

# epi Information

Institut der beim Europäischen Patentamt  
zugelassenen Vertreter

Institute of Professional Representatives  
before the European Patent Office

Institut des mandataires agréés près  
l'Office européen des brevets

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## Editorial

T. Johnson (GB)

The current British Prime Minister made the slogan "Education, Education, Education" a central plank of his Party's election manifesto when first he stood for election. He and his Party are still in power ...

There can be no doubt that a sound education is essential if an individual or society is to maximise its potential. Our profession is no exception, indeed, in such an esoteric field as patent law, education is of paramount importance. Whilst it is no doubt true that other factors also come into play, education is a core requirement for a quality pool of advisers for Applicants to draw from. Such organisations as CEIPI, the EPO Academy, our own PQC, and other courses such as at Queen Mary, and the

EURO-SEAD course of FICPI all contribute. For our own part, your Editorial Committee decided to put together this "themed" issue of *epi* Information dedicated to aspects of training in the Member States. Thus in this issue we have attempted to put together details of training in the different countries. By this, we hope that the true meaning of "educate", stemming as it does from the Latin verbs "educare" (to bring up, rear) and "educere" (to lead or draw out) will be thought about by our readers, so that discussion, and a lively correspondence result. So let us draw out the discussion, with the result that Applicants can be confident in the representation they receive from EPAs.

### Nächster Redaktionsschluss für *epi* Information

Informieren Sie bitte den Redaktionssausschuss so früh wie möglich über das Thema, das Sie veröffentlichen möchten. Redaktionsschluss für die nächste Ausgabe der *epi* Information ist der **18. Mai 2007**. Die Dokumente, die veröffentlicht werden sollen, müssen bis zum diesem Datum im Sekretariat eingegangen sein.

### Next deadline for *epi* Information

Please inform the Editorial Committee as soon as possible about the subject you want to publish. Deadline for the next issue of *epi* Information is **18 May 2007**. Documents for publication should have reached the Secretariat by this date.

### Prochaine date limite pour *epi* Information

Veuillez informer la Commission de rédaction le plus tôt possible du sujet que vous souhaitez publier. La date limite de remise des documents pour le prochain numéro de *epi* Information est le **18 mai 2007**. Les textes destinés à la publication devront être reçus par le Secrétariat avant cette date.

## epi Tutorials 2007

PQC (Professional Qualifying Committee of the *epi*) has developed a new approach for the *epi* Tutorials based on the known tutorials, on the experiences of tutors, and on discussions with members of the Examination Board. Every year members of the three Examination Committees meet with tutors to explain the papers and comment on the expected solutions. To spread out this knowledge a tutors' meeting is scheduled in the summer. Those tutors who have attended the 'Tutors' Meeting' will then pass on the information and explain how the papers are expected to be handled. The material used for the presentation is provided to all tutors.

The new *epi* Tutorial is a course comprising two modules – A/B and C/D – with a two days' seminar respectively. The seminars will be held Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. The groups will be small enough to allow intensive discussion, preferably 5 to 10 candidates per group. The papers can be booked independently.

### **The schedule is as follows:**

Candidates enrol for the tutorial as soon as possible, not later than 15 July for the summer tutorial, and by 15 September at the latest for the autumn tutorial. Candidates indicate the papers they want to discuss and the place they would favour for a meeting with their tutor. The enrolment is confirmed and candidates are informed about the assigned tutor.

In the first round candidates write the papers in real time; in this year's tutorials the 2005 and 2006 papers will be considered. The papers can be downloaded from the EPO website (<http://eqe.european-patent-office.org/site/archive/index.de.php>). They are also available on CD-ROM.

Candidates send their draft(s) to the tutor they have been assigned to by the *epi* secretariat. The tutor comments on the paper(s).

Candidates who do not get an answer to their papers from their tutor by the due date are asked to contact the *epi* Secretariat immediately.

In a second round meetings are scheduled for Papers A/B, and Papers C/D respectively. The papers in general, specific papers, and particular problems of the papers are discussed and questions answered. In order to provide enough time for intensive discussion the meetings will start on Friday early afternoon and will be continued on Saturday in the morning.

Seminars can take place at several places depending on the number of candidates. The candidates provide for their own travel expenses as well as for the travel expenses of their tutors.

Candidates will be informed by their tutors about the time and place of the meeting.

Summer tutorial	Sending drafts to tutors by 15 August
Autumn tutorial	Sending drafts to tutors by 15 October

### **Fees for the tutorial:**

180,00 € per paper for non-*epi* students  
90,00 € per paper for *epi* students

For candidates who do not need a copy of the papers from the *epi* Secretariat, the fees are:  
150,00 € per paper for non-*epi* students  
75,00 € per paper for *epi* students

Please visit our website for news !

[www.patentepi.com](http://www.patentepi.com)

## epi Summer Tutorial 2007

Please return by →  
to: **epi** Secretariat  
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D-80058 München

5 July 2007

Tel.: +49 89 24 20 52- 0  
Fax: +49 89 24 20 52-20

Name: .....

Address (business or private): .....

Telephone No.: ..... Fax No.: .....

e-mail: .....

Preferred language: English  German  French

Fields of interest: Electricity/Mechanics  Chemistry

I should like to enrol for:

### 2005

Module 1 Paper A   
Paper B

Module 2 Paper C   
Paper D

### 2006

Module 1 Paper A   
Paper B

Module 2 Paper C   
Paper D

I need a copy of the following papers: .....

I do not need any copy.

I am a Student of the **epi**.  I am not a Student of the **epi**.

### Fees

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If a candidate declares he/she does not need a copy from the *epi* Secretariat, the fees are:

150,00 € per paper for non-**epi** students  
75,00 € per paper for **epi** students

Previous courses attended on intellectual property (CEIPI, QMW, previous preparatory courses etc.):

.....  
.....

If you have already sat one or both of the following examinations, please indicate its date(s):

- National examination .....
- European Qualifying Examination: .....

Years of professional experience: .....

Would you be willing to travel to meet your tutor(s)? .....

If not, please be aware that the expenses of tutors, who travel to meet their candidates, will be borne by the candidates.

Date of fee payment into the following **epi** account, and its amount:

Postbank München  
Account No. 703-802  
BLZ (Bank Sorting Code) 700 100 80  
IBAN No. DE77700100800000703802  
BIC PBNKDEFF

.....

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Date: ..... Signature: .....

Name: .....

## Application to be registered as a Student of the epi

To be returned to:

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Fax: +49 89 24 20 52-20

Please write in capital letters:

This is a  first application  continuatio application

Surname: .....

Forename(s): .....

Professional address: .....

.....

.....

Telephone No.: .....

Fax No.: .....

e-mail: .....

Working languages: .....

Training period (months): .....

I hereby apply for registration and agree, if my application is accepted, to abide by the governing studentship rules of the **epi**.

Candidate's signature: .....

Date: .....

I am aware that my application only becomes effective when the **epi** account

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I, .....

of ..... of .....

- being a European Patent Attorney on the list,
- or a person authorised under Article 133-3 EPC,

hereby sponsor:

.....  
for studentship of the **epi** and confirm that I have responsibility for her/his professional training leading to entry on the list by examination.

If the sponsor's professional address is different from that of the applicant, please indicate below the reason for this, indicating in particular how the responsibility for training is being met.

.....  
.....

Sponsor's signature: .....

Date: .....

For further information on *epi* Student Membership, please visit the *epi* website  
[www.patentepi.com](http://www.patentepi.com) at <http://216.92.57.242/patentepi/english/300/370/>

## Pre-announcement epi Seminars

### CPE Seminars

**– 19-20 April 2007, Bratislava, from 10 am to 5 pm**

**“PCT Basic Course including recent amendments in force on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2007”**

1<sup>st</sup> day: Basic PCT

2<sup>nd</sup> day: Entry into the National and Regional Phase;  
Modifications coming into force on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

Participants may enrol for one day or for both days.

Registration fee for both days: 270 €

Registration fee for one day only: 200 €

The seminar will be lead by two speakers from WIPO:

Mrs. Yolande Coeckelbergs, Senior Program Officer,

PCT Legal Division

Mr. Patrick Genin, Senior Legal Officer, PCT Relations  
with Officer Section I, PCT External Legal Relations  
Division

Venue: Hotel Crowne Plaza, Bratislava

For enrolment you may contact the epi Secretariat, Mrs.  
Martina Fromm

Tel.: +49 89 242052-0 – Fax: +49 89 242052-20

or fax the enrolment form available on the

epi website [www.patentepi.com](http://www.patentepi.com) at:

<http://216.92.57.242/patentepi/english/300/380/>

**– 24 September 2007, Copenhagen**

**“Amendments to European Patent applications  
during examination”**

Further information will be provided at a later date on  
the epi website [www.patentepi.com](http://www.patentepi.com)

at: <http://216.92.57.242/patentepi/english/300/380/>

### EPC 2000 Seminars

epi will organise training courses for EPC2000 in the different contracting states. To this purpose a team of tutors will be trained.

3 different types of courses will be organised:

1) Basic Seminar:

Half day course, where the most important changes will be highlighted. The course will be presented by trained patent attorneys.

*Target group:* Patent attorneys willing to have a short overview of the most important changes.

2) Full Seminar:

1 day; this course will be presented by trained patent attorneys and EPO members.

*Target group:* Patent attorneys and trainee patent attorneys willing to have a detailed overview of EPC2000.

3) Extended Seminar:

one additional day to the “Full Seminar”; this course will be presented by trained patent attorneys and EPO members.

*Target group:* Patent attorneys and trainee patent attorneys who not only want to have a detailed overview, but want to discuss more in depth the consequences of the changes.

