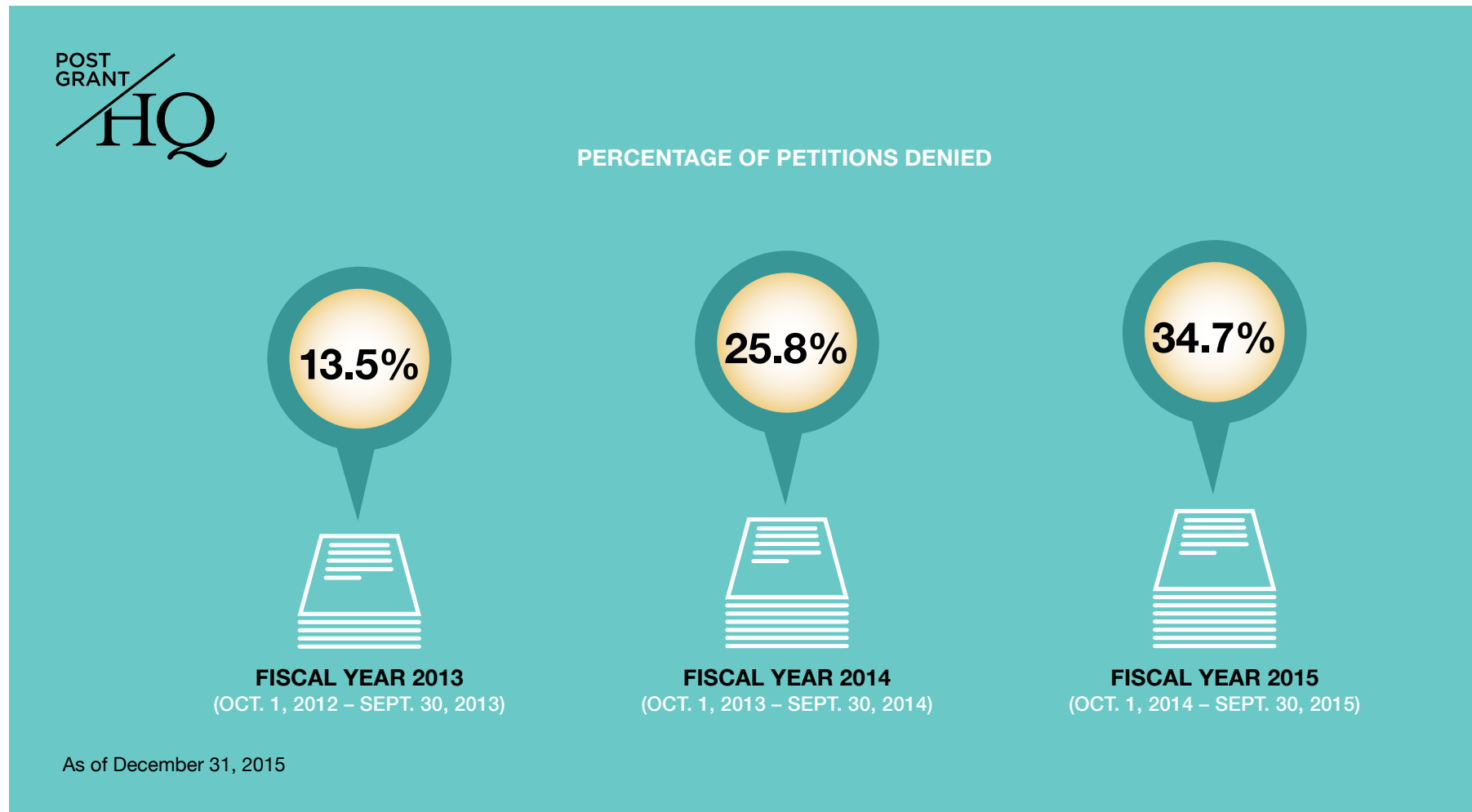
Key Finding: This chart presents, per fiscal quarter, the percentage of claims that were found unpatentable or cancelled out of all claims for which trial was *instituted* in IPR proceedings that reached final written decisions. A discernable trend has not yet emerged.

