



IPI
Academy



Presented by
Management Forum

Patent Protection for Software-Related Inventions in Europe and the USA

17-18 November 2025

+ 13 May 2026, 16-17 November 2026

An intensive update on patent protection for software-related inventions covering all the major developments in European patent law.



Format:
Live online, Classroom



CPD:
6 hours for your records



Certificate of
completion

Course overview

Technology and software have influences across most business sectors in relation to leveraging growth, and this has important implications for IP and patent laws. This

intensive one-day event will help you to understand the development strategies impacting software patents and update you on the major developments in European patent law, in particular GUI inventions and 'mixed' inventions with both patentable and non-patentable subject matter.

Under the guidance of our expert faculty, you will learn how recent US case law impacts software patents in the US and become proficient in exploiting the differences between the US and Europe regarding the scope of available patent protection. The course will provide a review of key tactics for US practice and give you an understanding of the latest US strategies in dealing with obviousness and the rise of indefiniteness and written description issues.

Having an experienced in-house lawyer on the faculty will ensure that you benefit from their practical knowledge on selecting and protecting software technologies, and get invaluable insights into foreign filing strategies.

You will get to grips with how to avoid pitfalls in claim drafting using case studies and understand whether patent protection should be available for software-related and business-related inventions.

A practical workshop session will provide ample opportunity for discussion with the expert faculty and consolidate your learning.

Benefits of attending

By attending this course you will:

- **Review** European law relating to the protection of software-related and business-related inventions
- **Clarify** the latest EPO Board of Appeal decisions and their impact
- **Gain** an update on recent US Federal Circuit decisions impacting software
- **Examine** the USPTOs post-Alice guidelines
- **Understand** claim techniques for US practice and post-grant considerations for these technologies
- **Learn** about available claim formats and description requirements in Europe
- **Expand** your knowledge of filing strategies and dealing with EPO objections
- **Explore** an industry view of what software technologies should be patented
- **Get to grips** with how balance budget and the likelihood of success

Who should attend?

This course has been specially designed for:

- Patent attorneys (both from private practice and industry)
- In-house patent and general counsel
- Chief information officers
- Chief technology officers
- Business development and technology professionals

Programme

Patent protection for software-related and business-related inventions in Europe

- Review of European law relating to the protection of software-related and business-related inventions
- Review of EPO Board of Appeal decisions including most recent decisions

Patent protection for software-related and business-related inventions in the United States

- Update on recent Federal Circuit decisions impacting software
- Patent practice in the wake of the US Supreme Court's *Alice* decision
- Detailed analysis of USPTO's post- *Alice* guidelines
- Case examples and claim techniques for US practice
- Post-grant considerations for these technologies

Preparation of patent applications and prosecution of European applications for software-related and business-related inventions

- Available claim formats and description requirements in Europe
- Drafting applications to take account of European and US requirements
- Filing strategies
- Dealing with EPO objections under Article 52(1) EPC

Industry view: an in-house perspective on managing IP protection of software-related inventions

- Selecting what software technologies to patent or to protect in other ways
- Foreign filing strategies that balance budget and likelihood of success for software innovations
- Challenges facing companies involved in managing software patents and responsible for software-related technologies

Practical workshop: questions, answers and discussion of specific examples

- An interactive session designed to apply earlier discussion to practical situations
- Examples and approaches for protecting software and computer-related innovations, taking into account the unique requirements in the US and Europe

Presenters



Tim May

Timothy May is a partner in the Washington, DC office of Finnegan LLP. He has over 20 years experience in the field of US patent law, with significant experience counselling clients on software patent matters. Tim currently manages the patent portfolios for several European clients in various software, medical device and electrical and mechanical technologies. He regularly speaks on software patent issues. Prior to joining the firm, he served as a Patent Examiner at the US Patent and Trademark Office, where he examined applications involving digital and software technologies. From 2006 to 2011, Tim was located in the firm's European office and continues to work with many European clients.



Alan Boyd

Alan Boyd is a partner at D Young & Co. Before he joined the patent law profession, he was a software engineer researcher and research assistant. Alan's main areas of expertise include computer architectures, embedded systems, digital electronics, telecommunications and networks. He is a member of D Young & Co's electronics, engineering & IT team, and has a great deal of experience in drafting and prosecuting patents for a range of clients. He is also an examiner for the legal paper in the European Qualifying Exams.



Eileen Brandenburger

Eileen Brandenburger, PhD is a European Patent Attorney and Head of Intellectual Property at Recursion and Exscientia, a NASDAQ listed clinical stage AI-driven TechBio company, which is accelerating the development of patient centric medicines by encoding, automating and transforming the drug discovery and development process.

She is an experienced legal professional with a track record of building teams and providing advice to businesses and executives in the pharma, tech and life sciences industries. She has specialist expertise in technical and commercial IP including patent and trade secret strategy and contracting at the interface of life sciences and tech.

Course dates

17-18 November 2025	Live online 13:00-16:15 UK (London) (UTC+00) <i>Course code 14911</i>	GBP 599 699 EUR 839 979 USD 963 1,119 Until 13 Oct
13 May 2026	Classroom London <i>Course code 15714</i>	GBP 699 799 EUR 979 1,119 USD 1,123 1,279 Until 08 Apr
16-17 November 2026	Live online 13:00-16:15 UK (London) (UTC+00) <i>Course code 16534</i>	GBP 599 699 EUR 839 979 USD 963 1,119 Until 12 Oct

How to book



Online:
ipi.academy/1785

Alternatively contact us to book, or if you have any queries:



Email:
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Phone:
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Discounts

- Booking more than one delegate on any one date qualifies for a **30% discount** on the second and subsequent places.
- Most events qualify for an **early booking discount** prior to 6 weeks before the course date. Be sure to check on our website, where the latest discounts will be shown.

Further information

Fee

The fee includes all meals and refreshments for the duration of the course (for venue-based courses) and a complete set of course materials (provided electronically). If you have any particular requirements, please advise customer services when booking.

Please note

IPI Academy (and our training partners) reserve the right to change the content and timing of the programme, the speakers, the date and venue due to reasons beyond their control. In the unlikely event that the course is cancelled, we will refund the registration fee and disclaim any further liability.

Terms and conditions

The rest of our terms, the event cancellation policy and the terms and conditions are on our website, please visit ipi.academy/content/terms-and-conditions

Reviews



Overall good and useful. It was great to get both the European and the US perspective. The interactive part in the end was very good.



Artemy Ivanyushin
IP Counsel
Raritex Trade
Mar 13 2025



It was good! The speakers are great professionals and the slides are really well crafted. I would recommend to colleagues [for] an overview of the US practice related to the software patent application drafting and prosecution.



Roman Tokarev
Funtech Loyalty Card Services L.L.C.
Mar 13 2025



My aim was to get an understanding of the difference of a "normal" and a software patent and I think the course covered that excellently.



Siim Kinnas
Intellectual Property Advisor
Estonian Business and Innovation Agency
Mar 24 2022



I have obtained knowledge about some of the rules for drafting the claims for EP and USA patent applications as well as different aspects on both procedures.



Monica Teresa Bortolan
Patent Attorney IPM/Patenting
ENI CORPORATE UNIVERSITY SPA
Sep 15 2022

Run this programme in-house for your whole team

Coming to IPI Academy for your in-house training provides an all-inclusive service which gives you access to a wide variety of content, learning platforms and delivery mechanisms as well as your own personal training adviser who will work with you from the initial enquiry through to feedback and follow-up after the programme.

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IPI Academy is a training initiative of Falconbury and Management Forum; leading providers of industry training for over 30 years, based in the UK.

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