More information will be available at a later date on the epi website [www.patentepi.com](http://www.patentepi.com)

at: <http://216.92.57.242/patentepi/english/300/380/>

## Next Board and Council Meetings

### Board Meetings

15<sup>th</sup> September 2007, Sofia

1<sup>st</sup> December 2007, Munich

29<sup>th</sup> March 2008, Rome

### Council Meetings

21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> May 2007, Krakow

22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> October 2007, Nuremberg

26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May 2008, Vilnius

## LIST OF PROFESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES AS OF 19.02.2007

by their place of business or employment in the Contracting States and their  
entry according to A134 (eqe) or A163 (grandfathers)

No.	Contr. State	A134	% A134	A163	% A163	Total Repr.	% of Tot/Repr.
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1	AT	65	63,1	38	36,9	103	1,18
2	BE	102	68,9	46	31,1	148	1,69
3	BG		0,0	86	100,0	86	0,98
4	CH	257	66,2	131	33,8	388	4,44
5	CY		0,0	13	100,0	13	0,15
6	CZ		0,0	122	100,0	122	1,39
7	DE	2061	72,5	783	27,5	2844	32,51
8	DK	90	55,2	73	44,8	163	1,86
9	EE		0,0	30	100,0	30	0,34
10	ES	20	12,4	141	87,6	161	1,84
11	FI	18	11,8	134	88,2	152	1,74
12	FR	522	68,1	245	31,9	767	8,77
13	GB	1243	72,9	461	27,1	1704	19,48
14	GR	2	6,3	30	93,8	32	0,37
15	HU		0,0	122	100,0	122	1,39
16	IE	15	34,9	28	65,1	43	0,49
17	IS		0,0	26	100,0	26	0,30
18	IT	162	48,4	173	51,6	335	3,83
19	LI	6	66,7	3	33,3	9	0,10
20	LT		0,0	44	100,0	44	0,50
21	LU	9	60,0	6	40,0	15	0,17
22	LV		0,0	23	100,0	23	0,26
23	MC		0,0	2	100,0	2	0,02
24	NL	289	81,4	66	18,6	355	4,06
25	PL		0,0	450	100,0	450	5,14
26	PT		0,0	46	100,0	46	0,53
27	RO		0,0	88	100,0	88	1,01
28	SE	147	52,1	135	47,9	282	3,22
29	SI		0,0	33	100,0	33	0,38
30	SK		0,0	45	100,0	45	0,51
31	TR	1	0,9	115	99,1	116	1,33

	Total	5009	57,3	3738	42,7	8747	100,00
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## CEIPI News

*At the occasion of the Director General of CEIPI, Prof. Yves Reboul being received in the Légion d'Honneur and at the same time the Director of the Section Internationale of the CEIPI, Prof. Dieter Stauder retiring from his post, the President of the Administrative Council of the CEIPI, Dr. Ingo Kober gave the following speech:*

M. le Président, Mme la Présidente, M. le Directeur Général, cher ami Yves Reboul, cher ami Dieter Stauder, Mesdames et Messieurs,

Après tant d'éloges bien mérités, que me reste-t-il à ajouter? En premier lieu, bien évidemment, à joindre mes chaleureuses félicitations à celles qu'on vous a déjà exprimées, cher M. Reboul, et à juste titre. Le Président Waline nous a présenté un tableau brillant de votre carrière professionnelle, de tout ce que vous avez fait pour l'Université Robert Schuman en général et pour le CEIPI en particulier pendant tant d'années. Après tout il vaudrait mieux que je me taise. Mais – je ne le ferai pas. Je ne le ferai pas, parce qu'il convient de mettre aussi un peu en lumière l'aspect Européen du CEIPI et son directeur général. Parfois, et je le regrette, on a l'impression qu'au fil des années la mémoire s'affaiblit. Elle s'affaiblit peut-être parce que le CEIPI est une création, plantée dans le sol fertile de la France, mais de descendance et d'esprit purement européens. Comment ça? Lorsque la question s'est posée au début des années soixante-dix, où devrait siéger l'Office européen des brevets, il était bien évident que tous les états membres de l'Organisation européenne des brevets souhaitaient obtenir le siège de l'Office. Mais c'est la France qui a soutenu l'Allemagne vu que seule l'Allemagne était prête à financer l'Office en fournissant un terrain précieux à Munich ainsi que des bâtiments de haute qualité. Donc rien de plus naturel que la France en contrepartie obtînt que la formation en propriété industrielle se fît en France et plus particulièrement à Strasbourg. Ainsi un cadre avait été créé, mais il fallait lui inspirer la vie européenne. Et c'est là où jouaient et jouent encore les personnalités. C'est là où le regretté Professeur Jean-Jacques Burst a commencé et vous, cher M. Reboul, vous avez continué, développé et mené au niveau mondial cette grande œuvre qu'est le Centre d'Etudes Internationales en Propriété Industrielle. C'est là où depuis de nombreuses années vous avez mené cette mission avec l'appui du Directeur de la Section Internationale, notre ami Dieter Stauder, et depuis quelque temps avec l'aide efficace de votre collègue, Mme Schmidt-Salewski, et de son équipe de collaborateurs expérimentés et doués. C'est là, dis-je, que s'est créé et développé un organisme de formation en propriété industrielle pour des mandataires nationaux, mais également européens, qui aujourd'hui ne connaît pas d'égal et rayonne au sein de l'Europe et bien

au-delà des frontières de notre continent. Tout cela se cristallise dans une seule question : Qui, dans le monde entier de la propriété industrielle, ne connaît pas le CEIPI ? Si, aujourd'hui, cette question n'est plus qu'une question rhétorique dont la réponse est « personne », c'est grâce à vos talents et à votre engagement inlassable.

Si aujourd'hui il convient de féliciter notre ami Yves Reboul c'est aussi le moment de remercier le Directeur de la Section Internationale, notre ami Dieter Stauder. La question rhétorique posée précédemment en appelle immédiatement une autre: « Qui ne connaît pas Dieter Stauder ? »

Dieter STAUDER est un homme bourré de talents. En effet, il a réussi à conduire avec le même succès une double carrière professionnelle, tout en assumant ses responsabilités de chef de famille et en partageant avec ses amis ses qualités humaines incomparables.

Après ses études secondaires et supérieures Dieter Stauder a rejoint en 1968 l'Institut Max Planck de Munich et s'est inscrit à la faculté de Droit de Munich. Il a soutenu sa thèse en 1975 et a été nommé assistant chercheur à l'Institut Max Planck pour le droit de la propriété intellectuelle auprès des professeurs Beier et Schricker. De 1978 à 1991 Dieter STAUDER a été directeur du département pour le droit anglais et pays associés (anciens pays du Commonwealth) à l'Institut Max Planck. Au cours de cette période il a eu une activité de recherche particulièrement riche dans tous les domaines de la propriété intellectuelle, en droit comparé.

Au cours de ces années à l'Institut Max Planck, puis au CEIPI, Dieter Stauder a encore trouvé le temps d'écrire. Je mentionne en premier lieu le Commentaire sur le brevet européen, qui est aujourd'hui considéré unanimement comme la « Bible ». Ce traité de 1.200 pages, dont la 3<sup>ème</sup> édition vient de paraître et est publiée dans les trois langues officielles de la Convention de Munich, est devenu au fil des ans la référence internationale en la matière. Mais c'en'est pas tout. Dieter STAUDER a publié pas moins de 100 articles et un nombre important d'autres articles en collaboration avec ses amis de l'institut, tels que les professeurs Beier, Schricker, Straus, le professeur Cornish de l'Université de Cambridge, Gert Kolle, qui a effectué une brillante carrière à l'OEB, et avec ses anciens élèves doctorants, Eskill Waage et Laurence Petit.

Dieter STAUDER est entré au CEIPI au début de l'année 1992. Il avait été pressenti par le docteur Romuald Singer, qui était alors directeur de la section internationale du CEIPI, ancien président de la Grande Chambre de Recours à l'Office européen des brevets. Romuald Singer cherchait un assistant pour devenir ultérieurement son successeur. Le docteur Singer est décédé brutalement en

août 1991 après une courte maladie; en janvier 1992 Dieter STAUDER prenait la direction de la section internationale du Centre. En 1997 il était nommé professeur à l'Université Robert Schuman en poste au CEIPI.

L'œuvre de Dieter STAUDER au CEIPI est tout à fait considérable.

A la section internationale, il a apporté son dynamisme, son enthousiasme, sa science dans le droit de la propriété intellectuelle, ses qualités pédagogiques, son esprit de chercheur permanent, sa bonne humeur, sa fantaisie, son art de réunir les uns et les autres pour créer un esprit de famille, sans lesquels le CEIPI ne serait pas devenu ce qu'il est aujourd'hui, c'est-à-dire une construction européenne unique.

L'arrivée de Dieter STAUDER à la direction de la section internationale a marqué l'explosion des séminaires à Strasbourg et des centres de formation de base en Europe. Car il fallait permettre aux jeunes professionnels travaillant dans des cabinets ou dans des entreprises dispersés dans toute l'Europe, d'acquérir la formation de base en droit européen, préalable à leur participation aux séminaires de Strasbourg. Il était également nécessaire de créer les premiers centres de formation de base dans différentes villes d'Europe en collaboration avec l'Institut des mandataires européens (epi).

Aujourd'hui les trois séminaires sur les épreuves A, B, C et D, organisés dans les trois langues officielles de l'Office européen des brevets, réunissent à Strasbourg plus de 1.000 participants, les 33 centres de formation de base installés en Europe accueillent plus de 500 jeunes professionnels, futurs mandataires européens.

Dieter STAUDER a également pris en charge l'organisation des colloques des juges, qui ont lieu tous les deux ans dans une ville d'Europe.