CBM: PERCENTAGE OF INSTITUTED CLAIMS FOUND UNPATENTABLE OR CANCELLED IN FINAL DECISIONS



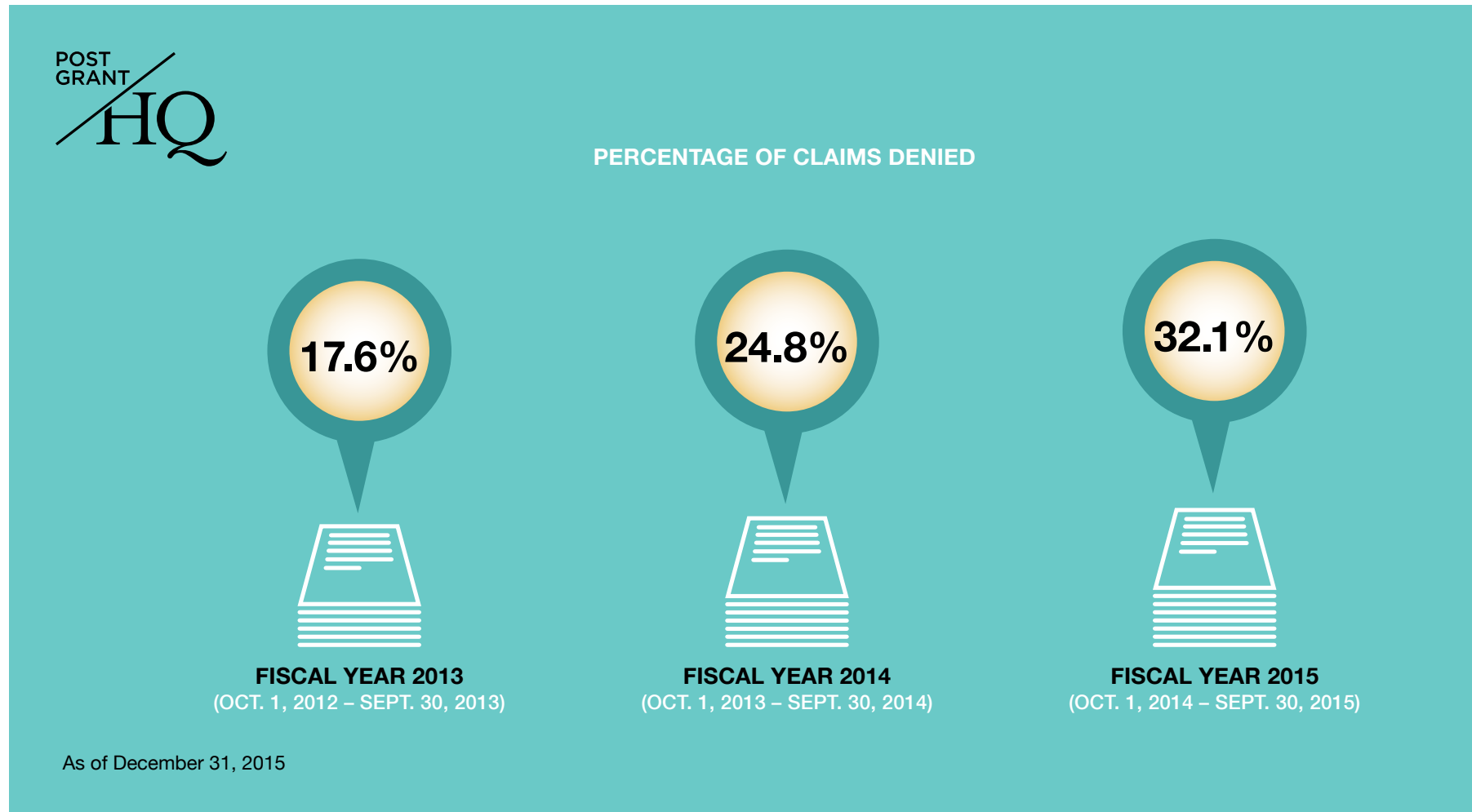
Key Finding: This chart presents, per fiscal quarter, the percentage of claims that were found unpatentable or cancelled out of all claims for which trial was *instituted* in CBM proceedings that reached final written decisions. We only included data for fiscal quarters in which at least one final written decision issued. Again, the sample sizes for some quarters were small.

IPR: RATE OF DENIALS OVER TIME



Key Finding: This chart uses PTO statistics concerning the number of petitions that were denied institution in a given period. In the PTO's FY 2013, 13.5% of institution decisions were denials, while in the PTO's FY 2015 the rate climbed to 34.7%. Interestingly, the rate of pre-institution settlement also climbed during this time. The PTO's statistics state that, in FY 2013, there were 20 settlements before an institution decision. In FY 2014, there were 106 settlements before institution. In FY 2015, settlements before institution increased to 275. Note that the PTO's fiscal year runs from October 1 to September 30.

CBM: RATE OF DENIALS OVER TIME



Key Finding: This chart uses PTO statistics concerning petitions that were denied institution. In the PTO's FY 2013, 17.6% of institution decisions were denials. Settlement may impact the rate of institution. For FY 2013 through FY 2015, the rate of institution of CBM review was similar to that of IPR. The PTO statistics state that, in FY 2013 there were 3 settlements before an institution decision. In FY 2014, there were 21 settlements before institution. In FY 2015, 14 settlements occurred before institution. Note that the PTO's fiscal year runs from October 1 to September 30.

ABOUT US

At Fitzpatrick, IP is not just a practice area—it is our sole focus. We cover the spectrum of intellectual property services for clients from virtually every industry. Our offices in New York, NY, Washington, D.C. and Costa Mesa, CA, serve a diverse national and international clientele from Fortune 500 companies to Internet start-ups. Founded in 1971, we have continually kept pace with the complex world of new technologies and the strategies required for protecting knowledge, vision and ideas. We have one of the premier patent litigation practices and consistently appear in the list of top patent prosecution firms. We have decades of experience in complex proceedings before the PTAB—the foundation for IPRs, PGRs, and CBMs. Since the inception of these AIA review proceedings, we have shepherded clients to victory before the PTAB in cases spanning a broad spectrum of technologies.



OUR METHODOLOGY

Our analysis for this report considers all of the final written decisions issued by the PTAB for IPR and CBM proceedings through the end of 2015 and all decisions denying institution through 2014. There are not yet enough PGR's to provide meaningful analysis. A few things to note:

- 1 For situations in which multiple petitions were filed against one patent, we consolidated those petitions into one for purposes of collecting data to avoid skewing from redundant petitions.
- 2 In gathering statistics, we evaluated only the original claims in the patents at issue. We did not account for amended claims that were subsequently allowed by the PTAB. The number of cases in which motions to amend were granted is quite small.
- 3 For cases in which the patent owner requested adverse judgment against itself, we considered the claims to be cancelled.
- 4 For the charts that show the percentage of claims in IPR proceedings found unpatentable under Sections 102 and 103, please note that, in some instances, the PTAB found claims unpatentable based on both grounds.
- 5 We did not include in our analysis petitions that did not reach a final written decision or decision denying institution (e.g., settlements).
- 6 We analyzed substantive decisions not to institute. We did not include in our analysis denials that were procedural in nature (e.g., time barred petitions, lack of standing in CBMs, etc.).
- 7 Although care has been taken to ensure the data's accuracy, these statistics should be viewed as estimates.

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