***IAM Patent 1000: The World’s Leading Patent Professionals 2026***

**Submission guidelines**

IAM is now conducting in-depth research for the 15th edition of its major unique publication, *IAM Patent 1000: The World’s Leading Patent Professionals*. The guide will identify and review the top firms and individuals engaged in patent prosecution, litigation and transactions practice globally.

The patent legal market is becoming increasingly competitive; in the most recent research cycle, more firms engaged in the process than ever before to set themselves apart in a crowded field. By providing us with insight on your practice through the submission process, it increases your chances of:

* Appearing in the rankings
* Being accurately positioned on the tables
* Having more of your leading individuals selected for inclusion
* Having a more detailed and informative write-up

This year, we are also asking firms to provide information regarding their trade secrets practices. Protecting innovations using trade secrets has become an increasingly pressing concern and an ever more important part of IP strategy; if you firm is undertaking significant work in this area, we would like to know about it.

Submissions are used by the research team to gain insights into the practices of firms and individuals. We are keen to learn about the experience they bring to the table, the clients they work with, the nature of the matters they undertake and who else they recommend in patent practice locally and globally. We request one completed submission form per firm, per jurisdiction.

We appreciate the opportunity to approach referees who can give us first-hand feedback on the quality of your partners’ recent work and practices. A spreadsheet on which to list client contacts can be found at the end of the online submission form or can be downloaded [here](https://lbrcontent.affino.com/AcuCustom/Sitename/DAM/012/IAM_Patent_1000_2024_Client_contact_sheet.xlsx).

Space is provided at the bottom of this form to include feedback on the current edition of the *IAM Patent 1000*, which can be viewed online at [www.iam-media.com/Patent1000/](http://www.iam-media.com/Patent1000/). If you disagree with the opinions we have presented, we would like to hear from you. Our guarantee is that we will further research your input and so improve the listings and editorial in the future.

**Confidentiality: Please clearly identify any confidential information which we cannot disclose by highlighting it in yellow.**

**The deadline for submissions is Monday September 15, 2025.**

We prefer submissions to be completed using our online submission form, but we will still accept those provided in Microsoft Word format. **Forms in this format should be returned by email to the research analyst who provided your online submission login and password**; alternatively, they can be sent to [sophie.storrs@lbresearch.com](mailto:sophie.storrs@lbresearch.com).

Please get in touch if you have any questions or require further information about the submission and research process.

**Sophie Storrs**

**HEAD OF RESEARCH, *IAM***

[sophie.storrs@lbresearch.com](mailto:sophie.storrs@lbresearch.com)

Section A: General Practice Details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Firm name |  |
| * 1. Jurisdiction of submitting office   2. Contact information (address, telephone number |  |
| 1. Head(s) of department, with contact details |  |
| 1. List of leading individuals involved in practice, indicating their position within the firm and office location | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Name | Position | Office Location (city) | |  |  |  | |
| 1. What personnel changes has your firm’s patent practice seen over the past year? We are interested in partner-level hires departures and promotions. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Name | Position | Hired, departed, or promoted | |  |  |  | |
| 1. Total number of individuals engaged in patent practice in the jurisdiction being submitted for |  |
| 1. Appropriate marketing contact, with contact details | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Title | First Name | Last Name | Email address | Notes | |  |  |  |  |  | |

Section B: Practice Description

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| 1. Firm profile – patent practice: please outline the strengths and qualities of the firm’s patent practice |  |

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| 1. Firm profile – trade secrets practice: please outline the strengths and qualities of the firm’s trade secrets practice |  |

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| 1. Sector specialisation: please indicate the approximate percentage of the firm’s patent practice as it relates to the following sectors: | |  |  | | --- | --- | | Artificial intelligence |  | | Automotive |  | | Banking & Financial Services |  | | Internet and IoT |  | | Life sciences |  | | Mobile communications |  | | Semiconductors |  | | Telecommunications |  | | Other – please specify |  | |

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| 1. Individual profiles – leading practitioners: please outline the strengths, qualities and specialisations of your leading patent professionals.   *Please do not repeat biographical information which is available on your website.* | Please copy and paste the following box for everyone you wish to profile:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Name |  | | Patent office experience (yes/no) |  | | Non-private practice industry experience (yes/no) | |  |  | | --- | --- | | Technical |  | | Legal |  | | Corporate |  | | | International experience – worked abroad (yes/no) |  | | Years of private practice experience | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 5-10 |  | | 10-15 |  | | 15-20 |  | | 20-30 |  | | 39-40 |  | | 40+ |  | | | Biography | | |

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| 1. Individual profiles – future leaders: please outline the strengths, qualities and specialisations of your up-and-coming patent professionals.   *Please do not repeat biographical information which is available on your website.* | |  |  | | --- | --- | | Name |  | | Patent office experience (yes/no) |  | | Non-private practice industry experience (yes/no) | |  |  | | --- | --- | | Technical |  | | Legal |  | | Corporate |  | | | International experience – worked abroad (yes/no) |  | | Years of private practice experience | |  |  | | --- | --- | | 5-10 |  | | 10-15 |  | | 15-20 |  | | 20-30 |  | | 39-40 |  | | 40+ |  | | | Biography | | |

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| 1. Diversity    1. Please provide gender balance statistics for the entire patents team (including all associates, (of) counsel, and all partners). | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Number identifying as male** | **%** | **Number identifying as female** | **%** | **Number identifying as non-binary/other** | **%** | | Partner |  |  |  |  |  | | (Of) counsel |  |  |  |  |  | | Associate |  |  |  |  |  | |
| * 1. Please describe your firm’s diversity and inclusion initiatives |  |
| 1. Please describe your firm’s key sustainability initiatives |  |