Ces colloques qui réunissent des juges appelés dans leurs tribunaux à appliquer le droit européen des brevets, sont essentiels pour une meilleure connaissance du système du brevet européen, dans la perspective d'une interprétation commune des règles qu'il contient.

A cet égard, on peut dire que Dieter STAUDER a réalisé une mission pédagogique très importante dans l'uniformisation du droit des brevets en Europe en participant directement à la formation de ceux qui « disent » le droit du brevet européen, en matière de validité des titres comme en matière de contrefaçon.

Et puis, il y a eu la création du réseau EIPIN (European Intellectual Property Institute Network) avec le concours de Gérard HERTIG du Polytechnicum de Zurich, de Mikael BLACKNEY du Queen Mary College de Londres, de Manuel DESANTES et ses successeurs de l'Université d'Alicante, de l'Institut Max Planck de Munich.

Créé il y a huit ans, le réseau EIPIN a été véritablement une œuvre prémonitoire. En effet, celui-ci a servi de modèle à la création d'un réseau entre les Universités du Sud-Est asiatique, destiné à élaborer un programme de formation commun en droit de la propriété intellectuelle.

Par ailleurs, Dieter STAUDER est à l'origine du programme commun de formation de MASTER en propriété intellectuelle entre le CEIPI et l'Université Technique de Dresde. Depuis une dizaine d'années nous accueillons à

Strasbourg des étudiants de Dresde qui suivent la formation « brevets ».

Dieter STAUDER a également consacré une part importante de son temps à l'enseignement à la section internationale, certes, mais aussi à la section française, où il enseigne le brevet communautaire et le contentieux des brevets européens. N'est-il pas devenu le grand spécialiste de la médiation dans le domaine de la propriété intellectuelle ?

Il a d'ailleurs participé, avec Walter HOLZER, à la création du diplôme universitaire sur le contentieux des brevets en Europe, nouvelle spécialité pour les mandataires européens, qui va connaître dans les années à venir un grand développement avec la création de juridictions européennes des brevets.

En dépit de ses très nombreuses activités, Dieter STAUDER a trouvé le temps de diriger des mémoires de masters au CEIPI et deux thèses en propriété industrielle, travaux de doctrine qui sont des références pour les spécialistes.

- Le premier doctorant a été Eskil WAAGE qui a écrit une thèse sur l'application de principes généraux de procédure en droit européen des brevets publiée en 2000 dans la collection du CEIPI.
- Le second doctorant a été Laurence BRUNING-PETIT qui vient de soutenir une thèse brillante à Lyon sur le contentieux des brevets en Europe; ces deux jeunes docteurs occupent aujourd'hui des postes de juristes importants à l'Office européen des brevets.

Fait rarissime, Dieter STAUDER s'est vu offrir deux fois des Mélanges, consécration universitaire s'il en est.

Des premiers Mélanges lui ont d'abord été dédiés en 2001 par ses collègues de l'Institut Max Planck et de l'Université Robert Schuman sur le thème suivant : La défense des droits de la propriété industrielle en Europe, aux Etats-Unis et au Japon, publiés dans la collection du CEIPI.

Des seconds Mélanges offerts conjointement à Gert KOLLE et Dieter STAUDER intitulés « ... und sie bewegt sich doch ! » « Patent Law on the Move » publiés en 2005 par Carl Heymanns Verlag, qui réunissent des spécialistes célèbres de la propriété industrielle dans le monde.

Tout ceci ne serait pas sans l'énergie fantastique qu'a déployée Dieter STAUDER, infatigable ambassadeur du CEIPI auprès des divers centres en Europe, mobilisant les tuteurs, communiquant son enthousiasme pour le système européen des brevets et pour la formation des futurs mandataires européens.

Qui peut oublier les réunions des tuteurs à Strasbourg au mois de mai avec la présence fidèle de la marraine de la section internationale, Margareta SINGER, où Dieter STAUDER après avoir épousé les participants à l'actualisation des connaissances sur les développements du brevet européen, les a fait chanter en chœur des chansons devenues célèbres pour tous les mandataires européens et les a fait danser au cours de soirées où de nombreux participants découvraient la cuisine et les vins d'Alsace.

C'est aussi cela l'Europe de la propriété industrielle !

Pour réussir tout cela, il fallait non seulement des qualités intellectuelles et une parfaite maîtrise du droit européen des brevets, mais aussi des qualités humaines, une grande générosité de cœur pour faire du CEIPI, avec le soutien tout particulier de la présidente de l'Université Robert Schuman, Madame Florence BENOIT-ROHMER, un lieu d'échanges, de formation mutuelle, de partage du Savoir, où aiment se rencontrer ceux qui appartiennent à la seule profession, aujourd'hui unifiée en Europe, celle des mandataires européens.

Cher Dieter STAUDER, le CEIPI, l'Université Robert Schuman de Strasbourg, l'Institut des mandataires européens ont une immense dette envers vous, celle d'avoir construit autour du CEIPI la grande famille européenne de la propriété industrielle, dont vous faites partie définitivement. Un grand merci !

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*The Director General of the CEIPI, Prof. Yves Reboul has announced the new Director of the Section Internationale of the CEIPI, Mr. Markus Hössle :*

Le CEIPI a un nouveau directeur pour sa section internationale en la personne de Markus HÖSSLE, professeur associé à l'Université Robert Schuman de Strasbourg.

Markus HÖSSLE, membre de l'epi bien connu des tuteurs puisqu'il enseigne aux séminaires sur le brevet européen depuis plusieurs années, est aussi un manda-

taire européen qui jouit d'une grande réputation en Allemagne auprès des milieux professionnels.

Après ses études secondaires à Stuttgart, puis à Paris et à Versailles en France, Markus HÖSSLE a entrepris des études scientifiques à l'Université de Stuttgart ; titulaire d'un « Diplomarbeit » en sciences physiques, il obtient successivement en 1995 et 1996 l'examen de qualification national allemand et l'examen de qualification européen.

En 1996 il fonde avec M. RAEK un cabinet dont le siège est à Stuttgart avec un bureau à Munich. Markus HÖSSLE est membre de la Patentanwaltskammer et membre du comité SACEPO auprès de l'OEB (Office européen des brevets).

Spécialiste dans le domaine de la protection des logiciels, président du comité pour la protection du logiciel de la Patentanwaltskammer, Markus HÖSSLE a également une activité académique intense par les conférences et enseignements qu'il dispense aux universités de Stuttgart, de Munich et de Trento en Italie, ainsi que par ses travaux et publications dans sa spécialité, notamment sur la brevetabilité des inventions mises en œuvre par ordinateur.

Nous sommes très heureux de le voir prendre en charge la direction des activités de la section internationale du CEIPI, en particulier les différentes formations et séminaires de préparation à l'examen européen de qualification en collaboration avec l'académie européenne de l'OEB, représentée par William TORLOT.

## The patent profession in the EPC member states

Dear readers,

The survey of the profession in the member states was first published in epi Information 4/2000. Since then, we have up-dated it in connection with new states joining the EPC.

We wish to express our warm thanks to all our members who have actively contributed with information on the profession in their countries.

Most member states provide for examination, which is a prerequisite for being entered on a national list of patent attorneys. However, only a few of the national examinations are correlated with the EQE. There are also some countries without a specific patent attorney profession based on technical training and examination.

In connection with this survey, we are also pleased to provide another table "Representation in National Proceedings for Patent Matters" compiled by Mr. Edward Lyndon-Stanford. This table clearly manifests a large

variation of the rights of the patent attorneys in the various countries.

In order to achieve a truly European patent profession, we need to develop and harmonize our national professions, with regard to training and rights of representation, so that we in the future will stand on a common ground within the European patent system, hopefully also including a more harmonized European jurisdiction.

We are aware that the tables may not be completely accurate. Therefore, we kindly ask our members to provide information and comments on the tables so that they may be improved. Hopefully, they may also serve as an incentive for development!

Yours sincerely,  
Kim Finnilä

(The surveys are also available on the epi web site, under EQE, Training – Contracting States.)

# The Patent Profession in the EPC Contracting States

(disregarding EEA free movement of professionals and company law)

<b>Professional Representation</b>	<b>Associations</b>	<b>Basic Requirements</b>	<b>Practice Required</b>	<b>Examination</b>
<b>AT</b> – Patent Attorney on register maintained by the Austrian Chamber of Patent Attorneys; <a href="http://www.oepak.at">www.oepak.at</a>	– Österreichische Patentanwaltskammer; Linke Wienzeile 4/1/9; A-1060 WIEN (private practice) – RING der Industrie-Patentingenieure Österreichs; c/o Andritz AG, Stattegger Strasse 18, A-8045 GRAZ (industry) – Non-unitary profession	– Austrian or EEA nationality – Technical, mathematical or natural scientific Master or Ph.D. degree from an Austrian or EEA university – Equivalent academic degrees from non-EEA universities need to be accredited	– 5 years practice with registered Austrian patent attorney, examination may be taken after 4 years – 7.5 years practice in industry equivalent to patent attorney work for taking examination – For registered civil engineer 2 years practice for taking examination – For technical examiners at the NPO 10 years practice for taking examination – Technical examiner permanently employed at the NPO for 20 years may enter the list without examination	– The examination comprises a written and an oral part – The examination is organised and prepared by the NPO – The examination is held by a joint panel of members from the NPO and the Austrian Chamber of Patent Attorneys – Training is organised by the Austrian Chamber of Patent Attorneys – Passed EQE taken into account in examination
<b>BE</b> – Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO	– Chambre des Conseils en Propriété Industrielle (private practice) UBCEPI/BVORIE (industry) – Unitary profession nationally – Non-unitary profession in the epi	– Scientific, technical or legal university degree or high school degree of more than 3 years	– 3 years of activity in the patent profession as assistant to a qualified [Belgian] patent attorney, or as an authorised employee – of which 2 years maximum may be equivalent activity before the EPO, or activity in EEA state	– The examination comprises two written parts and one oral part – The written part comprises: 1) drafting of set of patent claims: 2) advice to client, opposition, infringement, etc. – The oral part relates to national law, EPC, PCT and basics of US and JP law – Released from part 1 of the written examination, if qualified European Patent Attorney – The same rules apply for private practice and industry

