



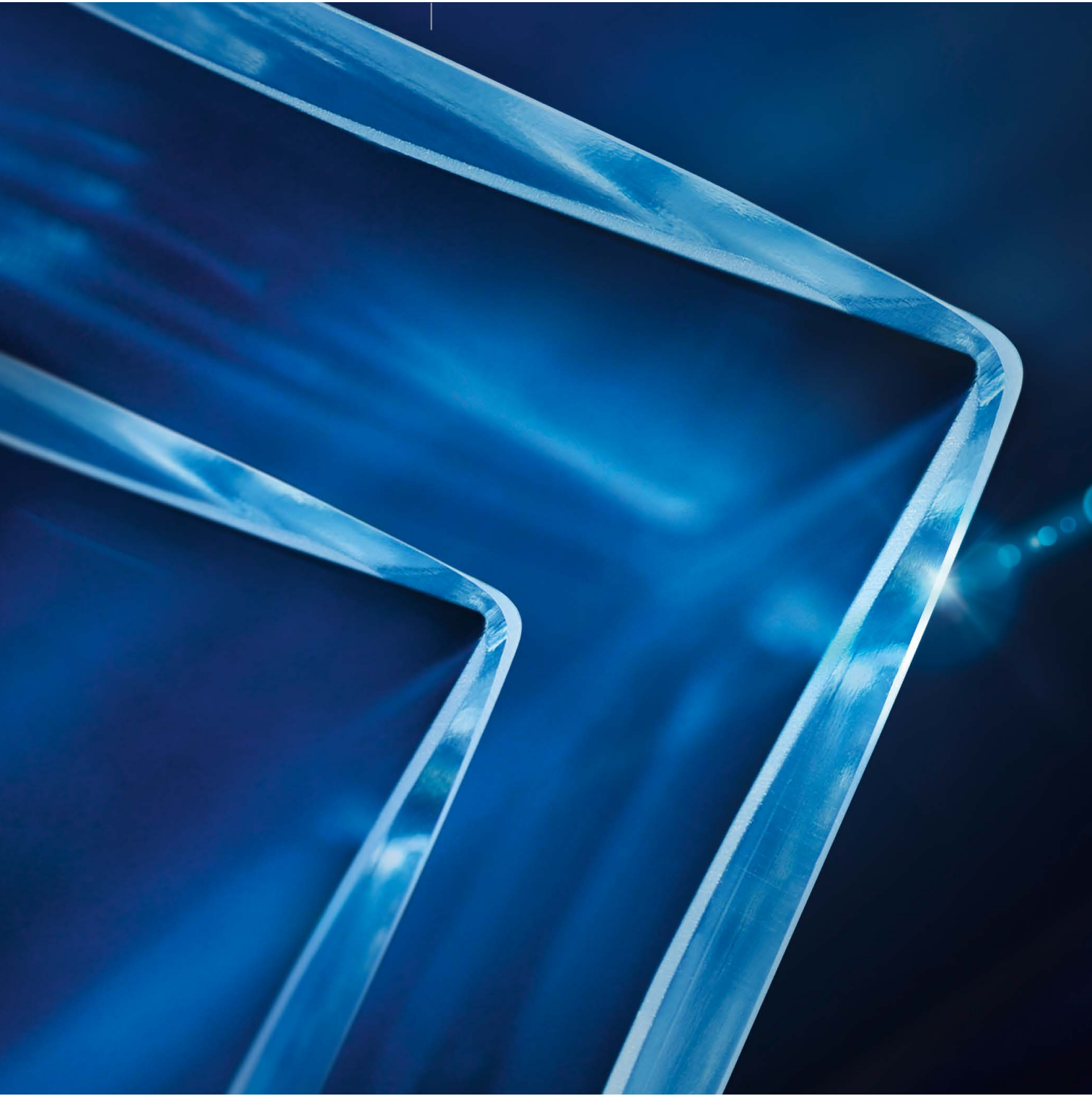
COHAUSZ & FLORACK

„Curiosity is always
the first priority of a problem
that needs to be solved.”

