

# Patenting procedures relating to the pharmaceutical field

Discussion platform

## Programme

7 September  
Bern, Switzerland



Swiss Federal Institute of  
Intellectual Property (IPI)

in co-operation with



**Thursday, 7 September 2017**

**The EPO and IPI present a free, public event.  
Patenting procedures relating to the  
pharmaceutical field**

Venue: Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual  
Property (IPI)  
Stauffacherstrasse 65/59g, 3003 Bern, Switzerland

*Moderated by Heinz Müller, patent expert, IPI*

**08.45      Registration**

**09.15      Welcome**

*Catherine Chammartin, Director General, IPI  
Dieter Tzschoppe, Director, Joint Cluster Biotechnology/  
Pure and Applied Organic Chemistry, EPO*

**09.30      Inventions in the pharmaceutical field: how to  
meet the patentability requirements  
Main issues related to patentability**

*Andrea Veronese, patent examiner, EPO  
Gianpietro Melone, patent examiner, IPI*

10.15      Coffee break

**10.30      EPO case law**

*Dieter Tzschoppe*

**11.00      Patents in the pharmaceutical industry – a Swiss  
patent attorney's view**

*Alfred Köpf, Swiss and European patent attorney,  
Rentsch Partner*

- 11.30      Pharmaceuticals at the Swiss Federal Patent Court**  
*Prisca von Ballmoos, Head, Patents Healthcare  
Department, Merck Group, Switzerland and non-per-  
manent judge with technical training, Swiss Federal  
Patent Court*
- 12.00      Experience of a Swiss pharmaceutical company**  
*Peter Thomsen, Senior Patent Counsel, IP Policy &  
Litigation, Novartis, Basel*
- 12.30      Plenary discussion on patenting activities in the  
pharmaceutical field**  
– Patenting practices and field-specific hurdles as  
perceived by the audience  
– Opposition: recent trends as perceived by the  
audience  
– Communication between examiners and appli-  
cants  
*Chair: Yvonne Schumacher, Head, Patent Experts,  
Chemistry, IPI*
- 13.00      Closing remarks**  
*Catherine Chammartin  
Dieter Tzschoppe*
- 13.15      Buffet lunch and networking
- 14.00      End of event

## Speakers

### EPO

#### **Dieter Tzschoppe**

Director, Joint Cluster Biotechnology/Pure and Applied Organic Chemistry (PAOC)

Dieter Tzschoppe studied chemistry at the University of Stuttgart and holds a PhD in organic chemistry from the University of Besançon. He joined the EPO in The Hague in 1985 as a search examiner in pharmaceutical formulations. After transferring to Munich in 1989, he worked as a search and substantive examiner in medical-use inventions. Since 1999 he has directed units of about 30 examiners, first in organic chemistry, from 2005 in pharmacology and since 2013 additionally in galenics and cosmetics. Responsible for external relations for the PAOC cluster, he frequently speaks during company visits, at conferences and workshops or as part of international co-operation events. He chairs opposition proceedings and is responsible for interns participating in the joint EPO-EUIPO Pan-European Seal programme.

#### **Andrea Veronese**

Examiner, Pure and Applied Organic Chemistry

Andrea Veronese studied chemistry and pharmaceutical technology and obtained his PhD in bio-organic chemistry from the University of Padua. He worked as a research associate in chemistry at the University of Pittsburgh and held a post-doctoral position at ETH Zurich before joining the EPO in The Hague in 1997 as a search examiner in pharmaceutical chemistry. After transferring to Munich in 2001, he worked as an examiner in medical-use inventions. His current work focuses on search, examination and opposition in different fields of pharmaceutical technology, often as first examiner or chairman in complex opposition cases. He trains new examiners,

participates in other EPO training activities and frequently represents the cluster as a speaker during company visits and at conferences. He holds a CEIPI diploma in patents from the University of Strasbourg and has passed the European qualifying examination.

