



DELTAPATENTS

Specialist in protecting high-tech inventions



Precision engineering has developed into a core technology within the field of mechanical engineering, optics, mechatronics and other industrial applications. 'A fast and exciting development' according to Alex Hogeweg of DeltaPatents, 'but the IP field changes as a result. We are specialized in protecting software related inventions and are up-to-date with the legal provisions for such inventions'. Because of the amount of patent applications filed every year, freedom to operate gets more challenging.

European patent attorney Alex Hogeweg has nineteen years of experience with electrical and mechanical patents and is almost six years active at DeltaPatents. 'I have worked for many large companies in electronics and also in the mechanical field. This combination is actually a must to understand the inventions made by companies in the field of precision engineering. A large part of the inventions relate to software, which is used to control the (micro-) mechanical devices. Due to my years of experience I know which aspects of a development are patentable.'

Face to face

'For us, face to face contact is very important', according to Hogeweg. 'We work on the basis of a personal approach and like to support our customers in their decision making process. Especially when it comes to new high tech inventions, the market is more complex and it is important to have clarity about what a customer wants to patent, what value it will bring to his business and how his business may be affected by patents of others.'

Plastic cup

Hogeweg uses the plastic cup example to explain what he means. 'Let's assume that someone invents a plastic cup and he gets a patent granted for his invention. Then another party is not allowed to copy that same cup, but he can get his own patent for an improved version thereof. The first party may then not sell the improved version of his own invention. This is because a patent does not give you the right to use your own invention, it merely gives you the right to prohibit others to use your invention. Especially smaller companies are not always aware of the difference. You can have such a beautiful new invention, but if you do not have the freedom-to-operate, the value of your invention is affected.'

Time to market

DeltaPatents is aware of the problems of its clients. As you drive your innovation from idea to reality, there are many hurdles: solving technical problems, arranging financing, agreeing terms with business partners, sourcing manufacturers, and planning marketing campaigns. Intellectual Property (IP) discussions are frequently postponed until success is guaranteed, or until a conflict arises. By then it may be too late to protect your own IP. 'We can assist you in defining your IP strategy, identifying valuable inventions, suggesting ways of avoiding or overcoming potential risks, and drafting IP contracts. We can also help you in defending against rights of others.'

The field changes

The patent attorneys of DeltaPatents are up-to-date with changes in IP legislation and case law. 'Under political pressure, the patent friendliness has decreased. Long discussions have taken place on patentability of software-related inventions.

We have extensive experience in assessing if a software invention will be seen as technical and drafting a patent application according to the latest requirements, adequately substantiating your embodiments'.

Patent specialist and training institute DeltaPatents

DeltaPatents is a renowned IP training institute offering an extensive range of IP courses and seminars. 'We specialize in training your IP managers, coordinators and researchers, increasing the IP awareness in your company and contributing to cost-effective IP procedures.'

What is patentable?

The golden egg in the palm of the inventor symbolizes the invention that companies want to protect. According to the specialists of DeltaPatents it is important to know if an invention is seen as a technical system, does not yet exist, and whether there is freedom to operate. Applying for a patent starts with a detailed conversation about what a customer actually wants to protect.

More information can be found on www.deltapatents.com.