Galileo Galilei

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An abstract graphic on the left side of the page, featuring several overlapping, semi-transparent blue geometric shapes that resemble folded paper or thin, curved planes. The shapes are set against a dark blue background with some light bokeh effects, creating a sense of depth and movement.

There are many clever ideas. We make them strong.

Whether a refrigerator or camera, an airbag or chip card: every invention starts with a brilliant idea. We need such ideas to ensure the progress and prosperity of our society. And we need the means to protect them. This is what we are committed to. And we have been since 1954, the year COHAUSZ & FLORACK was established. Today, our firm has offices in Düsseldorf and Munich and a team of over 140 people.

We advise and assist German and international corporations as well as innovative SMEs and startups. We support all of them in protecting their ideas and in all matters relating to IP law and unfair competition. In this way, we play a central role in ensuring that our clients invest in their innovations and remain competitive.

Our service portfolio includes:

- the registration, management, and licensing of extensive IP portfolios
- litigation in intellectual property disputes
- searches for third-party property rights
- advising on cooperation agreements.

We always have our finger on the pulse of the latest technical and legal developments. Our work is instrumental in shaping progress. We accompany ideas on their way to the market and commit ourselves to protecting them in the best possible way.

Is your company innovative too? And do you want it to be technologically and economically well positioned? We will support you. With our wide-ranging expertise and vast experience, we ensure the ideal use of your intellectual property and make sure your innovations remain competitive in the long term.

Welcome to COHAUSZ & FLORACK!

Your ideas in a strong location

IP made in Germany

Germany is one of the most innovative countries in the world. This means that the conditions for enforcing IP rights here are excellent. A huge number of lawsuits of international importance take place in Germany. For good reason: respect for the IP rights of competitors and the active enforcement of patents have a long tradition in Germany. German court proceedings are less expensive and often shorter than those in other countries. In addition, their outcome is relatively predictable.

As a law firm, we are a pivotal player in the success story of “IP made in Germany”. In the course of our almost 70-year history, we have helped to establish Germany as the legal venue for national and international patent proceedings. We have successfully represented the competition law interests of our clients, who include well-known corporations as well as innovative SMEs and startups, in numerous proceedings before the courts.

What about you and the protection of your intellectual property? Seize the opportunities offered by the land of poets, thinkers, and ideas!



Concentrated know-how. Successful development.

Our 30 patent attorneys and five attorneys-at-law have a high level of expertise and work together on an interdisciplinary basis. In our firm, the know-how for a variety of technical areas is united under one roof: from mechanical engineering to electrical engineering, information and communications technology, chemistry, and life sciences. This is where current requirements such as Industry 4.0 and the Internet of Things always play a role.

With our advice, we make a decisive contribution to ensuring that companies invest in new developments, remain competitive, and continue to enrich society with their inspirational ideas.



We're on fire for good ideas –
and their effective protection.



Prosecution



Litigation



Validity proceedings



Research



Patent- and trademark monitoring



Employee inventions



Monitoring of fees



Legal counselling



IP strategies



China Desk



UPC advice

Prosecution

We advise innovative companies comprehensively in the area of prosecution.



Anyone who invests in ideas wants to benefit from them. That is what property rights are ideal for. They entitle their owner to prohibit others from using the ideas for a certain period of time or to charge licensing fees for their use. It is therefore certainly worthwhile to apply for patents, trademarks and designs. They are a major incentive for companies to stay innovative, helping them gain competitive edge.

Our services for you:

From the demanding initial registration of property rights up to their grant – we'll accompany you along the way to reliably protect your ideas. Because we know how: In the last 5 years alone, we have filed around 1,600 initial patent applications and around 3,300 trademark applications. In total, we currently manage ca. 23,500 patents and 19,000 trademarks.

Litigation

Whether for the enforcement of intellectual property rights or the defense against unjustified claims by third parties, our expertise benefits you in infringement proceedings.



