



Patent Litigation

Protecting valuable inventions in a highly competitive global environment has become increasingly challenging for multinational businesses. With the significant rise in patent litigation and with damages exceeding the billion-dollar mark in the US, the risks and opportunities facing companies are higher than ever. Whether enforcing your patents against others or defending you against claims of patent infringement, DLA Piper has the experience to help you succeed.

With over 130 patent litigators on the ground in key jurisdictions worldwide, DLA Piper is uniquely positioned to help companies successfully navigate their patent matters around the globe. Our team of over 70 patent litigators located in the major US cities alone, plus an additional 60 patent litigators in other key jurisdictions worldwide, know the laws, the courts and the judges in the jurisdictions where most patent disputes occur.

We often manage related patent matters in multiple US jurisdictions simultaneously, including the ITC. With our global reach, we are also accustomed to acting for clients in resolving multi-jurisdictional patent disputes in the US, Canada, Europe and Asia Pac. In particular, we have significant experience with cross-border patent litigation involving the US, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Turkey, UK, China and Australia, as well as other countries worldwide. We are highly adept at developing and implementing global patent enforcement strategies for our clients and strategically selecting venues to increase their probability of success.

Our deep technical bench includes lawyers with advanced degrees and/or experience in most technical areas, especially electronics, computer science, telecommunications and wireless, pharma and biotech, medical devices, chemical engineering, materials and automotive – so we can quickly understand your technology and industry.

We try cases – and we win them. Since we are trial lawyers, we develop potential trial themes early and use them to evaluate the evidence by both parties. We are known for our ability to explain complex technologies to judges and juries. Since our opponents know we are not afraid to go to trial, we are very often able to reach a favorable settlement. We also have a leading appellate practice, and have helped clients hold on to their victory or reverse any adverse result. Additionally, we have extensive experience handling inter partes reviews (IPRs) and post-grant reviews (PGRs) in the US, as well as supporting clients in opposition proceedings before the European Patent Office.

We do not represent patent assertion entities ('patent trolls'). We have deep experience opposing such entities and have developed successful, cost-effective litigation strategies against them.

KEY CONTACTS

Sean C. Cunningham

Partner
San Diego (Downtown)
T: +1 619 699 2900
sean.cunningham@dlapiper.c

William (Skip) Fisher

Partner
Shanghai
T: +86 21 3852 2198
william.fisher@dlapiper.com

Dr Markus Gampp

LL.M.
Partner
Munich
T: +49 89 23 23 72
261
markus.gampp@dlapiper.com

Robynne Sanders

Partner
Melbourne
T: +61 3 9274 5539
robynne.sanders@dlapiper.co

Bruce W. Stratton

Partner
Toronto
T: 1 416 862 3382
bruce.stratton@dlapiper.com

RELATED SERVICES

- Antitrust and Competition

EXPERIENCE

- Advising a global tech giant in relation to a high profile, multijurisdictional patent litigation case, our global team successfully represented our client in a 27-patent case in the Northern District of Texas and three High Court trials in the UK, resulting in a confidential worldwide settlement. This was the biggest patent case before the UK Courts in 2009 and 2010. This matter involved strategic, cross-border coordination of complex patent litigation among the US, the UK, and other jurisdictions. It also involved complex issues relating to antitrust and anti-competition claims, standard-setting claims and defences and issues concerning what constitutes a fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory (FRAND) licensing commitment in the standard-setting context.
- Representing a data protection software client in a patent trial in the popular US District of Delaware, we won a full defense jury verdict. Our client's rival asserted that our client and the other defendants infringed two patents relating to fundamental technology for anti-virus software. Their rival had previously won a jury verdict and a permanent injunction against another anti-virus software company. However, at trial our client demonstrated that it invented the same technology years before their rival filed for its patents, and following a three-week trial before Chief Judge Gregory Sleet, the jury unanimously agreed, finding both asserted patents invalid and not infringed. In addition, the jury found all asserted claims were invalid and rendered obvious over several prior art references, including our client's own products developed years before their rival filed the claim. The lawsuit was unique in part because it involved global discovery efforts (US, UK, Israel, Czech Republic and France) and several interrelated lawsuits spanning multiple years.
- Representing a US-based technology company as lead counsel in an ITC investigation, we helped our client prevail in an important case in which their competitor alleged that our client's SRAM chips infringed four patents. The Administrative Law Judge's Initial Determination found no violation of Section 337, finding that none of the four patents was infringed and that the Complainant had failed to establish a domestic industry as to any of the four patents. The Commission subsequently affirmed the finding of no violation on each of these grounds and additionally found the asserted claims of one of the patents invalid.
- Representing a worldwide airline in a high profile, cross-border patent litigation matter regarding three patents and design rights protecting its innovative seating system, we secured our client's success. In a complex web of cases involving the seat manufacturer and several airlines centred around the UK, we successfully halted sales of a rival seating system which took advantage of our client's innovation. Involving legally complex issues, these cases established legal precedent on a number of matters, going all the way to the UK Supreme Court. This matter demonstrated the value of our strong global patent team, as we were able to quickly (sometimes mid-hearing) and cost effectively investigate the legal position in other countries on issues where there was no settled position in the UK, including in France, Germany, The Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Australia and the US. Our comprehensive coverage enabled us to obtain foreign case law and commentary which supported our client's position and refute mischaracterisations of the foreign law position raised against our client.
- We successfully protected the exclusivity in Australia of one of the key products of a leading global pharmaceutical company, including obtaining an interlocutory injunction against a competitor preventing it from launching its generic products. The matter will proceed over the next year to final resolution of the infringement and patent validity issues
- Advising a global, NYSE-listed medical technology manufacturer of a drug delivery system in patent infringement proceedings in the UK, France and Germany, relating to patents for syringe pump drivers.

- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations

RELATED SECTORS

- Financial Services
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Life Sciences
- Technology

INSIGHTS

Publications

Eligibility guidance in the wake of *Alice*: Clarity at the examiner stage, uncertainty in the Federal Circuit

22 December 2020

Competing approaches to patent-eligible subject matter at the Federal Circuit and the USPTO.

Inventions behind the music: From Eddie Van Halen to Michael Jackson and beyond

22 December 2020

Music innovation offers fertile ground for patent protection.

Supreme Court Corner

22 December 2020

A quick look at two cases.

The Pharmaceutical Corner

22 December 2020

A precedential decision with potentially far-reaching impacts for future Hatch-Waxman litigation and generic-product launches.

Calidad v Seiko – the High Court has spoken: the doctrine of patent exhaustion applies in Australia

17 November 2020

On 12 November 2020 the High Court of Australia handed down the much anticipated decision in *Calidad Pty Ltd v Seiko Epson Corporation* [2020] HCA 41. In a majority decision, the High Court confirmed that all rights of the patentee (use, sell, dispose of, repair etc) except the right to make the patented article are exhausted at the time of sale, in respect of a product which embodies that patent.

Sale of a product exhausts patent rights

12 November 2020

On 12 November 2020, High Court of Australia handed down the much anticipated decision in the *Calidad v Seiko* dispute.

This landmark decision overturns over 100 years of law and puts Australia in line with the US, where there is well established law on patent exhaustion.

Constitutional challenges to inter partes review – *Arthrex, Inc. v. Smith & Nephew, Inc.*

30 September 2020

This Appointments Clause challenge to the IPR process appears to have staying power.

Coronavirus Resource Center: Our global repository of insights and events

30 September 2020

A central repository for our reports and commentary on the legal and regulatory concerns arising from the pandemic.

Inventiveness+? Divergent theories of the "inventive concept" in patent-eligible subject matter

30 September 2020

What qualifies as an inventive concept? Even the Federal Circuit doesn't know for sure.

Supreme Court Corner

30 September 2020

A quick look at two cases - *USPTO v. Booking.com* and *American Axle & Manufacturing v. Neapco Holdings*.

The Pharmaceutical Corner

30 September 2020

In this inaugural column, we look at the implications of IPR and PGR proceedings in Hatch Waxman litigation.

A go-to firm for defending patent cases

30 June 2020

Recognition from *Law360*

Atlanta expands privacy capabilities

30 June 2020

Lael Bellamy's arrival bolsters our data protection, privacy and security capabilities throughout the firm.

Intellectual property rights are a renewed focus as the world looks beyond a global viral outbreak

30 June 2020

A few key IP-related considerations for companies, whether they are seeking to expand into new markets or looking to preserve their place in an existing market.

Northern California bolsters telecom and regulatory practice

30 June 2020

Regulatory and telecom attorney Kristin Jacobson has joined our Northern California office in Sacramento.