## **IPI**

### **Catherine Chammartin**

Director General

Catherine Chammartin is an attorney-at-law. She has worked as a research assistant to the department chair for private and commercial law at the University of Zurich, as a legal adviser in the Financial Markets and Services section of the Swiss Federal Finance Administration, as a legal adviser in the Taxes division of the Swiss State Secretariat for International Financial Matters (SIF) and as Head of the Exchange of Information and Individual Taxation section at SIF. In 2015, she became Director General of the IPI.

### **Gianpietro Melone**

Patent expert, Chemistry

Gianpietro Melone received his MSc in chemistry from the University of Basel and a PhD in organic chemistry from the University of Zurich. Before joining the IPI as a patent examiner, he worked as a chemist in catalysis development, synthesis of chemical libraries and gene therapy. At the IPI he works in chemistry and pharmaceutical products. He is involved in search services and the examination of patent applications.

## **Yvonne Schumacher**

Head, Patent Experts, Chemistry

Yvonne Schumacher is a chemist with a PhD from ETH Zurich. She worked as a materials scientist in a government research institute in Japan before joining the reinsurance company SwissRe at their Japan desk. As head of the chemistry group at the IPI, she is involved in the supervision of search services, aspects of patent application examination and training in chemistry, pharmaceuticals and materials.

## **Patent Attorneys**

### **Alfred Köpf**

Swiss and European patent attorney  
Rentsch Partner AG, Zurich

Alfred Köpf worked in the automotive industry as a lathe worker before studying biology at the University of Bayreuth and Kansas State University. After his PhD at ETH Zurich, he left academia and became a European patent attorney. Since 2004, he has been lecturing on patents at ETH Zurich. In 2011, he was elected a part-time judge at the Swiss Federal Patent Court. Day to day, he is active in patent prosecution and litigation, mainly in medical technology, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

### **Peter Thomsen**

Senior Patent Counsel, IP Policy & Litigation  
Novartis International AG, Basel

Peter Thomsen studied biotechnological sciences at the Technische Universität Braunschweig and attended the Postgraduate Study Programme for IP at ETH Zurich. Since 2001, he has worked in Novartis' IP function, building up considerable

expertise in supplementary protection certificate (SPC) and patent-term-extension matters, managing the Liechtenstein SPC case decided by the European Court of Justice in 2005, for instance. From 2006 to 2011, he was involved in co-ordinating the entire Novartis Group's IP litigation. Since 2007 he has increasingly focused on IP policy, helping to co-ordinate and develop positions on fundamental, systematic IP law matters for the Group. From 2008 to 2011 he led the IP Policy function. He passed the European patent attorney exam in 2004, is the co-ordinator and a tutor at the Basel basic CEIPI training course for patent attorney candidates, a lecturer on SPCs for the Akademie Heidelberg and co-author of Patents for Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology.

### **Prisca von Ballmoos**

Head, Patents Healthcare Department, Merck Group,  
Switzerland

Prisca von Ballmoos holds a master's degree in biochemistry from ETH Zurich and has been with Merck and its predecessor organisation Serono since 2005. She previously worked as a patent attorney for the pharmaceutical company UCB in Brussels and as an examiner in biotechnology/immunology at the EPO in Munich. She qualified as a European patent attorney in 2004 and is admitted as a representative before the IPI. Alongside her responsibilities at Merck, since 2012 she has served as a non-permanent judge with technical training at the Swiss Federal Patent Court.

### Venue

Swiss Federal Institute of  
Intellectual Property (IPI)  
Stauffacherstrasse 59G,  
3014 Bern,  
Switzerland  
heinz.mueller@ipi.ch

### Seminar reference

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### Organised in co-operation with

European Patent Academy  
European Patent Office (EPO)  
Bob-van-Bentheim-Platz 1  
80469 Munich  
Germany

### European Patent Academy

#### European Patent Office

Bob-van-Bentheim-Platz 1  
80469 Munich  
Germany  
Tel. +49 89 2399 5454  
academy@epo.org  
www.epo.org

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