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Patents

- ◆ Record of Successful Worldwide Patent Prosecution for Generations
- ◆ Drafting Patent Applications with a View to Obtaining Worldwide Protection
- ◆ Management of Patent Portfolios
- ◆ Unique European Patent Office (EPO) Practice with our own European Qualified Attorneys
- ◆ A Single Point of Contact for Consistent and Efficient Prosecution of Related Patent Applications
- ◆ Preparation of Opinions on Patentability, Validity and Infringement on U.S. and European Patents
- ◆ Domestic and International Licensing in a Wide Range of Technologies
- ◆ Counseling on Customized Intellectual Property Strategies to Create a Competitive Advantage Using Trade Secrets, Patents and Know How
- ◆ Unique Knowledge of Worldwide Laws, Practice and Policies
- ◆ Providing Continuing Legal Education on Worldwide Patent Issues



Ladas & Parry Patent Practice Group

The firm which is now Ladas & Parry was founded by British patent practitioners who set up offices in New York and Chicago before World War I to assist American inventors in securing patent protection around the world. However, we have long ago diversified from this base as is shown by the recent rating of the Patent Practice Group as number 5 in the United States for advice and assistance in non-contentious patent matters by the British publication *Managing Intellectual Property* on the basis of a world-wide survey of patent practitioners.

The Ladas & Parry Patent Practice Group has a unique blend of experience in both United States and foreign patent practice that gives it a well rounded perspective on its clients problems and concerns. The Group includes members admitted to practice not only before the United States Patent and Trademark Office but also before the European, British, German and Italian Patent Offices, several of its members being admitted in multiple jurisdictions.

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The Group contains skilled practitioners in all areas of technology, including members who have PhD's in chemistry and physics, members with other advanced degrees in biochemistry and a full complement of electrical and mechanical engineers, and organic and inorganic chemists. Several have written and spoken widely on patent matters both in the United States and around the world.



The Patent Practice Group is active in drafting and prosecuting patent applications for filing in the United States and around the world. The Group also advises on patentability and infringement issues in many jurisdictions and in negotiating and advising on the licensing of patent rights. The Group is actively involved in interference proceedings before the United States Patent and Trademark Office and provides support for the firm's litigation practice group, both in proceedings in the federal courts and before the International Trade Commission.



The steady growth of the Group's practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office bears witness to the wisdom of an earlier generation of partners to shift the focus of the firm's patent practice away from purely international matters. Even so, the Group's

ability to take advantage of the firm's London and Munich Offices, which enable it to practice before the British and European Patent Office as well as the United States Patent and Trademark Office, demonstrates that we have not abandoned our roots. The opportunity we provide to our clients of employing a single firm for representation before two of the most active patent offices in the world gives them the opportunity to take advantage of significant cost control possibilities.

The Group's expertise in both United States and foreign patent matters gives it a unique perspective on a client's patent matters, whether such a client is a private inventor or a Dow Jones 30 corporation, and the Group acts for many of the former and several of the latter, or one of a multitude of

clients whose size lies between these extremes. Globalization has put increasing demands on the patent profession. It requires that clients obtain quick and accurate advice on such disparate matter as, for example: the relative strengths of protection for business method inventions in the United States, Europe and Japan; the protection of seismology related inventions under the Gulf Cooperation Council patent system; how best to protect a cosmetic treatment in Thailand; whether there is any hope of securing useful protection anywhere outside the United States if one has accidentally published one's invention before filing a patent application; among others. Also, occasionally the best form of protection for a new product in a given country may be by way of utility model, design or even copyright protection. By filing and prosecuting over 1,200 patent applications in the United States and over 4,000 applications in the rest of the world each year, Ladas & Parry has the regular hands-on involvement needed to advise on such matters.

The Group's exposure to the global patent workplace can be invaluable in licensing where it is important to understand the strengths and weaknesses of a client's global patent portfolio while at the same time being conscious of possible antitrust implications in, say the United States and the European Union of a clause that one of the parties deems imperative to include in any agreement.



In short, Ladas & Parry's expertise in providing timely, accurate advice and assistance in acquiring, licensing, enforcing and defending patents worldwide helps our clients recognize and use their intellectual property to realize their business goals.

"The Patent System added the fuel of interest to the fire of genius."

Abraham Lincoln

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