Supreme Court Corner

30 June 2020

A quick look at three cases: *Thryv, Inc.*; *Lucky Brands*; and *Romag Fasteners*.

Washington, DC grows technology capabilities with two new arrivals

30 June 2020

Marius Domokos and Justin Ilhwan Park have joined our Washington, DC practice.

New hope for the patentability of computer implemented inventions in Australia?

22 June 2020

There have been a string of cases in Australia looking at whether computer implemented inventions (including software) should be patentable. Until now the news has been bad for start ups, software developers and those with online products and services, with the Courts finding such inventions unpatentable. There may now be a way forward.

So why did Aristocrat succeed where Rokt failed? What was it about Aristocrat's patent that caused the judge to find that it contained patentable subject matter? And what does the future now look like for computer implemented patents in Australia?

Is your computer implemented method now patentable in Australia?

28 May 2020

On 21 May 2020 the Full Federal Court of Australia handed down the much anticipated decision in Commissioner of *Patents v Rokt Pte Ltd* [2020] FCAFC 86. The Full Court, found that a scheme, even if new and ingenious, cannot be made patentable subject matter merely because it can or must be implemented using generic computer technology. This further confirmed the position on patentability of computer implemented inventions previously adopted by the Full Court in *Encompass Corporation Pty Ltd v InfoTrack Pty Ltd* [2019] FCAFC 161.

If you develop software, or work with companies that develop software, you should be aware of this decision and the impact it may have on the ability to obtain patents in future.

New TGA transparency measures for prescription medicines in Australia

15 April 2020

In a development that has the potential to have a significant impact on the life sciences sector in Australia, including patent litigation in that sector, the Australian Government has recently approved the following two enhanced transparency measures for prescription medicines under evaluation by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (**TGA**). The TGA is seeking feedback until 9 June 2020 in relation to the implementation of these measures. How much of an impact these transparency measures will have will depend on the details of their implementation.

The CARES Act and USPTO patent practitioner deadlines

6 April 2020

While the USPTO remains open for filing of documents and fees, Director Iancu announced that parties may be eligible for extensions of certain deadlines if their inability to meet a current deadline is due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Are you ready for CCPA class action litigation?

30 March 2020

Many businesses may not have fully contemplated the major data breach class action litigation risk created by the California Consumer Privacy Act.

Supreme Court Corner

30 March 2020

Notable cases involve trademark protectability and federal preclusion principles.

Top franchise developments of 2019

30 March 2020

Two top franchise developments in 2019 stand out from the rest.

Practical Law Life Sciences Australian chapter

27 February 2020

DLA Piper Life Sciences sector authored Thomson Reuters Practical Law Company's 2018/2019 multi-jurisdictional guide for Life Sciences in areas of distributing and marketing of drugs, product regulation, product liability and competition.

Top of Mind: Life Sciences

16 January 2020

Eight big topics that life sciences businesses have been thinking about and how DLA Piper has been covering those stories.

CCPA Rescue Kit arrives amid new privacy law change

19 December 2019

A series of integrated compliance offerings to help businesses begin the journey of compliance with this important new privacy bill.

Street art raises novel copyright issues – or does it?

19 December 2019

Is street art less entitled to copyright protection than are traditional art forms?

Supreme Court Corner

19 December 2019

We are watching two key cases – *Romag Fasteners v. Fossil* and *Thryv, Inc. v. Click-to-Call Technologies*.

Printer cartridge wars: what they mean for the sale of re-purposed, re-manufactured or re-used products in Australia

18 November 2019

There has been a new development in *Calidad Pty Ltd v Seiko Epson Corporation* [2019] FCAFC 115 (**Calidad v Seiko**) relating to remanufactured printer cartridges. Australian businesses dealing in products with re-purposed, re-manufactured or re-used parts should keep aware of developments in the law in this area.

If your business uses re-manufactured or re-purposed products or parts of the law in Australia is still unclear, you need to be aware of this case.

Therapeutic Goods Administration cracks down on prohibited advertising

3 October 2019

A series of recent enforcement actions and announcements by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (**TGA**) indicate that the regulator is actively monitoring and prosecuting businesses for breaches of the *Therapeutic Goods Advertising Code (No. 2) 2018 (TG Advertising Code)* and *Therapeutic Goods Act 1989 (TG Act)*.

