



ADVANCED DRAFTING TECHNIQUES for SUCCESSFUL EPO PATENT APPLICATIONS - 24 June 2015
EFFECTIVE DEFENCE OF EPO PATENT APPLICATIONS - 25 June 2015
ORAL PROCEEDINGS at the EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE - 26 June 2015

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Dates

ADVANCED DRAFTING TECHNIQUES for SUCCESSFUL EPO PATENT APPLICATIONS
24 June 2015 - Ref. H6-3115

EFFECTIVE DEFENCE OF EPO PATENT APPLICATIONS - 25 June 2015 - Ref. H6-3215

ORAL PROCEEDINGS at the EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE - 26 June 2015 Ref. H6-3315

Times each day

Start: 09.00 Finish: 17.00
Registration & Coffee each day: 08.30

Venue and Accommodation

The Rembrandt Hotel, 11 Thurloe Place, London SW7 2RS
 Hotel Tel: +44(0)20 7589 8100
 Hotel Fax: +44(0)20 7225 3476
 Email: reservations_rembrandt@sarova.co.uk

Directions

Opposite V&A Museum. Nearest underground station: South Kensington.
www.sarova-rembrandthotel.com/location-local-attractions

Fees:

£598 & VAT per course OR
£1,100 & VAT for TWO courses
£1,500 & VAT for THREE courses

Please tick your choice:

24 June - H6-3115
 25 June - H6-3215
 26 June - H6-3315

For Cancellation Policy and T&Cs see website

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Is your original application/patent well drafted?
 Can you defend it properly?

ADVANCED DRAFTING TECHNIQUES for SUCCESSFUL EPO PATENT APPLICATIONS

Topics to be covered:

- Avoiding problems with amendments
- Article 123 (2) - added subject matter
- Article 83 - sufficiency of disclosure

Seminar Leader:

Daniel X Thomas Former Director in DG1, European Patent Office, Munich

24 June 2015 - The Rembrandt Hotel, London

EFFECTIVE DEFENCE OF EPO PATENT APPLICATIONS - avoiding common pitfalls

Topics to be covered:

- Article 84 - clarity
- Effective use of the problem/solution approach
- Article 56 - inventive step

Seminar Leader:

Daniel X Thomas Former Director in DG1, European Patent Office, Munich

25 June 2015 - The Rembrandt Hotel, London

How to successfully conduct ORAL PROCEEDINGS at the EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

Topics to be covered:

- The Preparation - How to get your case ready
- The Procedure - What to do on the day
- The Presentation - Techniques for best results

Seminar Leader:

Dr George Woods Former Director in the European Patent Office, Munich

26 June 2015 - The Rembrandt Hotel, London

ADVANCED DRAFTING TECHNIQUES for SUCCESSFUL EPO PATENT APPLICATIONS

24 June 2015

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

Many patent applications and patents are lost before the EPO, either before Opposition Divisions or before Appeal due to incorrect original drafting, and added subject matter is a recurrent problem. Amendments made during the grant procedure to incorporate new prior art, amount to added subject-matter, often fatal in opposition procedure before the EPO, and in nullity proceedings before national courts.

Sufficiency of disclosure can also be a problem, as if initial disclosure is insufficient, amending it can amount to adding subject-matter.

The purpose of the seminar is to identify the problems of added subject-matter and sufficiency of disclosure, and show how they can be easily avoided by careful drafting.

PROGRAMME

- ▶ **Article 123 (2) – added subject matter**
 - Tools used in assessing added subject matter
 - Examples and specific cases
 - Broadening of features
 - Intermediate generalisation – essentiality test
 - Added subject-matter and extension of protection
 - Disclaimers
 - Care with original drafting
 - Avoiding problems with amendments
- ▶ **Article 83 – sufficiency of disclosure**
 - Fundamentals of insufficiency
 - Essential features of enabling disclosure
 - Sufficiency vs clarity
 - Sufficiency vs added subject matter
 - Care with original drafting
 - Avoiding problems with amendments
- ▶ **Some case law**

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- Trainee patent attorneys
- EQE Candidates
- Qualified European patent attorneys
- Patent attorneys in private practice
- Corporate patent attorneys and lawyers
- People working or training in intellectual property
- US attorneys working in Europe

Those already familiar with the field will find the seminars valuable for updating their knowledge.

