



Intellectual Property for the Energy Industry

Sutherland has a vibrant intellectual property practice, providing all of the services required by those needing to protect and leverage IP rights in a wide variety of industries in the U.S. and internationally. Our experience includes patent, trademark and copyright prosecution, counseling, litigation and licensing, as well as other services such as trade secret and technology litigation and counseling and intellectual property audits and evaluations.

Sutherland's Intellectual Property (IP) group has extensive experience in the energy industry. About two-thirds of Sutherland's IP attorneys have undergraduate and advanced degrees in petroleum and chemical engineering, organic and inorganic chemistry, biotechnology, mechanical engineering, and electrical engineering. Many of these attorneys have worked as engineers, biochemists, researchers or professors within a variety of industries, including experience within the upstream and downstream aspects of the oil and gas industry. In addition, the Sutherland IP group currently provides, or has in the past provided, significant legal services to clients involved in various aspects of the energy industry. The technical knowledge and backgrounds of the Sutherland IP attorneys enable a faster and deeper understanding of areas in which energy industry clients have IP interests.

Representative Energy Experience

- Agricultural chemicals and biotechnology
- Battery management systems
- Biodiesel production equipment
- Bioengineered ethanol fermentation
- Carbon black
- Catalysts
- Chemical processing equipment
- Combustion control systems
- Electro-chemistry
- Emulsion Polymers

- Environmental controls
- Fuel Cells
- Oil and gas exploration
- Oil upgrading
- Organic synthesis
- Polymer extrusion equipment
- Rheology control processes
- Surfactants
- Turbine-related generation equipment
- Turbines

Representative IP Clients

- British Nuclear Fuels plc*
- Fiserv, Inc.
- CoBank*
- First Data Corporation
- GE Energy*
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Glencore Ltd.*
- McKesson Corporation
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Morgan Stanley*
- Neste Oil*
- Noble Americas Corp.*
- North American Bioproducts Corporation*
- Oglethorpe Power Corporation*
- Procter & Gamble Company
- StatoilHydro*
- Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd.
- The Coca-Cola Company
- The Western Union Company
- University of Georgia
- Westinghouse Electric Company*
- Westport Petroleum, Inc.*

* Representative IP Clients in Energy Industry

Peter G. Pappas - Partner

- B.S. in Chemical Engineering from University of Alabama (Fellow of University of Alabama Chemical and Bio-Engineering Department)
- Georgia Super Lawyer® - *Atlanta Magazine* (IP) (2007-2009)
- Legal Elite - *Georgia Trend* magazine (2007-2008)

Christopher J. Chan - Partner

- B.M.E., Georgia Institute of Technology
- Experience in a variety of energy-related technologies including gas turbines, electrical control systems, hydrogen storage, batteries, and environmental control devices
- Former service engineer for worldwide boiler manufacturer

Malvern (Griff) U. Griffin III - Partner

- B.S., Electrical Engineering, *cum laude*, Auburn University
- Experience in a variety of energy-related technologies including gas turbines, power system designs, control systems, batteries, and environmental sensors and control systems
- Georgia Super Lawyer® - *Atlanta Magazine* (2008-2009)

Kevin W. King - Partner

- B.S. Ch.E., Georgia Institute of Technology
- Experienced in biomedical, chemical, material and mechanical arts
- Georgia Super Lawyer® "Rising Star" - *Atlanta Magazine* (2005-2006)

William L. Warren - Partner

- M.S., Molecular Genetics, Georgia State University; M.B.A., Emory University; B.S., Biology and Economics, *cum laude*, Middlebury College
- Significant experience in biotechnical, biomedical, pharmaceutical and biomechanical engineering
- Georgia Super Lawyer® "Rising Star" - *Atlanta Magazine* (2005-2006)
- Legal Elite - *Georgia Trend* magazine (2007)

David E. Wigley, Ph.D. - Counsel

- Ph.D. in Chemistry, Purdue University (Conoco Research Fellow); B.S. in Chemistry and B.S. in Soil Science, Mississippi State University
- Professor of Chemistry at the University of Arizona (1985-2000)

IP Attorney Overview

One of the ways Sutherland sets itself apart is the extensive technical experience of its intellectual property attorneys, focusing on both counseling and litigation, which allows them to appreciate and address unique legal issues. The majority of our intellectual property attorneys are registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Sutherland has approximately 30 intellectual property attorneys, many of whom have worked as engineers or scientists in a variety of industries. Our attorneys have degrees in biological science, organic and inorganic chemistry, chemical engineering, electrical engineering, computer engineering, or mechanical engineering, including many with master's degrees and 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.