The Russian Supreme Court clarifies intellectual property legislation

30 Sep 2019

Clarifications from the Supreme Court have a significant impact on the further development of court practice in Russia.

Don't get caught out: Intellectual property arrangements will be susceptible to prosecution for anti-competitive conduct from 13 September 2019

12 September 2019

From 13 September 2019, commercial arrangements relating to IP rights - including licences, assignments, litigation settlement agreements and other contracts, arrangements or understandings between businesses - will no longer be exempt from the anti-competitive conduct provisions of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth) (CCA).

TGA considers publishing excipients in ARTG public summaries

11 September 2019

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has published a consultation paper seeking feedback on whether it should make excipient ingredients publically available on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods (ARTG).

Slow death of the innovation patent

29 July 2019

Those with a keen interest in the fate of Australia's innovation patent will recall its last minute reprieve, when legislation abolishing the innovation patent was removed from the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment (Productivity Commission Response Part 1 and Other Measures) Act 2018 (Cth).

Alice uncertainty: curiouser and curiouser

24 July 2019

The Federal Circuit declines to follow USPTO guidance on subject matter eligibility, instead following its own precedent.

Supreme Court Corner

24 July 2019

The Court clarifies a circuit split over copyright in *Fourth Estate* and, in *Mission Product Holdings*, says a licensee's rights survive the licensor's bankruptcy.

Top Patent Litigation Firm

24 July 2019

Lex Machina's 2018 Patent Litigation Year in Review recognizes DLA Piper as one of the top ten most active national law firms representing defendants in US patent disputes.

Trump issues Executive Order on securing information and communications technology and services – key points

16 MAY 2019

The order is issued pursuant to the National Emergencies Act and the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, the latter creating potential civil and criminal liability for those violating EOs and regulations issued under its authority - liabilities that can expand to include those who facilitate a violation.

New York patent litigators bolster DLA Piper's Life Science sector

11 APR 2019

Michael Furrow and Brian O'Reilly recently joined the firm's Intellectual Property and Technology practice as key patent litigation partners in New York.

Supreme Court Corner Q1 2019

11 APR 2019

In celebration of the 10th anniversary of IPT News, we note that 10 years ago, in the first quarter of 2009, Bernard L. Bilski filed his petition in the landmark *Bilski v. Kappos*, 561 U.S. 593 (2010), forever shaping the patentability of business methods.

Top of Mind: Litigation

20 MAR 2019

In this issue, our coverage of 10 big topics businesses have been thinking about this quarter.

Explainability: where AI and liability meet

25 FEB 2019

Makers and users of AI face a new and interesting problem: what is the acceptable tradeoff between explanation and accuracy?

US Congress may act again on patent reform

26 JUN 2014

Recent activity regarding patent trolls

Patent litigation heats up in the Southern District of Florida: practical implications for brand owners

26 MAR 2014

Patent litigation is on the rise nationally, with a record number of cases being filed every year. In 2013, over 6,800 cases were filed in the United States, the highest number ever and about a 10 percent increase from 2012.

Distributing patent rights between affiliates: guidelines to support enforcement rights around the world

16 NOV 2015

Considering a few issues at the outset when rights are distributed between Parent and Affiliate (or between multiple affiliates) may avoid difficulties in the future when a company wants to enforce patent rights.

Events

Previous

Planning for an Uncertain World

16 November 2020

TechLaw Event Series

Webinar

TechLaw

31 July 2020

TechLaw Event Series

Webinar

TechLaw

5 March 2020

TechLaw Event Series

Sydney

TechLaw

3 March 2020

TechLaw Event Series
Melbourne

TechLaw Event - "M&A for the New Digital Economy"

7 March 2019
TechLaw Event Series
Amsterdam

NEWS

DLA Piper advises ATI Global on GBP170 million acquisition of Groundsure

21 January 2021

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised ATI Global on its GBP170 million acquisition of UK based location intelligence business Groundsure, a leading supplier of environmental searches, data, mapping and reports for the UK property market, from Ascential plc (Ascential) (LSE: ASCL).

DLA Piper and Aldersgate DLS launch TOKO, a fast, secure and cost effective solution for buying and selling high value assets using blockchain technology

5 November 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper in collaboration with Aldersgate DLS (Digital Ledger Solutions), has launched TOKO, a unique tokenisation engine and vital component in the digital asset ecosystem. Developed with Aldersgate DLS, TOKO provides smart contract functionality and digital asset creation functionality and assurance.