If a patent, trademark, or design has been infringed, in some cases going to court is the only sensible solution for the owner of the respective property rights. Germany has specialized regional courts and chambers for this purpose. In principle, the Regional Court (LG) decides in the first instance, and an appeal may be lodged against its decision. In the second instance, the Higher Regional Court (OLG) reviews the decision. In exceptional cases, the parties may appeal the decision of the Higher Regional Court to the Federal Supreme Court.

Our services for you:

We'll enforce your intellectual property rights in court or defend against unjustified claims by third parties. In doing so, we are also active before the Federal Patent Court, the Federal Court of Justice, and the German Patent and Trade Mark office. Of course, we can also represent you before all other courts in Germany – whether in the case of infringements of patents and utility models, the infringement of trademarks or designs, in contractual matters, or when dealing with potential infringement under competition law. For about 25 years, we have been consistently involved in over 100 new patent invalidity and infringement proceedings per year. In total, we have prepared well over 4,000 SEP opinions. In the area of trademarks, we have handled nearly 2,500 trademark infringement proceedings for our clients over the past 25 years.

Validity proceedings

We stand up for you if your intellectual property rights are attacked.



In connection with infringement proceedings, the validity of the intellectual property rights involved is often challenged. Such so-called opposition proceedings for patents or trademarks are relatively inexpensive official proceedings. After expiry of the deadlines for these appeals, there is still a possibility of initiating legal proceedings, e.g. in the form of nullity action for patents. As a result of opposition or nullity proceedings, the challenged property right can be revoked, limited, or maintained in its entirety.

Our services for you:

Regardless of whether your property right is being challenged or whether you want to challenge the validity of someone else's property right – we'll support you all the way. We'll represent you before the Federal Patent Court and the Federal Supreme Court. In the area of trademarks, we have handled around 3,500 trademark opposition proceedings for our clients over the past 25 years.

Research

Research always trumps risk: With comprehensive know-how and a variety of tools, we support you in securing your intellectual property rights.



It is important to keep a close eye on the market before applying for intellectual property rights and when managing an existing intellectual property rights portfolio. Important instruments for this include due diligence, compliance checks, and freedom-to-operate searches for patents and trademarks to determine and assess the validity of existing intellectual property rights and the state of the art.

Our services for you:

In order to identify and minimize risks in conjunction with intellectual property rights for you in good time, we use modern tools and databases that go far beyond standard research. For this purpose, we have a full-time research department with three employees. Based on our research, we can provide you with specific recommendations that will help you to effectively expand your IP strategy.

Employee inventions

Do you have innovative employees? We'll show you how to make sensible use of their ideas.



Innovations often develop from the ideas of employees. German law on employee inventions (ArbnErfG) provides the legal framework that entitles employers to exclusive use of the inventive achievements of their employees. In return, the employed inventor receives claims and rights, e.g. to reasonable compensation, according to the law.

Our services for you:

We'll support you in developing a system for managing employee inventions. Together, we'll develop processes with which you can use and secure the valuable ideas of your employees. We'll also advise you on implementing potential strategies based on remuneration and other company incentives in order to motivate your employees and encourage them to continue being inventive.

Patent and trademark monitoring

Well informed and ideally prepared: We'll keep an eye on the market and the intellectual property rights landscape for you.



The competition never sleeps and whoever launches new products on the market will be under constant observation by the competition. In order to prevent allegations of infringement, innovative companies can systematically monitor existing patents, trademarks and designs. In that way, they can stay informed about their competitors' activities, can vary their products accordingly, and can more effectively assert themselves in the market on a long-term basis.

Our services for you:

CFProfile is our personal database that we offer for targeted patent monitoring (www.cfprofile.de). Information on newly published patent applications, patents, and utility models is compiled here and monitored on a regular basis. This allows us to quickly inform you if there are changes in the intellectual property landscape that might affect you. We also provide comprehensive support in trademark monitoring to detect conflicting trademarks and avoid confusion with existing brands. For this we rely on effective tools and search engines. If action is required, we quickly initiate the appropriate measures in close cooperation with you.



Fee monitoring

The fees you have to pay to maintain your IP rights need to be closely monitored. You can rely on us!



