Getting Closer? US vs. EU, Post-Patent Reform

What are the international ramifications of the America Invents Act for companies based within and outside of the US? A recent panel discussion hosted by DLA Piper explored this subject.

Finally, the panel discussed the most popular European patenting destinations: Germany, France and the UK. On the litigation side, the panel noted the complex European patent litigation system. The UK offers the speediest nullity (invalidity) rulings and Germany, where infringement and validity are determined by different tribunals, is the quickest jurisdiction for obtaining an infringement ruling. This means a litigant can obtain a ruling on infringement before validity is decided.

The panel was organized by the American Friends of Bucerius and DLA Piper as part of a joint IP lecture series project in the US and Germany, with the German American Chamber of Commerce Inc., Office for the Western US and the German American Business Association acting as co-sponsors.

Taking part were Prof. Dr. Hermann Pünder, Vice President of the Bucerius Law School, who opened the proceedings, and panelists (and DLA Piper partners) Timothy Lohse (Silicon Valley and Washington, DC), Julia Schoenbohm (Frankfurt and Munich), and Brent Yamashita (Silicon Valley), Prof. Dr. Dana Beldman of the Bucerius Law School and Carroll, Burdick & McDonough LLP served as moderator. Present, and the source of valuable comments, was Claire Bennett of DLA Piper's London office.

LEADING PATENT LAWYER STUART LUBITZ JOINS DLA PIPER IN LOS ANGELES

Stuart Lubitz, an internationally renowned lawyer with over 40 years of experience representing major Japanese and US technology companies on patent matters, recently joined DLA Piper as Special Counsel in Los Angels.

Stuart was chairman and name partner of a well-known IP boutique and later directed the IP practices at two national law firms. He was a pioneer in representing US high-tech startup companies and then representing Japanese multinational companies. He developed one of the US's leading IP practices serving Japanese clients.

Among Stuart's clients have been such companies as Kyocera, Sharp, Seiko Epson, Toshiba, Olympus, Ricoh, Hitachi, Panasonic, Sony, Glory, Minolta, Casio, Murata Machinery, Murata Manufacturing, Ishida Scales, Dainippon Screen, and Citizen Watch, as well as GE, Honeywell, Fairchild Semiconductor, Sperry Rand, Western Digital, and others. Stuart was the first Westerner to be selected as a director of a large Japanese public company and one of the few patent lawyers to serve on the board of a New York Stock Exchange company.

At DLA Piper, Stuart is assisting in expanding and developing DLA Piper's already extensive practice serving Japanese clients in patent litigation, licensing, counseling, prosecution, negotiation and opinions, as well as with competition issues. He has reunited with his former partners Rich de Bodo, DLA Piper's co-chair of Patent Litigation and a leader of its Japanese IP practice, Henry Koda, the manager of DLA Piper's IP practice in Tokyo, and many other former colleagues.

Stuart Lubitz
Special Counsel