

## Patenting Your Invention

Inventor Training – 3 sessions of 45 minutes

This course gives inventors an introduction to the protection of intellectual property rights (IPR) and prepares them for interaction with a patent practitioner (lawyer or agent). It is geared towards high-tech startups, including inventors who have not or occasionally been involved in the patenting process. The purpose of the training is to provide a solid foundation for the efficient and effective protection of the startup's proprietary technology.

- Ways of protecting intellectual property rights (IPR)
- Some different IPR protection strategies
- Invention records
- Invention disclosure/evaluation factors
- Classification of inventions
- What is a patent & What is the deal?
- Reasons for a patent program/key examples
- Freedom-to-operate: protect yourself
- What to patent
- Who is involved in a patent
- The inventor and the patent practitioner
- The patenting process
- Key events impacting your patent application
- International patents and patents abroad

## Protecting Your Technology

Management Training—two sessions of 45 minutes.

A startup company's management needs to juggle its many responsibilities, all of which compete for priority attention. Protecting the company's technology is needed to fend off competition, and ease funding efforts. A healthy mix of patents and trade secrets is key. Patents are much more tangible, but also much more expensive. Members of the management team need a good helicopter-view understanding of the patenting process, and actions needed to protect trade secrets, to be able to effectively interact with patent professionals, determine an IP protection strategy, and implement the company's processes to effectively manage its IP. This course provides the knowledge necessary to start managing.

- Your business model determines how to protect your intellectual property rights (IPR)
- Ways of protecting your technology
- IPR protection strategies
- Rights provided by a patent & what is the deal?
- Reasons for a patent program/key examples
- Examples of successful programs
- Your IPR/patent committee
- Invention records
- Evaluation of inventions
- Classification of inventions
- The patenting process
- Who is involved in a patent
- International patents and patents abroad
- Freedom-to-operate: protect yourself

## About the Courses

The courses have been written by and are presented by Andy Grouwstra, on behalf of GROUWSTRA IC & Software Patents (Morgan Hill, CA), and Flagship Patents (Palo Alto, CA).

Andy Grouwstra is a semiconductor specialist with a background in analog and mixed-signal integrated circuit design. He has had engineering, marketing, sales, and corporate management roles in semiconductor companies of various sizes, before focusing full-time on patent drafting and prosecution work. He has drafted the patent portfolios of several companies, usually focused on semiconductor startups. However, he also works for a few medical device companies, biotech companies, and an industrial services products company.



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