Your IP rights are a valuable asset. A loss of rights can have severe economic consequences. We provide all legal services relating to your IP rights, including the careful monitoring of the annual fees due.

Our services for you:

Our firm's tax department keeps track of all deadlines for you and regularly ensures that all payments to the authorities are made on time and in full. We take all necessary safety precautions to protect you from losing your IP rights. This service, as well as all other activities of COHAUSZ & FLORACK, is closely and expertly supervised by our attorneys-at-law. Of course, we are liable for fee monitoring to the same extent as for all other services provided by our firm.

Legal counselling

Whether competition, copyright or IT law, our counselling covers all areas of intellectual property rights protection that are relevant for your company.



Whoever holds intellectual property rights will almost inevitably be confronted with the topic of competition law. This concerns issues like fair economic conduct and free competition. However, copyright and IT law issues also play an important role for owners of patents, trademarks, or designs.

Our services for you:

We'll advise and represent you in all aspects of competition law, for example, when it comes to asserting claims or assessing the legality of advertising measures. We also provide comprehensive counselling services on IT law matters and copyright issues. In addition, we'll be happy to support you in the drafting, revision, and negotiation of contracts (especially cooperation and license agreements) and represent your interests in court. We are very familiar with arbitration and are able to act both as party representatives and as arbitrators before German and European institutions. We'll explore the possibilities of alternative dispute resolution and accompany you through all negotiations, for example, through mediation, arbitration reports, or dispute review boards.

IP strategies

We always take a holistic approach and will support you in successfully positioning yourself and your intellectual property rights in the market as an innovative company.



There is great potential in patents, trademarks, and designs. They protect innovations and thus the investments that have been made in research and development – i.e. exactly what makes a company profitable and what its customers are prepared to pay for. A smart IP strategy is critical to unlocking this potential and getting the most out of innovations.

Our services for you:

We'll support you in developing an IP strategy: We'll analytically derive the potential and possible scope of protection of your innovations already in the initial phases of development. We'll do this, for example, in the context of a status quo analysis and by asking the following questions: How is your company positioned? Who are your competitors? And which one of them might possibly hinder the protection of your own products? With the appropriate measures, we can ensure that your innovations remain protected and your market exclusivity secured.

China Desk

We support you in gaining a foothold in the Chinese market with your innovations. If your company already operates in China, we assist you in effectively enforcing your IP rights in Europe.



China's innovative strength is formidable. Chinese companies excel with ingenuity and high quality in a wide range of technical disciplines. This means a flourishing patent system: more and more, the "Middle Kingdom" is showing that it takes the protection of intellectual property seriously, and it promotes this.

Our services for you:

Our team has a wealth of experience in the Chinese market and is familiar with the challenges you will face in developing your innovation strategy. Many of our team members have extensive Chinese knowledge and can advise you on your individual concerns in your mother tongue. We have set up a dedicated hotline for this purpose: under +49(0)211-90490-888 a personal contact person is also available right away. We spare no effort – and no flight – for a direct connection.

UPC advice

The Unified Patent Court and the Unitary Patent are setting the course for more legal certainty and efficiency in court proceedings within the EU. We will show you which changes will affect you and your company.



A European court that deals with patents independently, that guarantees more legal certainty as a central authority, and that ensures that proceedings are conducted faster and more cost-effectively: that is the purpose of the Unified Patent Court (UPC). With the corresponding Unitary Patent (UP), it will be possible in the future to obtain uniform patent protection in up to 24 EU member states after a European patent has been granted.

Our services for you:

We provide you with comprehensive advice on all the changes that will affect you as an international company when the unified patent system comes into force. We will tell you how you can extend the protection of your existing patents in a way that makes sense while saving time and money. And how to file infringement and nullity suits and enforce your IP rights in the EU in the future. What if the new patent system doesn't align with your current IP strategy? Then we will advise you in detail about your opt-out options. Whatever you decide: we will support you in staying innovative at European level and getting the most from your IP rights.



We are committed to
technology that inspires us —
and changes society.



Mechanical engineering

Process and manufacturing technology, materials, construction, mechatronics, medical technology, etc.