<b>BG</b>	<p>– Industrial Property Attorney on register maintained by the NPO</p> <p>– Association of Industrial Property Representatives, 116 James Boucher Ave., 1407 SOFIA, Bulgaria; <a href="http://www.bgi-p-union.org">www.bgi-p-union.org</a></p> <p>– Unitary profession in the <b>epi</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Bulgarian citizenship, permanent residence in the Republic of Bulgaria</li> <li>– A higher technical, natural science or law education diploma officially recognised in Bulgaria</li> <li>– Examination before the NPO</li> <li>– State examiners and lawyers with at least 10 years practice at the NPO and attorneys-at-law with at least 10 years practice shall acquire the status of representatives by right</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 2 years practice in the field of industrial property protection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The NPO provides a two-part examination with written and oral part</li> </ul>
<b>CH</b>	<p>– Informal register of patent attorneys for CH and LI on Internet only comprises qualified European Patent Attorneys</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Verband der beim Europäischen Patentamt Eingetragenen Freiberuflichen Schweizerischen Patentanwälte (VESPA) – Association des Conseils Suisses en Brevets de Profession Libérale (ACSOEB); Bovard AG; CH-BERN 25 (private practice)</li> <li>– Verband Schweizerischer Patent- und Markenanwälte (VSP) – Association Suisse des Conseils en Propriété Industrielle (ASCIPI); Rue de Genève 122; CH-1226 GENEVE-THONEX (private practice)</li> <li>– Verband der Industriepatentanwälte in der Schweiz (VIPS) – Association des Conseils en Brevets dans l'Industrie Suisse (ACBIS); Solvias AG; CH-4002 BASEL (industry) ; <a href="http://www.acbis.org">www.acbis.org</a></li> <li>– Non-unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No examination</li> </ul>
<b>CY</b>	<p>– Only lawyers may practice</p> <p>– Official register <a href="http://www.mcit.gov.cy/drkor">www.mcit.gov.cy/drkor</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Presently no association</li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No examination</li> </ul>
<b>CZ</b>	<p>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the Chamber of Patent Attorneys</p>	<p>– Chamber of Patent Attorneys, BRNO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National and resident of Czech Republic</li> <li>– University education</li> <li>– Examination</li> <li>– Oath to the President of the Chamber of Patent Attorneys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 3 years practice in industrial property for taking examination</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Two-part examination with written and oral part provided by the NPO</li> <li>– The examination board comprises two members nominated by the Chamber of Patent Attorneys and two members nominated by the NPO</li> </ul>

<b>DE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the Patentanwaltskammer; <a href="http://www.patentanwalt.de">www.patentanwalt.de</a></li> <li>– VPP; Uhländstr. 1, DE-47239 DUISBURG;; <a href="http://www.vpp-patent.de">www.vpp-patent.de</a></li> <li>– Bundesverband der Deutschen Patentanwälte E.V.; Geschäftsstelle Deichmannhaus am Dom; Postfach 10 22 41; 50462 KÖLN; <a href="http://www.bundesverband-patentanwälte.de">www.bundesverband-patentanwälte.de</a></li> <li>– Patent Attorney may represent on his own before the NPO, the Federal Patent Court (validity) and in appeals (validity) before the Federal Supreme Court</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Scientific or technical university degree</li> <li>– Non-unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 10 years in patent department of industry or 3 years of training including 26 months under supervision of patent attorney or patent agent in patent department and additionally 2 months at the NPO and 6 months at the Federal Patent Court</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The examination comprises two written parts and one oral part</li> </ul>
<b>DK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No register of Patent Attorneys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– De Danske Patentagenters Forening (DDPAF) (private practice)</li> <li>– Dansk Forening for Industriens Patent- og Varemærkespecialister (industry)</li> <li>– Non-unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Scientific or technical university degree</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 5 years practice for entering Association (DDPAF, private practice)</li> </ul>
<b>EE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Estonian Association of Patent Attorneys; c/o Lasvet, P.O.Box 3136, EST-10505 TALLINN, Estonia</li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Citizen of Estonia or EEA</li> <li>– Residence in Estonia</li> <li>– University education</li> <li>– Command of spoken and written Estonian</li> <li>– Command of two foreign languages in relation to professional work; one language has to be one of the official languages of the EPO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– At least four years employment with registered patent attorney or patent attorney firm</li> </ul>
<b>ES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Colegio Oficial de Agentes de la Propiedad Industrial (COAPI); Calle de la Montera, no 13; ES-28013 MADRID</li> <li>– Asociación de Agentes Españoles Autorizados ante Organizaciones Internacionales de Propiedad Industrial Intelectual (AGESORPI); Paseo de Gracia, 65 bis; ES-08008 BARCELONA</li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– University degree (more than three years)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No practice required for taking examination</li> </ul>

<b>FI</b>	<p>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO; <a href="http://www.prh.fi">www.prh.fi</a></p> <p>– Non-unitary profession</p>	<p>– Suomen Patenttiasiamiesyhdistys r.y.; P.O.Box 595; FIN-00101 HELSINKI; <a href="http://www.spay.fi">www.spay.fi</a> (private practice association)</p> <p>– Patentti-Insinöörit r.y. (Finnish Association for Corporate Patent Agents; industry); <a href="http://www.patentti-insinoorit.fi">www.patentti-insinoorit.fi</a></p> <p>– Non-unitary profession</p>	<p>– Scientific or technical university degree; exceptions possible</p> <p>– Permanent residence in the EEA</p>	<p>– For national register 1-2 years</p> <p>– For patient experience in the private practice or 5-6 years</p> <p>– patent experience in the industry and named as representative on 5 applications during one year</p> <p>– Courses in industrial property taken into account</p> <p>– 6 years practice with Patent Attorney for entering the private practice association as ordinary member</p> <p>– No practice formally required for entering the industry association</p>	<p>– No examination</p>
		<p>– Compagnie Nationale des Conseils en Propriété Industrielle (CNCPI); 92 rue d'Amsterdam; FR-75009 PARIS (private practice)</p> <p>– Association des Conseils en Propriété Industrielle (ACPI); 92 rue d'Amsterdam; FR-75009 PARIS (private practice); <a href="http://www.cncpi.fr">www.cncpi.fr</a></p> <p>– Association de Spécialistes en Propriété Industrielle (ASPI); 20 rue Vignon, FR-75009 PARIS (industry)</p> <p>– Non-unitary profession</p>	<p>– University degree and CEIPI diploma or equivalent</p>	<p>– 3 years professional practice</p>	<p>– Two separate examinations; patents and trademarks/designs</p> <p>– The patent examination comprises two written parts and one oral part</p> <p>– Having passed the EQE it is necessary only to take the 2<sup>nd</sup> written part and the oral part</p> <p>– Examination is organised by the NPO</p> <p>– The examination is drafted and examined by a jury chaired by a magistrate and comprising a lawyer, a university professor and other persons qualified in industrial property</p> <p>– ASPI and CNCPI organise training sessions</p>

<b>GB</b>	<p>– Patent Attorney on register administered on behalf of the NPO by the CIPA; <a href="http://www.cipa.org.uk/downlload/Register.pdf">http://www.cipa.org.uk/downlload/Register.pdf</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys (CIPA); 95 Chancery Lane; LONDON WC2A 1DT; England; <a href="http://www.cipa.org.uk/pages/home">http://www.cipa.org.uk/pages/home</a></li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No previous practice is required for taking the examination and a four part final examination. Exemption from some or all of the foundation papers may be obtained by attendance on designated University courses (e.g. the QMW certificate in intellectual property gives exemption from all foundation papers).</li> <li>– For entry onto the national register there is a requirement to have completed either at least two years full time practice under the supervision of a Patent Attorney, barrister or solicitor, or having completed four years full time practice in the field of intellectual property including patent agency work in the UK</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A degree from a UK University or Polytechnic degree or other qualification considered equivalent by the Joint Examination Board (JEB) conducting the examinations</li> </ul>
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No previous practice is required for taking the examination and a four part final examination. Exemption from some or all of the foundation papers may be obtained by attendance on designated University courses (e.g. the QMW certificate in intellectual property gives exemption from all foundation papers).</li> <li>– For entry onto the national register there is a requirement to have completed either at least two years full time practice under the supervision of a Patent Attorney, barrister or solicitor, or having completed four years full time practice in the field of intellectual property including patent agency work in the UK</li> </ul>
<b>GR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Only lawyers may practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Presently no association</li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No examination</li> </ul>

