



Intellectual Property for the Chemical Industry

Sutherland's sophisticated Intellectual Property (IP) practice offers wide-ranging experience in securing, licensing, and enforcing intellectual property rights for diverse chemical technologies, both in the United States and abroad. Whether our clients seek advice on potential IP litigation issues, desire to license a technology or protect their own innovations, or need to ensure their ability to operate a business without infringing a valid patent, Sutherland attorneys have the necessary technical background and legal experience to deliver results.

Our broad chemical-related experience includes preparing and prosecuting patent applications; developing opinions regarding patent validity or invalidity, infringement, and clearance; intellectual property due diligence reviews in connection with mergers and acquisitions; trade secret and IP litigation; and intellectual property audits and evaluations, all with a view toward achieving our clients' overall business objectives.

Representative Chemical Experience

- Agricultural chemicals
- Aromatics
- Fischer-Tropsch catalysis
- Chemical (CVD) and Physical (PVD) Vapor Deposition
- Chemical processing equipment and reactor design
- Electrochemical processes
- Emulsion polymers
- Fuel cell technologies
- Homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysis
- Hydrotreating technologies

- Nanotechnology and materials chemistry
- Petroleum upgrading
- Organic chemicals and pharmaceuticals
- Semiconductors, photoresists, and other electronic materials
- Surfactant technologies
- Thermoplastics, elastomers and composites

Representative Chemical Clients

- Chevron Phillips Chemical Company
- The Coca-Cola Company
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Georgia State University
- Immucor, Inc.
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Solvay Chemicals
- Solvay Advanced Polymers
- StatoilHydro
- University of Georgia

Additional Representative IP Clients

- British Nuclear Fuels plc
- First Data Corporation
- GE Energy
- McKesson Corporation
- Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.
- The Western Union Company
- Watson Pharmaceuticals
- Westinghouse Electric Company

SUTHERLAND

Peter G. Pappas - Partner

- B.S., Chemical Engineering, University of Alabama (Fellow of University of Alabama Chemical and Bio-Engineering Department)
- Georgia Super Lawyer® (2008, 2009) and "Legal Elite" - *Georgia Trend* magazine (2008, 2009)

Kevin W. King - Partner

- B.Ch.E., Chemical Engineering, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Experienced patent prosecutor in biomedical, chemical, materials and mechanical arts, with prior chemical industry experience as process engineer
- Georgia Super Lawyer® "Rising Star" (2005-2006)

John L. North - Partner

- Experienced in litigating patent infringement cases involving chemicals and minerals technologies
- Georgia Super Lawyer® (2007)

Jeffrey J. Toney - Partner

- B.S., Biological Chemistry, Tulane University
- Intellectual property litigator in patent infringement, trade secret, and unfair competition cases

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- Ph.D., Chemistry, Purdue University (Conoco Research Fellow); B.S., Chemistry, and B.S., Soil Science, Mississippi State University
- NATO Post-Doctoral Fellow, Oxford University
- Post-Doctoral Associate, MIT
- Professor of Chemistry, University of Arizona, 1985-2000

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- Ph.D., MA, Chemistry, Johns Hopkins University
- M.S., University of California

IP Attorney Overview

One of the ways Sutherland sets itself apart is the extensive technical experience of its IP attorneys, which allows them to appreciate and address unique legal issues of the chemical and petroleum industries. Sutherland has more than 35 IP attorneys, many of whom have worked as engineers or scientists in the chemical, materials, or petroleum industries, or have worked as professors or researchers in the chemical or biotechnology industries.

The majority of our IP attorneys are registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and nearly 30 have biological science, chemistry, chemical engineering, electrical, computer, and/or mechanical engineering degrees. Many of those have master's degrees or Ph.Ds.

For more information contact:

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ABOUT SUTHERLAND. Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP is a law firm with global reach known for solving challenging business problems and resolving sophisticated legal issues for many of the world's largest companies. Founded in 1924, the firm handles matters throughout the United States and worldwide. Seven major practice areas—corporate, energy and environmental, financial services, intellectual property, litigation, real estate, and tax—provide the framework for an extensive range of focus areas, allowing Sutherland attorneys to serve a diverse client base that ranges from small and medium-sized start-up businesses to a significant number of Fortune 100 companies.