Electrical engineering

Renewable energies, semiconductor technology and components, information and telecommunications technology

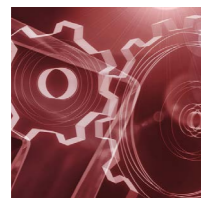


Chemicals & life sciences

Chemicals, pharmaceuticals, polymer chemistry, biochemistry, biotechnology, etc.

Mechanical Engineering

We feel truly at home in mechanical engineering. We have been advising our clients in this area since the firm's founding – combining a long tradition with deeply rooted expertise.



Leading industrial companies have always played a large role in our diverse clientele. These include world market and industry leaders in, for example, process and manufacturing technology, materials processing, automotive engineering, plastics technology, construction, metallurgy, mechatronics, and medical technology.

Having such long-standing clients with continuously growing know-how and product portfolios, allows us further strengthen our own expertise and thus our consulting services in the respective technological fields. This concerns, for example, our knowledge of the Internet of Things and other current topics in mechanical engineering. In recent years, we have additionally positioned ourselves even more strongly in processing industries, such as the automotive and automotive supplier industries, as well as in the area of foundry technology.



Electrical engineering

Whether classical electrical engineering or information and communication technology – we have the know-how to ensure that our clients' intellectual property is protected.

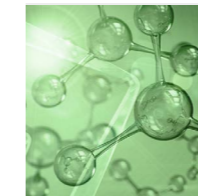


Software is today an integral part of almost all areas of our everyday life – whether in smartphones or cars, at the doctor's, or in the office. The good news for manufacturers in almost all industries is that many of these software-related inventions can be effectively protected by intellectual property rights. We support our clients in this – and in all other matters relating to Industry 4.0 and the Internet of Things.

But we also attend to technical and sometimes highly complex intellectual property rights in other fields of electrical engineering – for example in the fields of electrical energy technology and renewable energies, semiconductor technology and components, circuit technology, control and regulation technology, microsystems technology, and sensor technology.

Chemicals, pharmaceuticals & life sciences

We've got the right chemistry. Since the 1990s, we have been serving companies in the chemical, pharmaceutical, and life sciences sectors.

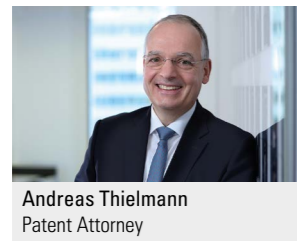


When it comes to issues in the areas of pharmaceuticals, inorganic or organic chemistry, polymer chemistry, biochemistry, and biotechnology, we really know what we're talking about. For the sometimes large and often transnational procedures in these areas, we put together competent patent attorney teams: all highly qualified experts in their respective fields, who also have a great deal of experience in litigation.

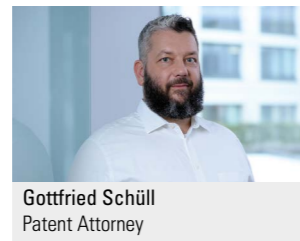
With such concentrated competence, we are the right partner for our clients – for example in complex opposition proceedings before the European Patent Office as well as in nullity and infringement proceedings at a national and international level.

Strong team. Strong expertise.

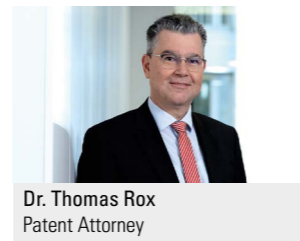
COHAUSZ & FLORACK brings together a wide variety of technical and scientific disciplines, which is an ideal prerequisite for successful, cross-disciplinary collaboration. All patent attorneys and attorneys-at-law are specialists in their respective fields and have comprehensive know-how in all manner of legal issues, particularly in the area of intellectual property rights.