Section C: Recent Developments

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Considering work type (prosecution; litigation; transactions), technology type and industry sector, what are the most significant current growth areas in your firm’s patent practice? |  |
| 1. How has the firm diversified into new practice areas and industries? |  |
| 1. What work, technologies and industries do you anticipate being a strategic priority for the firm within the next five years? |  |
| 1. How would you describe the overall level of patent work within the firm over the past 12 months and how does this compare to the previous period? |  |
| 1. How would you describe the overall level of trade secret work within the firm over the past 12 months and how does this compare to the previous period? Do you anticipate trade secret practice increasing over the next year? |  |
| 1. How has the firm implemented artificial intelligence, automation and machine learning functionalities into its workflow? |  |
| 1. How have the firm’s talent acquisition needs and approach evolved within the past 12 months? |  |
| 1. What level of competition is the firm seeing in the legal labour market and how would you describe the overall availability of talent when it comes to patent practice? |  |

Section D: Practice Statistics for the period from July 2024

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| --- | --- |
| 1. Number of national patents filed in jurisdiction for which submitting |  |
| 1. Number of European patents filed |  |
| 1. Number of PCT patents filed |  |
| 1. Number of active opposition and/or other post-grant proceedings |  |
| * 1. Number of active patent litigations (court litigation)   2. Number of active UPC patent litigations   3. Number of new patent litigations (court litigation) filed in the review period |  |
| * 1. Number of active patent clients   2. Number of new patent clients |  |

Section E: Feedback on rankings

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| --- | --- |
| 1. Feedback: if your firm is ranked in the current edition of the *IAM Patent 1000*, we would welcome any suggestions as to how we could improve our coverage of your firm and individuals |  |

Section F: Work highlights

Please copy and paste to create the requisite number of boxes (we suggest **up to 10** per practice area).

Work highlight dates: from approximately July 2024 to present.

Please highlight all EPO work in blue and all UPC work in green.

**Work highlights: patent prosecution**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Client name |  |
| Title of matter |  |
| Details of matter and your firm’s role |  |
| Individuals involved |  |
| Industry sector/technology: |  |
| Start Date: | End date: |
| Disclosable: yes/no  *Even if a matter is marked as non-disclosable, please still ensure all strictly confidential information is clearly marked in each text box* |  |

**Work highlights: patent litigation**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Client name |  |
| Opposing client name |  |
| Opposing client counsel | Firm:  Individual(s): |
| Title of deal or case |  |
| Details of deal or case and your firm’s role |  |
| Individuals involved |  |
| Industry sector/technology: |  |
| Start date: | End date: |
| Disclosable: yes/no  *Even if a matter is marked as non-disclosable, please still ensure all strictly confidential information is clearly marked in each text box* |  |

**Work highlights: patent transactions**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Client name |  |
| Opposing client name |  |
| Opposing client counsel | Firm:  Individual(s): |
| Title of deal or case |  |
| Details of deal or case and your firm’s role |  |
| Individuals involved |  |
| Industry sector/technology: |  |
| Start date: | End date: |
| Disclosable: yes/no  *Even if a matter is marked as non-disclosable, please still ensure all strictly confidential information is clearly marked in each text box* |  |

**Work highlights: trade secrets**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Client name |  |
| Title of matter |  |
| Details of matter and your firm’s role |  |
| Individuals involved |  |
| Industry sector/technology: |  |
| Start date: | End date: |
| Disclosable: yes/no  *Even if a matter is marked as non-disclosable, please still ensure all strictly confidential information is clearly marked in each text box* |  |

Section G: Recommendations

All recommendations are provided anonymously.

**Other firms**

The *IAM Patent 1000* seeks to identify all leaders in patent and trade secrets practice. Please tell us which other firms in your jurisdiction you consider to have strong patent and/or trade secrets practices.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Firm name | Key individuals | How would you describe this firm and its individuals? |
| 1 |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |
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| 4 |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |
| Add more rows as necessary |  |  |  |

**Foreign counsel**

The *IAM Patent 1000* seeks to identify the leaders in patent and trade secrets practice worldwide. Please tell us which firms and individuals you would recommend in jurisdictions other than your own.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Practitioner name and job title (partner/associate) | Firm name | Country/city | How would you describe this firm and its individuals? |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
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| 3 |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |
| Add more rows as necessary |  |  |  |  |

**Patent analytics**

*The IAM Patent 1000* seeks to identify the leading patent and data analytics providers. Please tell us which you would recommend and why.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Support area | Preferred supplier or please specify if done internally | Support given – where multiple suppliers are used in a single support area, please detail the type of service given | Why would you recommend this supplier? |
| Patent search |  |  |  |
| Prosecution (e.g. application drafting; patent proofreading; patent docketing) |  |  |  |
| Portfolio management |  |  |  |
| Strategic counselling (e.g. patent landscaping and competitor analysis) |  |  |  |
| Litigation analytics |  |  |  |

Section H: Client references

Please use the spreadsheet provided to list your firm’s referees. As a guideline, we suggest providing up to 20. You can download the Client References Excel [here](https://lbrcontent.affino.com/AcuCustom/Sitename/DAM/012/IAM_Patent_1000_2024_Client_contact_sheet.xlsx). Please return to the research analyst who provided you with your submission information.

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Section I: Additional Information and Feedback

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| --- | --- |
| 1. If there is any other information about the firm's patent and trade secrets practices you wish to provide that is not covered by the questions above, please include it here. |  |
| 1. Please let us know how you think we could improve our coverage of the market in which your firm operates. The online results of the *IAM Patent 1000* can be viewed here: <http://www.iam-media.com/Patent1000/> |  |
| 1. If you have any feedback on the online survey process, we would be pleased to receive it. |  |