<b>HU</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the Hungarian Chamber of Patent Attorneys</li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Hungarian Chamber of Patent Attorneys; H-1054 BUDAPEST Kálmán Imre-u. 14; <a href="http://www.szabadalmikara.hu">www.szabadalmikara.hu</a></li> <li>– Permanent domicile in Hungary</li> <li>– Graduation from a two-years training course organised by the NPO</li> <li>– Technical degree with at least five years study from accepted university, or corresponding degree from a natural scientific university</li> <li>– Patent attorney examination</li> <li>– Oath before the President of the Hungarian Chamber of Patent Attorneys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– At least 3 years practice as a patent attorney candidate</li> <li>– National examination comprises: 1) two written parts: one of the topics should be in the national patent field, the other in other domestic IP territory, and 2) one oral part; national IP law; national procedural law, Civil Code and IP related criminal law; EPC, PCT, US law, International and Community trademark law, copyright and unfair competition law, TRIPS and other international treaties</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National examination comprises: 1) two written parts: one of the topics should be in the national patent field, the other in other domestic IP territory, and 2) one oral part; national IP law; national procedural law, Civil Code and IP related criminal law; EPC, PCT, US law, International and Community trademark law, copyright and unfair competition law, TRIPS and other international treaties</li> <li>– At least 3 years practice as a patent attorney candidate</li> <li>– Graduation from a two-years training course organised by the NPO</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Association of Patent &amp; Trade Mark Agents; c/o F.R. Kelly &amp; Co; 27 Clyde Road; DUBLIN 4; Ireland; <a href="http://www.appta.ie">www.appta.ie</a></li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– University degree in science or engineering, exceptions possible</li> <li>– Examination required for entry on the national register</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No time limit imposed for taking examination</li> </ul>
<b>IE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– FUVE – Association of Icelandic Trademark and Patent Attorneys; P.O. Box 662, IS-121 REYKJAVÍK (private practice)</li> <li>– No industry association</li> <li>– Non-unitary profession</li> <li>– Unitary profession in the epi</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Membership of the private practice association requires: a) Icelandic nationality or domicile in Iceland; b) law, engineering or equivalent university degree</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Membership of the private practice association requires five years of practice at a firm being member of the association, of which five years at least three years must be associated with work on patent or trademark matters</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ordine dei Consulenti in Proprietà Industriale; Via G. Donizetti 1/A; IT-20122 MILANO (private practice and industry); <a href="http://www.ordine-brevetti.it">www.ordine-brevetti.it</a></li> <li>– Collegio Italiano dei Consulenti in Proprietà Industriale; c/o Via S. Agnese, 12; IT-20123 MILANO (private practice)</li> <li>– A.I.C.I.P.I., Associazione Italiana dei Consulenti ed Esperti in Proprietà Industriale di Enti o Imprese; <a href="http://www.aicipi.it">www.aicipi.it</a> (industry)</li> <li>– Non-unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– University degree obtained in Italy or abroad and recognised in Italy</li> <li>– Degree issued by a university or high school institute of EEA state with at least three years education in industrial property, after high school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The examination comprises two written parts: 1) patent drafting and 2) patent law;</li> <li>– 18 months + 6 months in specific industrial property patient courses</li> <li>– Italian citizens with employment for 5 years as an EPO examiner allows for direct enrolment for the examination</li> <li>– Examination not required for chief examiners at the NPO</li> </ul>
<b>IT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No register of Patent Attorneys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Examination required for Patent Attorneys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The examination comprises</li> <li>– 1) patent drafting and 2) patent law;</li> <li>– one oral part on a) public and private law and civil procedure, b) patent law, c) EU and international law in industrial property, d) comparative law in industrial property, e) English, French or German as foreign language and f.) technical knowledge in chemistry, electricity or mechanics</li> <li>– Having passed the EQE allows for taking examination without practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The examination comprises</li> <li>– 1) patent drafting and 2) patent law;</li> <li>– one oral part on a) public and private law and civil procedure, b) patent law, c) EU and international law in industrial property, d) comparative law in industrial property, e) English, French or German as foreign language and f.) technical knowledge in chemistry, electricity or mechanics</li> <li>– Having passed the EQE allows for taking examination without practice</li> </ul>

<b>LI</b>	<p>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the government agency FMA (Finanzmarktaufsicht)</p>	<p>– Liechtensteinischer Patentanwaltsverband (LIPAV); Kapellestrasse 15, FL-9492 ESCHEN – Unitary profession</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National of the EEA</li> <li>– National examination</li> <li>– Educational background in engineering or natural sciences (currently through EQE, amendment of law under way)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No practice requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Two part national examination; admittance to oral examination only upon success in preceding written examination</li> <li>– EQE prerequisite for taking national examination</li> </ul>
<b>LT</b>	<p>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO</p>	<p>– Association of Patent Attorneys in Lithuania; Kaštontys g. 5-7, 01107 VILNIUS, LITHUANIA; <a href="http://www.is.lt/kuc">www.is.lt/kuc</a> – No compulsory membership for practitioners (patentinis patik)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Lithuanian nationality or EU nationality</li> <li>– University degree in engineering, natural sciences, law or mathematics</li> <li>– Passing examination organised by the national patent office</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 5 years experience in intellectual property (patent attorney firm, NPO, industry IP department)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Examination comprises three parts: 1) theoretical part on national and international IP laws, 2) theoretical part on Civil Code and Civil Proceeding Code of the Republic of Lithuania, and 3) practical part on drafting, responding to communications, oppositions, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>LU</b>	<p>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the Ministry of Economy, Directorate Intellectual Property</p>	<p>– Féderation des Conseils en Propriété Industrielle au Luxembourg; 55 rue des bruyères, L-1274 HOWALD (B.P. 1775 ; L-1017 Luxembourg) – Non-unitary profession</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– University degree finalising studies of at least 4 years;</li> <li>– 12 months training with registered LU or EEA patent attorney;</li> <li>– EQE; and</li> <li>– Supplementary national examination or proof of entitlement to practice before the NPO of EEA state (in which the profession is regulated) ; and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– See column to the left</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Practical aspects of the supplementary national examination and the national competence test to be determined by implementing regulations</li> </ul>
<b>LV</b>	<p>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO; <a href="http://www.lpv.lv">www.lpv.lv</a></p>	<p>– The Association of Latvian Patent Attorneys (LPPA); Ausekla 2-2, RIGA LV1010, Latvia; tel: +371-7322050, fax: +371-7325600 (President, Mr. Marks Kuzans)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National competence test</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Candidate who is not a lawyer shall have a minimum of 5 years of practice in the patent field, i.e. as assistant for a patent attorney</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Examination has one written part and one oral part, choice between all or one of the fields: patents, trademarks, industrial designs</li> <li>– Latvian IP legislation, International conventions and treaties, practical tasks</li> </ul>

<b>MC</b>	– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO (MC and FR patent attorneys allowed)	– Unitary profession				– No examination
<b>NL</b>	– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Orde van Octrooigemachtigden; P.O.Box 3219; NL-2280 GE Rijswijk; <a href="http://www.octrooigemachtigde.nl">www.octrooigemachtigde.nl</a></li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– University degree in science, technology, engineering or agriculture for taking examination</li> <li>– NL or EEA citizens having passed the national examination and having three years practice may enter the national register</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 3 years practice at office of NL patent attorney</li> <li>– Exemption for EEA patent attorneys or qualified European Patent Attorneys (provide they pass an aptitude test)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The examination is in writing and comprises 6 modules: 1) general law (3.5 hours); 2) patent law (3 hours); 3) other IP-law, European law, competition law (3 hours); 4) writing an advice regarding a patent-related problem (8 hours); 5) writing of a patent application; and 6) and defending the same (4 hours each).</li> <li>– The examination is examined by an examination committee appointed by the Ministry of Economic Affairs and comprising representatives from the NPO, the patent profession and the legal profession.</li> <li>– Training is provided in the form of a two years course.</li> <li>– Examination modules form a part of the course, but are also open to persons not following the course.</li> <li>– Modules 4,5 and 6 may be compensated by Paper A, B and C of the EQE respectively</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The examination comprises one written part and one oral part</li> <li>– The examination is organised, drafted and examined by the NPO</li> </ul>
<b>PL</b>	– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– University degree taken at faculty useful for practicing the profession (e.g. technical, law)</li> <li>– PL nationality</li> <li>– Oath before the NPO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Three years training before taking examination</li> </ul>	– Qualifying examination
<b>PT</b>	– IP Attorney on register maintained by the NPO		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Associação Portuguesa dos Mandatários Europeus de Patentes (AMEP); Rua Vitor Cordon, 14 -1249-103 LISBOA</li> <li>– Associação dos Consultores em Propriedade Industrial; Rua Miguel Lupi, 16 – n/c – 1200 – 725 LISBOA</li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– PT or EEA nationality</li> <li>– University degree in engineering, law or economics</li> <li>– Office located in PT or in the territory of a EEA Member State</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No practice required for taking examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The examination comprises one written part and one oral part</li> <li>– The examination is organised, drafted and examined by the NPO</li> </ul>