Andreas Thielmann
Patent Attorney



Gottfried Schüll
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Dr. Thomas Rox
Patent Attorney



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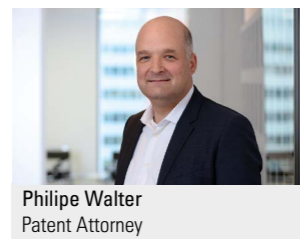
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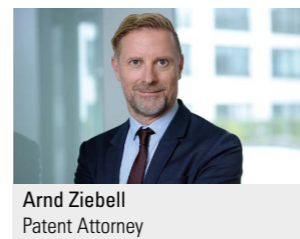
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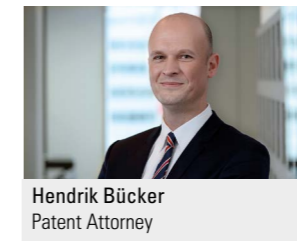
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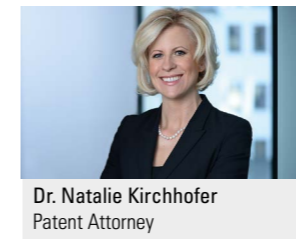
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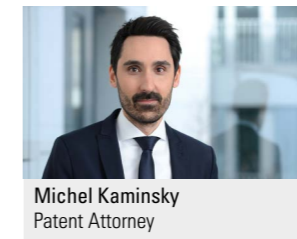
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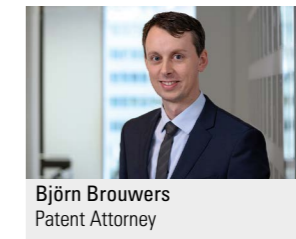
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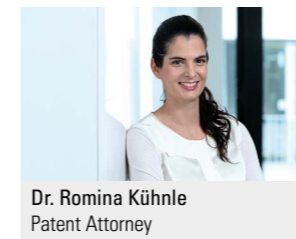
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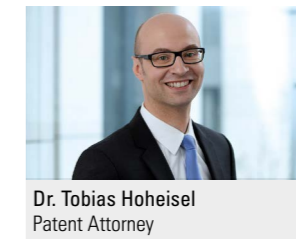
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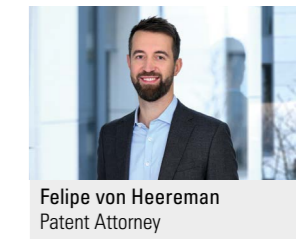
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Attorney-at-law



Dr. Julia Konrad (née Sauerwald)
Patent Attorney



Dr. Margarete Rittstieg
Patent Attorney



Eva-Marie Mümken
Attorney-at-law



Good atmosphere.
Good working relationship.

Our team is our guarantee for success.

We do a lot to keep it that way.

Whether attorneys, junior attorneys, or employees in the secretary and general administration, we've created a rich environment for everyone to feel motivated and enjoy working. We highly value working together as partners, communicating respectfully and openly, and balancing professional and family life.

It is part of the tradition of our law firm to train our own employees and offer continuing education in order to provide opportunities to further develop their strengths. Many of our colleagues have already been part of our 140-strong team for decades. They are all committed to protecting clever ideas with curiosity and openness.



Diverse Colorful Responsible

We are dedicated to sustainability and diversity.

As a company, we are aware of our social and environmental responsibility, and we get involved – with activity in many projects. This is good for society, the environment, and for our firm, which is growing ever closer as a team.

Together we embrace diversity. We are open to people with unusual stories, exciting interests, and original ideas. The unique backgrounds of our staff members all contribute to our excellent teamwork and the very high quality of our work. We offer each and every one of them plenty of room for individual development.

Our activities

Whether on the net, in print, or in personal dialog, we strive to inspire you and keep you informed about current developments in the field of intellectual property rights.

A selection of our publications and events:

Daidalos

Daidalos shows which ideas inspire and enrich our society and entertains with stories about courageous inventors.



CFPodcast

We currently have five different podcast series. All our podcasts can also be listened to via Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Deezer and Audible.



CFProfile

CFProfile is an online service that supports you in monitoring IP rights. You receive new patent and utility model publications on a weekly basis, which are identified by a tailored monitoring profile.



CFTicker

We inform you about important IP topics. Sign up for our monthly newsletter CFTicker.



Seminars & events

Subscribe to our seminar mailing list and don't miss any of our events.





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