



SESSION 7.1 OPPOSITION

The US have introduced something resembling the opposition systems known from Europe and Asia. In Europe, the defendants of infringement litigation are frustrated by the duration and results of opposition proceedings, whereas litigation and cost-adverse clients like the long lasting and relatively inexpensive oppositions. In Australia, a pre-grant opposition system is used.

The session will provide first hand experiences with the new US system and highlight the pros and cons of oppositions in the US, Europe and Australia.

John W. Knox (CA)
Dr Wolfgang Behr (DE)
Greg Chambers (AU)
C. Gregory Gramenopoulos (US)



FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES CONSEILS
EN PROPRIÉTÉ INTELLECTUELLE

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ATTORNEYS

INTERNATIONALE FÖDERATION
VON PATENTANWÄLTEN

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JOHN W. KNOX (CA) – MODERATOR

John Knox is Managing Partner and head of the electrical and electronic engineering and computer sciences practice groups in the Vancouver office of Smart & Biggar/Fetherstonhaugh. His practice focusses on patent and industrial design protection of aeronautical, electrical, electronic and computer-related inventions. John has drafted and prosecuted patent applications for a variety of technologies, including communications systems, control systems, data acquisition systems, electrical power systems, pure software, and mechanical technologies. John also provides advice on the establishment and maintenance of patent procurement programs and is active in training our junior professionals in the Vancouver office in patent agency.

Prior to joining the firm, John was a patent agent at a leading general practice Vancouver law firm. Before embarking on his career as a patent agent, he worked as a hardware design engineer and project leader for Dynapro Systems Inc., a former affiliate of Allen-Bradley Corp. His main areas of industrial experience include hardware system and communication system design using early Intel microprocessors and analog design for data acquisition in HVAC systems. Concurrently while working as an engineer, John authored and taught two courses on Digital Electronics at the British Columbia Institute of Technology.

John has been a guest lecturer at the University of Victoria, the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University and other local and international venues including FICPI events and has been recognized annually as one of the world's leading patent prosecution practitioners since the inaugural edition in 2012 of IAM Patent 1000 - The World's Leading Patent Practitioners.

John is a registered Professional Engineer, a Fellow of the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada, he is currently Vice-President of FICPI Canada, a member of the FICPI International Finance Advisory Board (FAB) and a member of the firm's Executive Committee.



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*FICPI Canada – Vice President
Finance Advisory Board Commissions*

Partner

Smart & Biggar | Fetherstonhaugh

t: +1-604 682-7780

f: +1-64 682-0274

jwknox@smart-bigggar.ca

www.smart-bigggar.ca

SMART & BIGGAR
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DR WOLFGANG BEHR (DE) – SPEAKER

Dr Wolfgang Behr is a German and European Patent Attorney practicing at Munich. After studying physics at Munich and Oxford, he got his PhD in theoretical physics before entering the profession.

In addition to prosecution work covering most areas of mechanics, electronics and physics, a main focus of his work is on the Opposition procedures before the EPO, where he has particular expertise in cases from the health care sector.

He is also regularly involved in patent and trademark litigation as well as nullity actions before the German Courts.

Dr Wolfgang Behr is a partner of the law firm of Lorenz Seidler Gossel. He speaks German, English, French and Spanish.



FICPI

**Partner, Patentanwalt
Lorenz Seidler Gossel Rechtsanwälte
Patentanwälte Partnerschaft mbB**

t: +49 89 290 100
f: +49 89 290 10 100
behr@lsg.eu
www.lsg-law.de

LORENZ SEIDLER GOSSEL
RECHTSANWÄLTE PATENTANWÄLTE Partnerschaft mbB



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GREG CHAMBERS (AU) – SPEAKER

Initially worked in industry as a corporate patent and trade mark adviser, and later worked with a general legal practice in Melbourne.

Became a registered patent attorney in 1987 and a partner of Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick in 1989. Board Chair since 2009. Founding partner of Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick Lawyers in 1996.

Conducted litigation for the enforcement of patent, trade mark, copyright and registered design rights. This work has included litigation reported in the decisions of *Cabot v 3M* 11 IPR 487, *The Coca-Cola Company v All-Fect Miller* 47 IPR 481, *Roland v Lorenzo* 23 IPR 376, *Shahin Enterprises v ExxonMobil Oil Corporation* [2005] FCA 1278 and *Albany Molecular Research Inc. v Alphapharm Pty Ltd* [2011] FCA 120.

Been involved in a number of successful ex-parte applications for the seizure of goods infringing IP rights. Has acted for several international companies both for the acquisition and enforcement of IP rights.

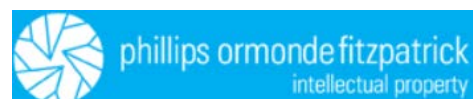
President of FICPI Australia. In that capacity regularly consults with IP Australia with respect to legislative and regulatory development of intellectual property laws in Australia. Previously an Examiner for the Professional Standards Board for qualification of persons as patent attorneys in Australia.



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Deontology Commission
Professional Excellence Commission*

**Board Chair, Partner
Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick Lawyers**

t: +61 3 9622 2218
f: +61 3 9614 1867
greg.chambers@ficpi.org
greg.chambers@pof.com.au
www.pof.com.au



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C. GREGORY GRAMENOPOULOS (US) – SPEAKER

C. Gregory Gramenopoulos leads the firm's electrical and computer technology practice group. He has more than 15 years of experience in the field of intellectual property law. He handles patent matters for emerging and high-technology companies in various electrical sciences, including computer hardware/architecture, software, communication networks, and digital signal processing and control systems. A significant portion of his current practice is devoted to strategic counselling on patent procurement and pre-litigation activities, opinion preparation on issues relating to infringement and validity, and patent infringement litigation.

Mr. Gramenopoulos counsels both domestic and foreign clients, but has a significant base of European clientele gained in part through his tenure in the firm's European office in Brussels from 2000 through 2004. Through his knowledge of both U.S. and foreign patent systems, he applies a unique global perspective to advise clients on worldwide filing and licensing strategies. Mr. Gramenopoulos has also successfully represented clients in U.S. district court and multi-national patent infringement suits.

During the course of his career, Mr. Gramenopoulos has overseen the drafting and prosecution of hundreds of patent applications, and assisted clients with strategically building and managing their portfolios. He has also assisted clients with extracting value from their portfolios through licensing and other strategies.

A frequent lecturer on U.S. intellectual property law, Mr. Gramenopoulos has spoken before numerous Fortune 500 companies and organisations in the United States, as well as various multi-national companies and law firms throughout the world.



FICPI

Partner
Finnegan Henderson Farabow
Garrett & Dunner

t: +1 202 408 4263
f: +1 202 408 4400
gramenoc@finnegan.com
www.finnegan.com

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