<b>RO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO and also member of the Romanian Chamber of Patent Attorneys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Camera Consilierilor in Proprietate Industriala din Romania (Romanian Chamber of Patent Attorneys); Bdul Corneliu Coposu nr. 7, Bl. 104, sc. 1, et. 4, ap. 16, Sector 6 – Bucuresti, Romania; <a href="http://www.patent-chamber.ro">www.patent-chamber.ro</a></li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Romanian nationality and residence and business place in Romania required for passing the examination</li> <li>– Technical, scientific or judicial university degree</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 3 years experience in the basic profession and/or 3 years training within a patent attorney firm</li> <li>– Technical examiner permanently employed at the NPO for at least 5 years may enter the Romanian Chamber of Patent Attorneys without further practice or examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Examination organised by the NPO</li> <li>– Examination comprises three written parts: a) one theoretical part on national patent law and proceedings, PCT, EPC and other international treaties, and b) two practical parts comprising filing of a patent application, answering an official action, drafting claims, specification and appeal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 3 years experience in the basic profession and/or 3 years training within a patent attorney firm</li> <li>– Technical examiner permanently employed at the NPO for at least 5 years may enter the Romanian Chamber of Patent Attorneys without further practice or examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Examination organised by the NPO</li> <li>– Examination comprises three written parts: a) one theoretical part on national patent law and proceedings, PCT, EPC and other international treaties, and b) two practical parts comprising filing of a patent application, answering an official action, drafting claims, specification and appeal</li> </ul>
<b>SE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No register of Patent Attorneys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Svenska Patentombudsföringen; Box 2286; SE-10316 STOCKHOLM (private practice); <a href="http://www.spof.se">www.spof.se</a></li> <li>– Svenska Industriens Patentinjörs Förening; c/o Eka Chemicals, Box 11556, SE-100 61 STOCKHOLM; (industry); <a href="http://www.spif.se">www.spif.se</a></li> <li>– Non-unitary profession</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 5 years practice for entering private practice association</li> <li>– no prior practice for entering industry association</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No examination</li> <li>– Sveriges IP-ombuds Samfund (Swedish Intellectual Property (IP) Attorneys Association; <a href="http://www.ip-samfunden.se">www.ip-samfunden.se</a> (association engaged with authorisation, educational requirements, etc.)</li> <li>– Stiftelsen IP Akademien; <a href="http://www.ipakademien.se">www.ipakademien.se</a> (institute engaged with education)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 5 years practice for entering private practice association</li> <li>– no prior practice for entering industry association</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No examination</li> <li>– Sveriges IP-ombuds Samfund (Swedish Intellectual Property (IP) Attorneys Association; <a href="http://www.ip-samfunden.se">www.ip-samfunden.se</a> (association engaged with authorisation, educational requirements, etc.)</li> <li>– Stiftelsen IP Akademien; <a href="http://www.ipakademien.se">www.ipakademien.se</a> (institute engaged with education)</li> </ul>
<b>SI</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Association of Slovenian Patent Attorneys (ASPA), c/o ITEM d.o.o., Reslikeva cesta 16, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia</li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Natural person with university diploma in the technical field or natural science and who passed the examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No practice required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National examination for patent attorneys is organized by the NPO and consists of a written part which usually takes approximately 8 hours and an oral part which takes approximately 3 hours.</li> <li>– The examination covers Slovenian national legislation and international treaties valid in Slovenia concerning patents, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications</li> <li>– The EQE has no formal influence on this examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– No practice required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National examination for patent attorneys is organized by the NPO and consists of a written part which usually takes approximately 8 hours and an oral part which takes approximately 3 hours.</li> <li>– The examination covers Slovenian national legislation and international treaties valid in Slovenia concerning patents, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications</li> <li>– The EQE has no formal influence on this examination</li> </ul>
<b>SK</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Patent Attorney on register maintained by the Chamber of Patent Attorneys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Chamber of Patent Attorneys, Trenčianska 55, 821 09 BRATISLAVA 2, Slovakia; <a href="http://www.patentattorneys.sk">www.patentattorneys.sk</a></li> <li>– Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Tertiary education</li> <li>– Professional examination</li> <li>– Oath to President</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 3 years practice by patent attorneys or 4-years practice in industrial property department of companies required for taking examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Professional examination given by the NPO comprises written and oral parts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 3 years practice by patent attorneys or 4-years practice in industrial property department of companies required for taking examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Professional examination given by the NPO comprises written and oral parts</li> </ul>

<b>TR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Patent Attorney on register maintained by the NPO</li> <li>- Patent ve Marka Vekilleri Dernegi (PEM); www.pem.org.tr (association, not national)</li> <li>- Unitary profession</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Turkish citizenship with place of residence in Turkey</li> <li>- University degree of 4 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No practice required for taking examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The examination comprises one written part relating to national patent law and proceedings, PCT and other international treaties, and unfair competition law</li> </ul>
2007-02-14				

- EQE (European Qualifying Examination)
- EEA (European Economic Area)
- NPO (National Patent Office)

## Representation in National Proceedings for Patent Matters

(Many entries have not been verified. Where there are blanks, the information has not been received.)

PA title protected	Member-ship of Institute compulsory	Anyone can rep. pat. applicant before P.O.	PA must have tech. degree	PA can rep. pat. applicant before P.O.	Att'y-at-law can rep. in pat. applicant before P.O.	PA can rep. in all Courts	Anyone can rep. in Court	PA with higher qual. can rep. in all Courts	PA can plead as of right in Court (where not allowed representation)	PA can assist as of right in Court (where not allowed representation)	Priva-lege for att'y-at-law	Priva-lege for pat. attys.	PA's and att'y-at-law can practise together	Poss. to cumulate titles
<b>AT</b>	Yes	Yes <sup>1</sup>		Yes	Yes	No	No	–	No	Yes	Yes <sup>3</sup>	No	No	Yes <sup>13</sup>
<b>BE</b>	No			Yes	Yes	No	No	–	No	No	?	No	No	No
<b>BG</b>				Yes										
<b>CH</b>	Yes			Yes	Yes	No	No	–	No	No	Yes	No <sup>5</sup>		
<b>CY</b>	No			No	Yes	No	No	–	No	No	Yes	No		
<b>CZ</b>						No	No <sup>8</sup>	Yes <sup>8</sup>	–	–	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
<b>DE</b>	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	In vali-dity suits	–	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
<b>DK</b>	No	Yes		Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
<b>ES</b>	Yes	Yes <sup>8</sup>		Yes	No	No	No	–	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes <sup>2</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>EE</b>	Yes					No	No <sup>9</sup>	Yes <sup>9</sup>			Yes	Yes		
<b>FI</b>	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	–	–	–	Yes	No	No <sup>17</sup>
<b>FR</b>	Yes	No		Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No <sup>14</sup>	Yes

	GB	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	In PCC Yes, P.A.L. 15	No	No	Yes	Yes <sup>16</sup>	No <sup>14</sup>	Yes
<b>GR</b>		No							No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No		
<b>HU</b>	Yes					Yes <sup>4</sup>	Yes	No	No	No	-	-	-	Yes <sup>3</sup>	No <sup>10</sup>	Yes	
<b>IE</b>		Yes <sup>1</sup>				Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes		
<b>IT</b>	Yes		No			Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	
<b>LI</b>		No				Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes <sup>9</sup>	-	-	Yes <sup>6</sup>	Yes <sup>6</sup>	Yes	Yes
<b>LU</b>																	
<b>LT</b>						Yes			No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	
<b>LV</b>						Yes			No <sup>9</sup>	No <sup>9</sup>	No <sup>9</sup>	No <sup>9</sup>	No <sup>9</sup>	-	-	Yes	
<b>MC</b>			Yes			Yes	Yes	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	Yes	No	
<b>NL</b>	Yes		Yes <sup>12</sup>			Yes	Yes	No	No	No	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>PL</b>	Yes		No			Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	-	-	-	-	No	Yes
<b>PT</b>	Yes					Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No <sup>7</sup>	No <sup>7</sup>	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<b>SE</b>	No	No	Yes			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	-	Limited	-	-
<b>SI</b>			Yes <sup>11</sup>			Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	n. k.	No	Yes	
<b>SK</b>									No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	
<b>TR</b>																	
<b>EP</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes <sup>18</sup>	-	-

1 unless for gain or run as a commercial undertaking or run as professional undertaking  
 2 as an expert  
 3 except in criminal proceedings (and patent infringement can be a criminal offence)

4 but there are none  
 5 never decided  
 6 none has to show documents  
 7 but often does so  
 8 not on appeal (highest court only?)

9 in first and second instances (not in third instance)  
 10 but can have common ownership  
 11 only for initial filing  
 12 but only after initial filing (one view however is that only patent attorneys and attorneys-at-law can represent)  
 13 but none  
 14 under discussion  
 15 but no rights of audience in High Court or Court of Appeal and no rights at all in House of Lords

16 limited to advice on IP matters  
 17 an exception could be made by the Society of Attorneys-at-Law  
 18 from 13<sup>th</sup> December 2007

# Die Ausbildung von Patentanwälten und European Patent Attorneys in Deutschland

M. Hössle<sup>1</sup>(DE), I.Kraßer<sup>2</sup> (DE)

Seit dem Patentanwaltsgesetz vom 21.5.1900 sieht die deutsche Rechtsordnung vor, dass in Deutschland nur der als Patentanwalt tätig sein darf, der zur Patentanwaltschaft zugelassen ist, und dass nur zugelassen werden kann, wer eine technische Hochschulausbildung absolviert und die erforderlichen Rechtskenntnisse in einer Prüfung nachgewiesen hat. Die Ausbildung zum deutschen Patentanwalt ist heute in der Patentanwaltsordnung (PAO) und der Patentanwaltsausbildungs- und Prüfungsordnung (PatAnwAPO) gesetzlich geregelt. Im Rahmen dieser Ausbildung erfahren die Patentanwaltsbewerber auch eine Basisvorbereitung im Hinblick auf die europäische Eignungsprüfung. Im folgenden soll die Ausbildung zum deutschen Patentanwalt dargelegt werden und erläutert werden, welche Möglichkeiten in Deutschland bestehen, um sich auf die europäische Eignungsprüfung vorzubereiten.

## 1. Ausbildung zum deutschen Patentanwalt

### a) Technische Befähigung (§ 6 PAO)

Der erste Schritt in der Ausbildung zum Patentanwalt ist der Erwerb der technischen Befähigung. Der Bewerber muss an einer wissenschaftlichen Hochschule (Universität) ein technisches oder naturwissenschaftliches Studium erfolgreich absolvieren. Darüber hinaus muss er mindestens ein Jahr praktisch auf technischem Gebiet tätig sein. Nur ein Bewerber, der die technische Befähigung nachweist, kann zur Ausbildung auf dem Gebiet des gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes zugelassen werden.

