

Intellectual Property and Technology

Skadden

The Intellectual Property and Technology Group at Skadden offers clients a full range of legal services relating to the acquisition, enforcement and commercialization of intellectual property and technology assets. Our services include counseling on engagements involving patents, copyrights, trademarks, outsourcing, privacy and data security. Attorneys in our group also litigate these issues in federal and state courts.

Our practice and attorneys are frequently recognized for their work:

- Ranked in Band 1 in the Intellectual Property: Trademark, Copyright & Trade Secrets: Transactional category and Technology category in New York in *Chambers USA*. Also recognized as a leading firm for Intellectual Property: Patent in New York.
- Received the U.S. Firm of the Year — IP Transactions award, and recognized with the Impact Deal of the Year award for our representation of Visa in its acquisition of Pismo, at *Managing IP*'s 2024 awards.
- Named United States Transactions Firm of the Year by *Intellectual Asset Management* and *World Trademark Review* at the 2023 Global IP Awards.
- Named a leading firm in the trademark field in *World Trademark Review*'s WTR 1000.
- Ranked as a leading firm in the Trademarks Contentious and Non-Contentious categories by *World IP Review*.
- Nationally recognized for IP transactions in *Intellectual Asset Management*'s IAM Patent 1000 on a repeated basis.
- Ranked in the IP Transactions category of *Managing IP*'s IP Stars.
- Listed as a top-tier firm in the areas of IP-related litigation and information technology by *Best Lawyers Best Law Firms*.

Our attorneys advise on virtually every type of intellectual property transaction, negotiating and drafting numerous licenses and alliance agreements and handling a wide variety of matters relating to the creation, use, licensing and transfer of digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, blockchains, cryptocurrencies, digital assets and NFTs. This encompasses drafting license, option, nondisclosure, collaboration, manufacturing and distribution agreements. We also provide intellectual property support in conjunction with mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings and financings. Beyond an understanding of intellectual property matters and the science and

technology underlying them, our attorneys are familiar with the business models used by our clients to maximize the value of these technologies, and we seek to create or add value to their intellectual property and technology portfolios.

Copyright

The group's lawyers provide copyright advice to a wide range of clients, particularly in the online, publishing, entertainment and communications industries, such as mobile app developers, internet technology providers, social media companies, software developers, broadcast and cable television networks, television and movie producers, recording artists and authors. Our lawyers also have extensive experience with representing content creators, including authors and artists.

Trademark

We assist clients in obtaining, protecting and enforcing trademarks in the United States and worldwide, including:

- Conducting and reviewing searches and investigations for trademark clearance.
- Preparing opinion letters.
- Filing and prosecuting trademark applications.
- Handling the prosecution and defense of trademark administrative proceedings.
- Monitoring and policing the use of trademarks by third parties.
- Providing general trademark and domain name counseling.

We manage the domestic and international trademark portfolios and related intellectual property matters for a wide range of clients. Our attorneys also counsel on internet domain name and social media address acquisition, use and defense.

Intellectual Property and Technology

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Patents and Trade Secret Strategy

Skadden's intellectual property attorneys perform sophisticated reviews of patent and trade secret assets on transactional matters. We:

- Analyze target and competitor patents and unpatented technology.
- Perform "deep-dives" to review the background, scope, strengths and weaknesses of target and competitor patent portfolios.
- Analyze patent and proprietary-technology protection strategies.
- Advise on intellectual property monetization portfolio practices.
- Structure various agreements with respect to the evaluated technology.

Many of our patent attorneys are registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and hold technical or scientific degrees, in areas such as electrical engineering, computer science, biology, chemistry and physics.

Our attorneys evaluate patent transactions based on proprietary statistical research and historical patent disputes. We complement traditional legal advice with a range of analytics capabilities, and we also provide data and insights for specific strategy development and market entry, such as "patent troll" investigations and industry/sector-specific exposure analyses.

Life Sciences

We have considerable knowledge in pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device licensing and collaborations, as well as alternative transactions such as drug royalty purchases. We advise clients on all intellectual property and related aspects of licensing, collaboration, joint venture and financing agreements and in transactions involving the research, development, manufacture and commercialization of pharmaceutical and biotechnology products and medical devices. These agreements and transactions often involve critical strategic decisions and require sophisticated structuring, lengthy negotiations and complex documentation. Our practice includes attorneys who hold advanced degrees in relevant life sciences disciplines.

Licensing

We advise across the spectrum of intellectual property and technology licensing arrangements, ranging from traditional license agreements to complex ventures for joint development of products, applications and systems. We counsel clients with respect to food and beverage and fashion ventures, software licenses, equipment leases, software development and distribution agreements, and network services and data acquisition agreements. Our clients include technology vendors and end-users in the publishing, financial services, transportation, manufacturing, entertainment and telecommunications industries, and major food and beverage manufacturers and fashion and apparel companies.

Outsourcing

We support clients through all stages of an outsourcing project — from preparing the initial RFP and facilitating vendor selection to negotiating all aspects of the definitive agreement and schedules. Our attorneys have handled a wide variety of outsourcing transactions, ranging from the outsourcing of a specific business process to the enterprise-wide outsourcing of all information technology. Our experience also includes a broad range of industries, representing both vendors and customers. The cornerstone of our practice is our ability to move easily among the legal, business and technology issues in any outsourcing transaction. We are equally comfortable discussing legal issues with our clients' in-house lawyers, pricing and strategic issues with the business stakeholders and service descriptions with the technology specialists. Skadden also is positioned to handle "offshore" outsourcing transactions including projects where the outsourcer is in a foreign country or where the customer will receive services in locations around the world.

Privacy and Cybersecurity

Our attorneys help companies mine customer data to maximize the benefits of data usage while avoiding privacy law issues. We are well-versed in privacy laws and regulations worldwide and understand the business models and technologies underlying data usage. However, privacy laws are not a company's only concern. The dramatic increase in the number of actual and attempted data security breaches, coupled with the high cost of responding to these attacks, has made data security a top priority for general counsel. We provide clients with the key resources they need to prepare for, and respond to, any type of data security incident.

Manufacture, Supply and Distribution

Our intellectual property and technology attorneys regularly represent companies in the fashion, food and beverage, energy, pharmaceutical and chemical industries in manufacture, supply and distribution and marketing contracts. As a result, we have significant experience with these critical types of commercial arrangements and the legal and strategic issues that they raise.