

## Westminster Legal Policy Forum Keynote Seminar:

### The future of patent law - innovation, enforcement and next steps for the unified patent court

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Venue: The Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin Street, London SW1X 7DR



Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Dai Havard MP**
- 9.05 - 9.25 **Patent protection and enforcement - an overview of recent and forthcoming developments**  
**Professor Johanna Gibson**, Herchel Smith Professor of Intellectual Property Law, Queen Mary, University of London  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 9.55 **UK patent law and the future of the Intellectual Property Enterprise Court (IPEC)**  
**His Honour Judge Hacon**, Intellectual Property Enterprise Court  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.55 - 10.45 **Assessing the future of the domestic framework - affordability, efficiency and fostering innovation**  
*What more can the Intellectual Property Enterprise Court (IPEC) do to support accessible and efficient patent dispute resolution in England and Wales, and how effective are ongoing initiatives to streamline its court procedures, improve case management and cap costs? Following the recent implementation of the Intellectual Property Act, what impact will an expanded Patents Opinions Service have on reducing the need for litigation? How effective will the use of webmarking be in preventing accidental patent infringement, as well as ensuring that damages or profits can be obtained from third party infringement? Should "Appointed Persons" be used as a mechanism to resolve patent appeals, and what can be learnt from their use in other areas of IP - such as trade marks? Was Government right to decide against implementing its proposals for a "superfast" patent process last year; how warranted are concerns that speeding up application processes will increase the proliferation of invalid patents? To what extent do UK firms regard the patent box as an effective incentive to commercialise their IP in the UK?*  
**Dominic Adair**, Partner, Bristows  
**Matt McBrien**, Head of Patents, BAE Systems  
**John Mitchell**, Chairman, SME Innovation Alliance  
**David Secher**, Patron and Co-Founder, PraxisUnico  
**John Grant**, IP Consultant, Trevor Baylis Brands  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chair's closing remarks**  
**Dai Havard MP**
- 10.50 - 11.15 Coffee
- 11.15 - 11.20 **Chair's opening remarks**  
**Pete Wishart MP**, Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Intellectual Property Group
- 11.20 - 11.45 **The Unified Patent Court and Unitary Patent - latest thinking on ensuring effective implementation**  
**Neil Feinson**, Director of International Policy, Intellectual Property Office and UK Representative, Unified Patent Court Preparatory Committee  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 - 12.30 **European and international patent reform - challenges and priorities ahead**  
*What are the key challenges ahead for implementing the Unified Patent Court (UPC) early next year - particularly in relation to renewal fees, funding arrangements and procedures - and what further questions remain over the workings of the new framework? What ongoing concerns are there with regard to the possibility of bifurcation and "forum shopping" once the UPC is operational? Do businesses anticipate that the UPC will reduce the costs associated with patent protection, and will it permit UK firms to compete more effectively with the US and China? What are the prospects for wider international patent law harmonisation - particularly in relation to grace periods, publication times, conflicting applications and prior user rights? What more can be done to tackle the growth of patent backlogs, and what examples are there of work and data sharing initiatives to reduce them?*  
**James Nurton**, Managing Editor, Managing IP  
**Tim Frain**, Director, IP Regulatory, Nokia  
**Mark Ridgway**, Senior Associate, Allen & Overy, *UPC benchmarking study* (commissioned by Allen & Overy's global IP team)  
**Vicki Salmon**, Chair, Litigation Committee, Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 **Next steps for policy following the Intellectual Property Act**  
**Tony Howard**, Divisional Director, Patent Business Operations and Legal Support, Intellectual Property Office  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**  
**Pete Wishart MP**, Vice-Chair, All-Party Parliamentary Intellectual Property Group  
**Marc Gammon**, Senior Producer, Westminster Legal Policy Forum