

S4 / Support in drafting patent, design, trademark applications

- We were commissioned to support the major Italian Research Center in drafting claims of its European Patent (EP) application.
- This service is designed to bridge the gap between ideation and intellectual property application filing. If a research group has an idea that they wish to legally protect, this service offers assistance in assessing whether the idea is novel and then prepare either a draft proposal of patent claims/design images/trademark application based on the idea. Filing strategy - including the best course of action with regards to filing nationally, regionally and/or internationally - was discussed with the IP expert.
- This service is also valuable at the beginning of a project to ensure that a project ACRONYM can be transformed into a trademark.

The outcome of the service provided the drafting of a set of claims for a EP

S4 / Methodology

- The activities provided support on IP related matters connected to the research results dealing with a technology related to “water treatment sector”

The following steps were taken in conducting the IP Evaluation:

- A template was sent to the applicant, requesting several information and documents
- The applicant provided a set of prior art documents, comprising both patent applications and scientific publications, that was duly analyzed in term of novelty criteria considering the main features of the proposed inventions
- A study of the invented technology was carried out, together with an updated analysis of the related state of the art;

S4 / Outcomes

- The additional novelty search on technical prior art retrieved five main patent documents correlated to the technology under examination.
- Considering the results of the novelty search it was found that the invention under investigation met the novelty criteria for patentability.
- No document was found describing all the key technical features of the invention. It was suggested to pay attention to the inventive step criteria, since the “expert of the field” could combine several prior art patent documents reaching several technical features and advantages of the invention.

A set of claims was drafted proposing to protect:

- the product itself;
 - the method for manufacturing;
 - the device comprising the product.
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- A strategy for international protection has been suggested based on the countries of interest indicated by the applicant

S4 / Takeaways and Recommendations

- Filing a European Patent Application at EPO in order to protect the invention in some specific EU countries
- Filing single patent applications in some specific non-EU countries of interest within 12 months from the filing date of the EP application
- Carry out a patent landscape and activate a surveillance system in order to be updated on the state of the art
- Apply for Service S5 of IPBooster