These courses merit 5.5 hours per day CPD, and may also be relevant training under the IPReg CPD self-accreditation scheme

EFFECTIVE DEFENCE OF EPO PATENT APPLICATIONS - avoiding common pitfalls

25 June 2015

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

Clarity in drafting patent claims has always been a serious issue: Clarity is required to distinguish the subject-matter of a claim from prior art, and an unclear claim can be interpreted to the disadvantage of the applicant or proprietor. ***This is not just a formal matter, but a substantial issue of first importance.***

The 'problem/solution' approach is not officially part of the EPC, but is a criterion which has been developed by case law. It is now hard to find a decision of the Boards of Appeal which does not rely on the problem/solution approach in order to decide upon inventive step. It looks easy, but when applied, it should be applied correctly.

The purpose of the seminar is to teach delegates the essentials of clarity, and the most effective use of the problem/solution-approach, giving them an edge over other parties.

PROGRAMME

- ▶ **Article 84 – clarity of claims**
 - Categories and types of claims
 - Clarity vs novelty
 - Structural vs functional features
 - Essential features
 - Effect of lack of clarity on claim interpretation
 - Clarity in opposition
- ▶ **Article 56 – inventive step**
 - The problem/solution approach as practiced by the EPO
 - The steps involved in the problem/solution approach
 - Correct application of the problem/solution approach
- ▶ **How correct drafting can deprive opponents of the means of attack**
- ▶ **Some case law**

SEMINAR LEADERS

Daniel X Thomas is an electronics engineer by training. He started his career in the patent field as search examiner at the former Institut International des Brevets in The Hague in 1971. After incorporation of the IIB into the EPO in 1978, he was search examiner in the EPO's DG1. Mr Thomas joined the EPO's DG2 in 1979 as substantive examiner in the field of computers and memories. He became a Director in DG2 in 1989, and subsequently headed directorates in various fields of electronics, physics and mechanics. Mr Thomas retired from the EPO on 1 January 2013 but continues to train patent specialists for CEIPI in Strasbourg, the epi and the Academy of the EPO. He also prepares candidates for the European Qualification Examination, and 'grandfathers' for new Contracting States.

Dr George Woods was formerly a Director in the European Patent Office at Munich, in the Principal Directorate *Electricity/Physics*. He joined the European Patent Office in 1980 after periods in teaching, research, oil exploration and the UK Patent Office. He was appointed Director in 1987 and from 1990 until 1997 was Director for Training and Recruitment in the then Directorate General 2. During this time the training system for examiners and support staff was modernised and the advanced programme ChOral (CHairing ORAL proceedings) was developed for examiners and directors who chair oral proceedings in oppositions.

How to successfully conduct ORAL PROCEEDINGS at the EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

26 June 2015

WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

Oral Proceedings are appointed in the majority of appeal cases, and in many opposition and examination cases, and so a European patent attorney will almost certainly at some point have to attend oral proceedings, either to defend a client's invention or to attack a patent held by a competitor. To defend your client's interests correctly and competently it is vital to know what to expect at this European level and to be properly prepared for it.

This workshop will give participants the opportunity to become up-to-date on current practice in the EPO, to work through the essential preparation, and to develop the necessary practical skills and confidence to appear at oral proceedings at all levels at the EPO.

PROGRAMME

Teaching sessions will be followed by practical workshops, including rôle-play and simulated hearings

- ▶ **When and where Oral Proceedings can occur**
- ▶ **Preparing for Oral Proceedings**
- ▶ **Before the Oral Proceedings open**
- ▶ **When and where Oral Proceedings can occur**
- ▶ **During the Oral Proceedings**
 - Opening phase
 - Main phase
 - Closing phase
- ▶ **After the Oral Proceedings**
 - The minutes
 - The written decision
 - Continuing in writing
 - Appeal

ATTENDANCE LIMITED ~ EARLY REGISTRATION RECOMMENDED

This limitation, a unique feature of all **MANAGEMENT FORUM** training, will give participants the opportunity for a thorough discussion of the complex issues to be covered by the programme.

DOCUMENTATION

Delegates will receive a course material folder containing comprehensive documentation provided by the seminar leaders, which will be a valuable source of reference for the future.

A Certificate of Attendance for Professional Development will be given to each participant who completes the course.