DLA Piper advises HCL Technologies on proposed acquisition of DWS Limited

6 October 2020

DLA Piper advises HCL Technologies Limited (HCL Technologies) on its proposed AUD162 million acquisition of 100% of the shares in DWS Limited (DWS) by scheme of arrangement.

DLA Piper advises Singtel Innov8 on its investment in Chinese data service provider DataHunter

28 May 2020

DLA Piper has advised Singtel Innov8 the venture capital arm of Singtel Group focusing on investments in technology solutions, on its successful investment, through a B-Series fundraising, in Beijing-based data service provider DataHunter.

China and Hong Kong partners recognised in IP Stars 2020

14 May 2020

We are delighted to announce that IPT partners Edward Chatterton (William (Skip) Fisher, (Shanghai), and Horace Lam, (Beijing), have been recognised in IP Stars 2020 by Managing Intellectual Property.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2020

30 April 2020

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 67 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2020 in the United States and May 1, 2020 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions have been made across many of the firm's practice areas in 35 different offices throughout 13 countries.

Across the firm's practices globally, Corporate saw the largest intake of new partners with 19 promotions, followed by Litigation and Regulatory with 15. Intellectual Property and Technology and Finance and Projects had ten and eight promotions respectively, while there were six in Real Estate. Tax and Employment both had four, and there was one in Restructuring.

DLA Piper lawyers named Acritas Stars

10 March 2020

Acritas has named over 200 DLA Piper lawyers as 2020 Acritas Stars. Now in its fourth year, Acritas Stars highlights the stand-out lawyers in private practice as nominated by clients around the world. More than 3,000 senior in-house counsel feed into the nomination process to give a comprehensive view of highly recommended lawyers across the globe.

DLA Piper advises Little Green Pharma on IPO

25 February 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised Australian medicinal cannabis producer Little Green Pharma Limited (ASX: LGP) on its Initial Public Offering (IPO) and ASX listing.

DLA Piper advises AirTrunk on new hyperscale data centre in Hong Kong

23 September 2019

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised hyperscale data centre specialist AirTrunk on the development of its state-of-the-art USD150+ million data centre in Hong Kong.

DLA Piper to advise ITW Global Leaders' Forum on blockchain-based telecoms platform

2 July 2019

DLA Piper has been appointed to advise the ITW (International Telecoms Week) Global Leaders' Forum (GLF) on the launch of a special purpose vehicle that will develop a live, blockchain-based platform.

DLA Piper announces launch of Artificial Intelligence practice

14 MAY 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Artificial Intelligence practice, which will focus on assisting companies as they navigate the legal landscape of emerging and disruptive technologies, while helping them understand the legal and compliance risks arising from the creation and deployment of AI systems.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper hosts leading business and diplomacy conference

14 MAR 2019

DLA Piper's London office has hosted the Annual Conference of the International Diplomatic and Business Exchange (IBDE).

DLA Piper announces launch of Blockchain and Digital Assets practice

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Blockchain and Digital Assets practice, which will offer strategic advice on a global basis to address the needs of companies implementing blockchain technology solutions and creating and deploying digital assets.

DLA Piper joins Governing Council for Hedera Hashgraph

20 FEB 2019

DLA Piper has joined the initial group of Governing Council members for Hedera Hashgraph, a next-generation public ledger designed to have highly diversified governance and the most distributed consensus at scale. The announcement was made at Hedera Hashgraph's first annual summit in Seoul, Korea.

As part of the council, DLA Piper will help oversee changes to the software run by millions of Hedera distributed nodes over time. The governing council has been established to ensure stability and guaranteed continued decentralization to the Hedera Hashgraph distributed public ledger.

DLA Piper bolsters Data Protection practice

4 FEB 2019

DLA Piper in Germany has hired Intellectual Property & Technology of counsel Prof Dr Jürgen Taeger, who joined the firm's Cologne office with effect from 1 February 2019.

DLA Piper promotes first Australians to international management roles and announces new Australian country MP

6 Dec 2018

As part of an international executive revamp DLA Piper Australia co-managing partners Melinda Upton and Jim Holding will be taking on International management responsibilities in a significant endorsement of Australia's performance within the firm.
