



# R O T H K O P F

Patent- und Rechtsanwälte  
European Patent, Trademark and Design  
Attorneys



[Our services](#)



## Welcome to ROTHKOPF

ROTHKOPF advises, represents and negotiates on behalf of its clients in all aspects of industrial and intellectual property.

It has offices in Munich and Berlin, both of which are equipped with state-of-the-art communication and database technology.

The Munich office is right next to the European Patent Office, the German Patent and Trademark Office, the Federal Patent Court and the Munich Regional Courts and Higher Regional Court.

All of the patent attorneys at ROTHKOPF are highly qualified and have considerable experience in all technical and legal areas.

And all staff speak various languages, forming part of an extensive network of legal and patent attorneys throughout Germany and abroad.

Our services include:

- Property rights
  - Patents
  - Trademarks
  - Designs
- Property right strategies
- Exploitation strategies
- Employee invention law
- Searches, reports and monitoring

in Germany, in Europa and worldwide



## Protecting your technical inventions ...

... is the job of the attorneys at ROTHKOPF.

With their technical and scientific academic backgrounds, they are highly qualified in patent law.

But the patent attorneys at our firm have also all spent a number of years in either industry or research.

As a result, they have both legal expertise and a good understanding of the technical subject matter.

Moreover, when advising any client, we at ROTHKOPF attach great importance to the economic aspects of an invention.

Our core expertise is distinguishing your invention from the prior art in a patent. We will represent you in examination and opposition proceedings and in revocation and infringement proceedings before patent offices, the Federal Patent Court and the civil courts.

For patents, we offer the following comprehensive services tailored to your individual needs:

- Prior art searches
- Acquiring patent rights
- Opposition, appeal and revocation proceedings
- Expert reports on patent infringements
- Representation in patent infringement proceedings
- Monitoring patents
- Patent exploitation strategies



## Trademarks protect your name in the market

Trademarks help you to position your goods and services in the market and enable your customers to distinguish between your goods and services and those of your competitors.

A trademark may not only be a company name, a product name or a slogan, but also a melody, a logo or an image.

Before introducing a trademark to the market, you should register it as a property right.

ROTHKOPF specializes in this.

We can even advise you on how to develop a trademark. By carrying out a corresponding search, we can check whether a planned trademark is likely to face any opposition based on other rights.

ROTHKOPF can represent you in all proceedings necessary to obtain and assert your trademark rights.

If you wish, we can also provide comprehensive management and monitoring of your trademark portfolio.

For trademarks, we offer the following comprehensive services tailored to your individual needs:

- Searches for existing trademarks
- Acquiring trademark rights
- Reminder, appeal, opposition and cancellation proceedings
- Expert reports on trademark infringements
- Representation in trademark infringement proceedings
- Monitoring trademarks
- Trademark exploitation strategies



## You concentrate on coming up with the design, we'll concentrate on protecting it

Whether it is wallpaper, an item of furniture or the surface of a television screen, design is involved in countless areas.

The attorneys at ROTHKOPF can advise you on what options you have under design law to protect the external appearance of your products.

ROTHKOPF has attorneys who specialize in design law.

We can even advise you on how to develop your design, for example by carrying out a search of designs currently being used.

ROTHKOPF can represent you in all proceedings necessary to obtain and assert your design rights. If you wish, we can also provide comprehensive management and monitoring of your design portfolio.

For designs, we offer the following comprehensive services tailored to your individual needs:

- Searches for existing design rights
- Acquiring design rights (registered designs)
- Cancellation proceedings
- Expert reports on design right infringements
- Representation in design right infringement proceedings
- Monitoring design rights
- Design right exploitation strategies



## Property right strategies are part of the business plan

Which ideas should be protected by property rights and which ones should be published? To which countries should property rights be extended? Is it best to keep an idea totally secret or should it, in certain cases, only be kept secret until a patent has been granted in the USA?

These are questions that you may be asking yourself when developing your property right strategies.

ROTHKOPF would be happy to help you find the answers that are right for your company and to develop an appropriate IP strategy with you.

When helping you to develop your **IP strategies**, we offer comprehensive advice tailored to your individual needs in the following areas:

- Application concepts
- Licensing and franchising
- Protection of your core business
- Blocking your competitors
- Increasing the value of your company



## Protecting and using ideas

Protected ideas cannot be copied by others, so they give you a developmental advantage.

Nor can they be integrated by others into their own goods and services, so they give you an advantage in the market.

However, you can make protected ideas available to others in order to generate additional income, for example through royalties. Protected ideas are also useful bargaining tools when it comes to negotiating cross-licenses.

Protected ideas can be used defensively, because an aggressor is bound to fear a counterattack based on a property right belonging to the other party.

Protected ideas and their property rights can also be very effective for advertising purposes.

And as valuable and useful intangible assets, protected ideas increase the value of your company.

We offer the following services to help you to exploit your property rights:

- Expert advice on
  - Confidentiality agreements
  - Use agreements
  - Know-how contracts
  - Franchise agreements
  - Licenses
- Negotiation
- Development of a licensing strategy



## Is inventing actually work?

Inventions and proposals for technical improvement by employees, officials and university students are subject to particular legal regulations. These regulations lay down obligations that are often not met.

The attorneys at ROTHKOPF are well versed in the vagaries of these regulations. We can offer advice on all legal matters relating to employee inventions and proposals for technical improvement.

Our attorneys have many years of experience in advising both employers and employees on employee invention law and representing them before boards of arbitration and in court, a job requiring particular sensitivity to the particular working relationship.

We help companies set up efficient invention notification systems. If you wish, ROTHKOPF can also set the invention notification system up as an »external patent department«.

When it comes to **employee invention law**, we can advise and represent you in the following areas:

- Your invention notification system and its organization
- Remuneration
- Disputes before boards of arbitration and in court



## Searches, reports and monitoring

ROTHKOPF can carry out searches, draw up reports and monitor the market for you in all areas of industrial property.

Before a patent is filed, we usually carry out a brief search of the prior art.

However, the likelihood of success of any opposition or application for revocation can only be assessed on the basis of an extensive search.

A comprehensive expert report on the legal position may be required in order to make an assessment of any patent infringement.

It is also worth keeping a close eye on your competitors' property right activities in order to spot any patent, trademark or design infringements.

ROTHKOPF can take care of any searches, reports and monitoring for you, using state-of-the-art computer technology and the essential technical and legal expertise of its patent attorneys.

We carry out searches, draw up reports and monitor the market in relation to the following:

- Patents and patent applications (prior art, eligibility for protection, validity)
- Trademarks (previous registrations, eligibility for protection, validity)
- Designs (wealth of shapes, validity)



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