

Agenda

10:00-10:30 Arrival and refreshments

Guests are invited to enjoy a selection of coffee, tea and pastries on arrival.

10:30-11:30 Session 1 - Speaker: Amritjot Jethwa

Head of Commercial IP Contracts, **Amritjot Jethwa**, will discuss:

- Protection and exploitation of IP utilising commercial contracts.
- Considerations at the early stage of research and development, including ownership through to the later stages of commercialisation, using licensing.

11.30-12.30 Session 2 - Speakers: Rachel Mercer and Edward Rainsford

Senior Associates, **Rachel Mercer**, and **Edward Rainsford**, will discuss prefiling considerations and IP strategy.

In this interactive seminar we will discuss how to make sure that applications are drafted as effectively and efficiently as possible; the considerations around ownership, confidentiality, and potential filing and prosecution strategies for the best possible protection.

The speakers will also discuss recent changes in practice at the EPO regarding how the EPO deals with electronic signatures and the assessment of plausibility in inventive step. The speakers will also discuss recent changes in practice at the EPO regarding how the EPO deals with electronic signatures, priority and the assessment of plausibility in inventive step.

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12:30-14:00 Networking lunch

An opportunity to connect with peers and speakers over a delicious lunch.

Interactive break-out sessions

Following lunch, guests are invited to an interactive break-out session of their choice. In each session, the speakers will explore current challenges in protecting innovation, in the life sciences sector, and electronics/software sector respectively. Each session will provide plenty of time for questions and discussion.

14:00-15:30 Session 3 - Interactive break-out session option A - Life sciences

In this interactive session, Senior Associates, **Rachel Mercer**, and **Edward Rainsford**, will explore current challenges in the protecting innovation in the life sciences sector.

Topics covered include:

- Filing strategies and how much data is needed to file a robust application
- Inventive step and sufficiency at the EPO and the US
- Patentable subject matter in Europe and the US.

The speakers will illustrate practice at the EPO and the US using practical examples in different technology areas. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion.

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14:00-15:30 Session 3 - Interactive break-out session option B - Electronics/software

Principal Associate, **Arnie Francis**, and Senior Associates, **Paul Roscoe**, will discuss robust IP protection for innovations in the software and AI space.

In this session, our speakers will tackle this question, sharing their knowledge and experience of obtaining patent protection for high-value software and AI inventions and best practices for preparing strong patent applications that stand up to scrutiny in examination.

15:30-15:45 Session 4 - Summary and Q&A

Summary of today's session: We've covered a variety of topics, and now it's your chance to ask any further questions or explore any areas you'd like to dive deeper into.

15:45-18:00 Networking and refreshments

Wrap up the day with informal networking accompanied by drinks and nibbles.