### b) Ausbildung auf dem Gebiet des gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes (§ 7 PAO)

Die eigentliche Ausbildung zum Patentanwalt erfolgt dann bei einem Patentanwalt oder bei einem Patentassessor in der Patentabteilung eines Unternehmens, beim Deutschen Patent- und Markenamt und beim Bundespatentgericht. Die Zulassung des Bewerbers zu dieser Ausbildung erfolgt auf Antrag durch den Präsidenten des Deutschen Patent- und Markenamts (§ 2 PatAnwAPO). Die Ausbildung dauert insgesamt mindestens 34 Monate, die sich auf (mindestens) 26 Monate bei einem Patentanwalt bzw. Patentassessor, zwei Monate beim Deutschen Patent- und Markenamt und sechs Monate beim Bundespatentgericht aufteilen. Bis zu zwei Monate der Zeit beim Patentanwalt bzw. Patentassessor kann der Bewerber bei einem Gericht für Patentstreitsachen aus-

gebildet werden. Eine Ausbildung auf dem Gebiet des gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes im Ausland (bspw. in einer Kanzlei) kann bis zu sechs Monate auf die Ausbildung bei einem Patentanwalt bzw. Patentassessor angerechnet werden.

Ziel der Ausbildung ist nach § 6 PatAnwAPO, dem Bewerber auf der Grundlage seiner technischen Befähigung umfassende Kenntnisse auf dem Gebiet des gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes und die erforderlichen allgemeinen Rechtskenntnisse zu vermitteln sowie ihn mit der praktischen Arbeit vertraut zu machen, die einem Patentanwalt oder Patentassessor obliegt. So liegt der Schwerpunkt der Ausbildung auf der Vermittlung von umfassenden Kenntnissen auf dem Gebiet des deutschen gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes sowie des Europäischen Patentübereinkommens und anderer einschlägiger zwischenstaatlicher Vereinbarungen. Daneben soll dem Bewerber Gelegenheit gegeben werden, Kenntnisse in anderen Rechtsbereichen, die für die Tätigkeit des Patentanwalts oder Patentassessors von Bedeutung sind, zu erwerben (z.B. Grundzüge des bürgerlichen Rechts, des Handelsrechts, des gerichtlichen Verfahrensrechts und des europäischen Gemeinschaftsrechts sowie Kenntnisse der Patentanwaltsordnung und der Berufsordnung der Patentanwälte). Auch das Patent-, Gebrauchsmuster- und Markenrecht aus anderen Ländern soll in der Ausbildung behandelt werden (§ 16 PatAnwAPO). Begleitend zu der praktischen Ausbildung werden Arbeitsgemeinschaften angeboten, in denen den Bewerbern theoretische Kenntnisse vermittelt werden und an denen sie teilzunehmen haben.

Die Pflichten der ausbildenden Patentanwälte und Patentassessoren sind gesetzlich geregelt (vgl. § 12 PatAnwAPO). Die Einhaltung dieser Pflichten wird von der Patentanwaltskammer bzw. bei Patentassessoren vom Deutschen Patent- und Markenamt überwacht. Um diese Aufsicht zu ermöglichen, sind die Ausbilder verpflichtet, nach Ablauf eines Jahres der Ausbildung und am Ende der Ausbildung in ihrer Kanzlei Berichte über den Stand der Ausbildung bei der Patentanwaltskammer einzureichen. Darin ist anzugeben, mit welchen Tätigkeiten der Bewerber im fraglichen Zeitraum betraut worden ist.

### c) Ausbildung im allgemeinen Recht an einer Universität (§ 7 Abs. 3 PAO)

Nach § 7 Abs. 3 PAO müssen Patentanwaltbewerber die Ausbildung bei einem Patentanwalt oder Patentassessor durch ein Studium im allgemeinen Recht an einer Universität ergänzen. Diese Pflicht wurde auf Initiative

<sup>1</sup> Markus Hössle, Patentanwalt, Stuttgart, Direktor der Section Internationale, CEIPI

<sup>2</sup> RAin Dr. Isabella Kraßer, Patentanwaltskammer, München

der Patentanwaltskammer durch eine Änderung der PAO mit Wirkung zum 1. Januar 1999 begründet.

Hierfür hat die FernUniversität Hagen in Zusammenarbeit mit der Patentanwaltskammer einen besonderen Studiengang „Recht für Patentanwältinnen und Patentanwälte“ eingerichtet. Dieses Studium erstreckt sich insbesondere auf diejenigen Rechtsgebiete, die ein Patentanwalt oder Patentassessor neben dem Gebiet des gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes kennen muss (Bürgerliches Recht einschließlich Gesellschafts-, Handels- und Arbeitsrecht, Öffentliches Recht, Europarecht und Verfahrensrecht). Es beinhaltet daneben aber auch einige spezifisch patentrechtliche Themen, wie das Lizenzvertrags- und das Verfahrensrecht in Patentsachen, die Patentverletzung sowie das Patentanwaltsrecht. Das 2-jährige Studium ist als Fernstudium konzipiert und kann neben der Ausbildung beim Patentanwalt oder Patentassessor durchgeführt werden. Zu Beginn des Studiums findet eine einwöchige erste Präsenzphase statt. Nach einem Jahr folgt eine einwöchige Vertiefungsveranstaltung und am Ende des Studiums ein zweitägiges Kurzseminar. Während des gesamten Studiums muss der Bewerber im Fernstudium sogenannte Einsendarbeiten bearbeiten, die bewertet werden, und Klausuren schreiben. Das Studium schließt mit einer Prüfung ab, die aus einem schriftlichen und einem mündlichen Teil besteht. Bewerber, die ein rechtswissenschaftliches Studium mit dem Ersten Staatsexamen abgeschlossen haben, brauchen das Fernstudium nicht durchzuführen.

#### d) Patentanwaltsprüfung (§ 8 PAO)

Nach der Ausbildung auf dem Gebiet des gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes hat der Bewerber seine Rechtskenntnisse durch eine Prüfung vor der beim Deutschen Patent- und Markenamt gebildeten Prüfungskommission nachzuweisen. Zu dieser Prüfung wird er auf Antrag zugelassen, wenn er in allen Ausbildungsabschnitten das Ziel der Ausbildung erreicht hat. Die Prüfung besteht aus zwei unter Aufsicht zu fertigenden schriftlichen Klausuren sowie einer mündlichen Prüfung (§31 Abs. 1 Pat-AnwAPO). Die beiden schriftlich anzufertigenden Arbeiten haben die Lösung einer wissenschaftlichen und einer praktischen Aufgabe auf dem Gebiet des gesamten gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes zum Gegenstand. Die Ausbildungs- und Prüfungsordnung sieht vor, dass der für die Arbeiten vorgesehene Zeitraum in der Regel fünf Stunden je Arbeit nicht überschreiten soll. Als einzige Hilfsmittel werden die einschlägigen Gesetzestexte

gestellt. Die mündliche Prüfung ist eine Gruppenprüfung, zu der in der Regel maximal fünf Prüflinge geladen werden. Je Prüfling dauert die mündliche Prüfung im Durchschnitt eine Stunde. Mit Bestehen dieser Prüfung ist er berechtigt, sich „Patentassessor“ bzw. „Patentassessorin“ zu nennen.

Derzeit (Stichtag 31. Dezember 2006) befinden sich insgesamt 469 vom Präsidenten des Deutschen Patent- und Markenamts zugelassene Kandidaten in der Ausbildung, jedes Jahr bestehen ca. 140 bis 160 Prüflinge die Prüfung.

## 2. Vorbereitung auf die europäische Eignungsprüfung

Wie bereits erwähnt, ist das Europäische Patentübereinkommen auch Gegenstand der Ausbildung zum deutschen Patentanwalt. In ihrer praktischen Ausbildung beim Patentanwalt oder Patentassessor werden Bewerber häufig mit Aufgaben eines European Patent Attorney betraut. So werden sie an der Erstellung von Anmeldungen für europäische Patente sowie an sonstigen vor dem Europäischen Patentamt durchzuführenden Verfahren beteiligt, wirken bei der Erstellung von Schreiben an Mandanten mit und werden somit in die praktische Arbeit eines European Patent Attorney eingeführt.

Speziell zur Vorbereitung auf die europäische Eignungsprüfung versendet die Patentanwaltskammer halbjährlich Prüfungsaufgaben aus den vergangenen Jahren an die ausbildenden Patentanwälte und hält diese dazu an, ihre Kandidaten diese Klausuren unter Prüfungsbedingungen schreiben zu lassen, die Klausuren im Anschluss zu korrigieren und mit den Kandidaten zu besprechen. Dieses Schreiben von Klausuren dient der Übung im Hinblick auf die Vorbereitung zur europäischen Eignungsprüfung. Weitere Übungsklausuren können Bewerber in den vom epi angebotenen Tutorien schreiben, an denen sich auch deutsche Patentanwälte als Tutoren beteiligen. Im übrigen obliegt die weitere Vorbereitung auf die europäische Eignungsprüfung den Kandidaten selbst. Es gibt aber verschiedene Institutionen, die Vorbereitungskurse anbieten. So bieten, neben internationalen Institutionen wie das CEIPI, auch verschiedene deutsche kommerzielle Anbieter derartige Kurse an.

Bei den vom CEIPI in Deutschland veranstalteten Basiskursen sind derzeit (Stichtag 31. Dezember 2006) 147 Teilnehmer gemeldet.

## The Swedish Initiative – to make a long story short

W. Huth<sup>1</sup> (SE)

After years, or maybe decades, of endless talks about the need for an adequate educational system for the Swedish IP-profession, in the first place for patent attorneys and later on also for trademark attorneys, in the year 2004 the Association of IP-Law Firms in Sweden (SEPAF) decided to carry out an investigation and feasibility study. They simply asked for a “business plan” describing how to organise an educational system and to introduce authorisation for IP-professionals.

The preconditions at that time were in principle a non-existing interest of the Swedish Government to introduce a public official authorisation to ensure a high quality within the profession, and also to provide for an attorney-client privilege by law. In our country, everyone still has the right to be represented by whomever before the Swedish Patent and Registration Office (PRV) and any Swedish court without any qualifications.

