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Dr. Patrick Saloga

Career Perspectives

with a PhD in Natural & Life Sciences

Doctorate:

Chemistry, Freie Universität Berlin / BAM, 2020

Current Position:

Patent Attorney, Maucher Jenkins

What does your current professional life look like?

My day-to-day work primarily revolves around drafting patent applications and guiding them through the examination process. I work closely with inventors to identify the core of an invention, draft patent claims, and prepare the corresponding applications, and I advise clients on how to respond to official communications. In addition, I analyse potential patent infringements and assess patent validity in light of the prior art. A smaller part of my work concerns other areas of intellectual property, particularly trade marks.

What are you currently working on?

My current role primarily involves patent prosecution and litigation in the fields of pharmaceuticals, communications technology, and mechanical engineering. Another key focus is establishing and developing our new Berlin office, including setting up the branch and expanding the team. I also work closely with our other offices, particularly in Munich and Freiburg, to maintain effective collaboration within the firm.

What role do skills gained in your PhD studies play in your current job?

The skills I gained during my PhD are still quite useful in my current work. In particular, being able to get to grips with complex technical subject matter and identify the key idea of an invention helps when drafting applications and assessing patentability. The broader technological overview I developed, especially through my work at BAM, is also valuable in practice. In addition, a practical technical activity is a formal requirement for entering the profession.

What do you find most exciting about your current job?

What I find most exciting about my current job is the close connection to innovation. I regularly work with new technologies at a very early stage, often before they become public, and gain insights into a wide range of different fields. I also particularly value the direct, confidential exchange with inventors, which allows for very open discussions about new ideas. This combination of technical depth, variety, and interaction makes the work particularly engaging.

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