**4.7.1 Search Activity - The 1983 America’s Cup**

Find a patent for the hull of the Australian yacht designed for the 1983 America’s Cup; and also find its family members.

An America’s Cup design team tends to be secretive. It was rumoured that for the1983 race, the Australian yacht had a revolutionary hull design invented by Ben Lexcen. Despite their best efforts, the media were unable to discover the new features of the Australian yacht in advance of the unveiling. In fact, the details of the new hull could have been obtained three months before the race from patent documents which described the improved hull in detail.

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| **Step** | **Description of step** | **Model answer** |
| **1** | Determine what clues you have and perform a search | Search for the inventor *Ben Lexcen* in Espacenet. There are three hits, of which the one entitled *Sailing* Yacht looks the most promising.. |
| **2** | Find any family members. | Click on the title of the invention, and then on *INPADOC patent family.*  The results are: AU8566882, FR2521093, GB2114515, IT8222342, NL8200457, and SE8204022. |