Probably, related to EPC 2000 activities and a couple of lost court cases for two larger Swedish companies due to the non-existing attorney-client privilege for Swedish patent attorneys, or maybe in a couple of years from now we will have a public authorisation in the first instance for patent attorneys and such lawyers who have passed an examination regarding patent claims procedures and patent law. Other IP-specialties are not under investigation for the time being.

The above mentioned “business plan” was provided early 2005. After many meetings and complicated discussions with all parties involved, we reached an agreement between the Association of Swedish Patent Attorneys (SPOF) and the Association of Patent Attorneys in the Swedish Industry (SIPF) saying that both sides fully accepted an equality concerning educational requirements and terms for authorisation, regardless of whether the attorney works in-house or as a free IP-agent. With the agreement on the table, a description of the general educational demands was drafted. We also provided an estimate of the number of engineers and lawyers to be educated and examined on a yearly basis. As all parties were in agreement the “business plan” was executed partly by starting the foundation *The Swedish IP Academy* in November 2005 and partly by establishing *The Swedish Intellectual Property (IP) Attorneys Association* early 2006.

The *Swedish IP Attorneys Association* (Sveriges IP-ombuds Samfund) was created with the sole purpose to organise a Swedish authorisation system for IP Attorneys both practicing as industry employees and as private consultants. It is a basic set-up similar to the German Patentanwaltskammer but so far not yet connected to a

(hopefully) coming public authorisation and legal attorney-client privilege solution.

### **The targets/options for the association are:**

- Organise a platform for authorisation of Patent and Trade Mark Attorneys (University education in engineering/physics and/or legal matters corresponding to a M.Sc. or LLM. degree are basic claims)
- Prescribe the additional professional education required for an authorisation
  - IP specific legal university degrees for both engineers and lawyers
  - Basic and practical education in drafting/filing applications national/EPC/international and IP-practice in Sweden/EPC/PCT and several major industrial countries i.e. USA, Japan, etc.
  - Commercial and other subjects related to exploiting IPR and IP in general
- Prescribe other requirements for achieving authorisation like practices, EQE examination etc.
- To conduct relevant examinations required for membership (authorisation)
- To enforce a code of conduct and prosecute misconduct in relation to the code
- To prescribe mandatory demands for continued professional education to maintain authorisation status

As of today the organisation has about 470 authorised Patent Attorneys and IP-lawyers who have become members according to a “grandfathers rule” procedure which expired as of June 30, 2006.

As of January 1, 2007 a continued professional education of minimum 10 hours per year is mandatory. (An example for a typical continued professional education for 2007/2008 is the national education of the entire Profession needed with respect to launching of EPC 2000 towards the end of this year)

As of February 2007 the regular rules for authorisation will come into force.

*The Swedish IP Academy* (Stiftelsen IP Akademien) was established and operational as of January 1, 2006 with the sole purpose to offer adequate educational systems for the entire Profession, both for national and international demands required for authorisation and continued professional upgrade. The basic educational programmes are mandatory for the Profession but also open as individual courses to anybody interested in making use of or exploiting IPR. The regular programmes for attorneys shall be repeated on a yearly basis and the total duration will vary from three to five years depending on the individual candidate's decision also to include the

<sup>1</sup> Walter Huth, President of the Swedish IP Academy

EQE-examination under or after the mandatory Swedish examinations.

The Swedish IP Academy also has the responsibility to provide adequate preparatory seminars and courses for EQE examinations. Such courses are already included in the programme with clearly improved success rates for the candidates who have attended those courses. This January a new group of about 20 candidates has started the 2-year course with the goal to sit for examinations A + B in 2008 and C + D in 2009. We will run a new group each consecutive year. To support our efforts we have already requested support from the EPO Academy and initiated a dialogue.

In 2006 we started a first group of 18 engineers who are now moving on into their second educational year, and we have recently started the second new group of about the same size.

This year we have also started the regular program for lawyers and will do that in a similar way in order to achieve regularity in repeating educational courses for authorisation, even though the number of candidates will be less compared with the expected numbers of engineers to be educated.

### **Education & Certification of IP Assistants**

Simultaneously we have introduced a complete educational programme for patent, trademark and design

assistants. For example, we have an EPC- course for assistants running parallel to the larger part of our EQE preparatory D-seminar. This year's class is of about 20 students.

In their regular programme for certification some legal education is mandatory.

*All together* and within a very short period of time we have started a complete, regular and within certain aspects mandatory education for all those who want to become authorised IP-professionals.

A public authorisation is under investigation and a legal proposition/national register is expected in the foreseeable future. This may be a reality within 2-5 years, or it may not be at all.

Regardless the outcome of the governmental investigations to enforce a public authorisation, the entire IP Attorney Profession in Sweden has decided to introduce an authorisation equal for private practice and industry attorneys. The final goal is to have well-educated and continuously updated IP-professionals who are able to serve the established industry and all newcomers with the best possible competence to secure their rights for their intellectual property and enable them to exploit their investments in the best possible way.

To achieve that, everybody in our line of business needs proper education in the beginning and throughout their entire professional lifetime.

## **Chemical and Pharmaceutical Product Claims in Spain**

E. Lyndon-Stanford  
Chairman, EPPC

Prior to 8th October 1992, when the reservation for Spain regarding chemical and pharmaceutical product claims was still in force, it was possible to file at the European Patent Office a separate set of claims for Spain. Following a recent Spanish court decision which clarifies the position under TRIPs, Spain has withdrawn its reservation. It is therefore not necessary to maintain a

different set of claims for Spain. The Spanish court decision will soon be published in the Official Journal.

During discussions of the EPC 2000 Examination Guidelines, the EPO has noted that at the R. 71(4) stage (the old R. 51(4) stage), the separate set of claims for Spain, if on file, can be withdrawn. It is advisable to do this as otherwise the scope of protection in Spain could be unduly narrowed.

# Italy – Green light for reintroduction of patent, utility model and design fees<sup>1</sup>

F. De Benedetti (IT)

Italy's Financial Law 2007, published on 2 January 2007, has reintroduced the government fees for patents, utility models and designs which had been cancelled as from 1 January 2006 by the previous Financial Law 2006.

The new law has empowered the Italian Government to reintroduce

- *government fees* for applications and prosecutions concerning Italian patents, utility models and designs
- *maintenance fees* for Italian patents and European patents validated in Italy (only as from the 5<sup>th</sup> annuity), and for Italian utility models and designs (only as from the second 5-year period).

The new schedule of fees encourages online filing by applying very low rates, anticipates the introduction of novelty searches for domestic patents, mostly at the

<sup>1</sup> epi is not liable for the contents of this information

expense of the Italian Patent and Trademark Office, and keeps maintenance fees at a reasonable level. The schedule also includes an opposition fee for trademarks under an opposition procedure which however is not yet in place. Universities and public bodies which include research among their institutional purposes are exempted from paying government filing fees for patents and utility models filed in their name.

Although the Financial Law 2007 is already in force, the amounts of the reintroduced fees have not yet been finalised. The Government will issue a decree, probably by the end of January, determining the amounts and time limits for payment. Early information indicates that maintenance fees would be applicable as from 1 January 2007. Maintenance fees due up to April 2007 would be payable within June. Late payment with a surcharge would be possible during the following six months.

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Verband der beim Europäischen Patentamt eingetragenen freiberuflichen schweizerischen Patentanwälte

**VIPS**

Verband der Industriepatentanwälte in der Schweiz

organisieren auch in diesem Jahr ein

## **PRÜFUNGSTRAINING FÜR DIE EUROPÄISCHE EIGNUNGSPRÜFUNG 2008**

- Der Kurs versteht sich als letzte Etappe vor der Eignungsprüfung und als Ergänzung zu eigentlichen Ausbildungskursen
- Die Lehrfunktion des Kurses beschränkt sich demgemäß auf das Durcharbeiten konkret gestellter Prüfungsaufgaben der Teile A bis D und die Instruktion der Prüfungs-technik durch erfahrene und beim EPA zugelassene Vertreter
- Die Aufgaben können nach Wunsch auf deutsch, englisch oder französisch bearbeitet werden
- Die Bewertung erfolgt anonym anhand der bei der Eignungsprüfung angewandten Kriterien
- Der Kurs ist aus drei zeitlich getrennten Modulen aufgebaut, die auch einzeln belegt werden können und je die Teile A bis D der Europäischen Eignungsprüfung enthalten (Teilprüfungskandidaten können auch nur die Teile A/B oder C/D belegen, wobei die entsprechende Kursgebühr auf die Hälfte reduziert wird)

### **Aufteilung des Kurses**

#### **Modul 1**

- Die Kandidaten erarbeiten zu Hause schriftlich Lösungen zu den Prüfungsaufgaben des Jahres 2006, Versand erfolgt Ende Juni. Die eingegangenen Arbeiten werden schriftlich korrigiert, bewertet und den Kandidaten wieder zugestellt.
- Anmeldeschluss: **15.06.2007**
- Kursgebühr Modul 1: **CHF 450.-**

#### **Modul 2 (schließt Modul 3 mit ein)**

- Durchführung einer simulierten, dreitägigen Prüfung mit den aktuellen Prüfungsaufgaben von 2007 Anfang November 2007. Die Lösungen der Kandidaten werden schriftlich korrigiert, bewertet und den Kandidaten zugestellt. Ferner beinhaltet dieser Modul eine eintägige Abschlussbesprechung im Januar 2008 (Modul 3).
- Anmeldeschluss: **01.09.2007**
- Kursgebühr Modul 2 (inkl. Modul 3): **CHF 600.-**

#### **Modul 3 (auch für Wiederholer und Teilprüfungs-Kandidaten geeignet)**

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- Anmeldeschluss (nur für Modul 3): **15.11.2007**
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#### **Auskunft / Anmeldung bei der Kursleiterin:**

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