

intellectualproperty

overview

promoting**enterprise**

Intellectual property at Fox Williams

Developing intellectual property (IP) - and knowing how to protect it is a competitive cornerstone in today's complex marketplace. We deal with the protection, exploitation and enforcement of the full range of intellectual property rights, acting for leading brand owners from major corporations to international names. We have expertise across the full range of IP rights including trade marks, design rights, copyright, patents, database rights, passing off and confidential information. We advise on both non-contentious and contentious IP matters.

Our team is experienced in advising businesses operating in a many different industry sectors, including fashion, ebiz, publishing, retail and financial services.

We pride ourselves on building long-term relations with businesses for whom IP rights are core assets. Our lawyers have skills across a wide range of legal disciplines in order to be able to advise on the full range of commercial contracts, transactions, and structures likely to be relevant to the protection or exploitation of IP rights.

Our IP disputes team handles the full range of IP disputes in all forms and jurisdictions. In addition to the traditional IP rights such as patents, trade marks, design rights and copyright, we can also successfully defend and enforce rights in databases, confidential information and know-how. We specialize on protecting rights on the Internet.

For many businesses, intellectual property may be one of their main assets. Intellectual property may represent significant value in a business and needs to be protected and effectively exploited. We have an enviable track record of representing clients across our chosen industry sectors and our fresh and innovative approach to the practice of law is a hallmark of our service.

“Clients choose this extremely capable, cohesive team for its personable service and ability to get the job done within tight time-frames.”

Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession

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Trade marks

Our services include providing advice on trade mark strategies, trade mark searching, filing, prosecution and portfolio management. We also regularly represent clients in the High Court on trade mark infringement matters and have considerable international IP experience and involvement in cross border disputes, particularly forum shopping in Europe.

What we can do for you:

- advise on the development and implementation of an effective trade mark strategy;
- file trade mark applications in the UK and file Community trade mark applications, International registrations (under the Madrid Agreement or the Madrid Protocol);
- handle national applications elsewhere in the world through our network of external trade mark specialists;
- defend applications against objections from the various trade mark authorities relating to their registrability; defend applications against third party objections in opposition and cancellation proceedings before the relevant authorities and courts in the UK and abroad;
- negotiate and conclude co-existence and licence agreements;
- handle the assignment of trade marks, including the recordal thereof with the various trade mark authorities;
- notify of and deal with trade mark renewals.

Designs

Design protection is of crucial importance in the fashion and other creative industries and it has developed rapidly in recent years. The Community Design has made Pan-European design protection by means of a single registration a reality. Likewise, international design registrations are becoming ever more attractive. Fox Williams' specialist design team have been actively involved in efficient action against counterfeits and slavish imitations of design products. We target infringements both in the country of origin and in the distribution markets. Through our Law Firm Alliance and International Alliance partners, we have built a up a network of co-operation that allows us to stop infringements at an early point in time and often prevent major damage to our clients' interests.

Based on our experience in enforcement matters, we also devise protection strategies and supervise the filing of design registrations on a national, European or international level.

Copyright and database rights

Copyright and database rights are important in the publishing, ebiz and fashion industries. Copyright can also be a useful weapon in the armoury of a fashion businesses for whom product design and presentation is important. The importance of copyright and database rights for online services and web-facing businesses cannot be underestimated.

Our team regularly advises clients in the fashion industry on copyright and database issues. Our specialist fashion law group not only offers good legal advice but its members also have a thorough knowledge of the way the industry sectors operate.

Patents

Our team regularly advises clients on patent audits, patent opinions and reviews, patent litigation, mediation and dispute resolution, Intellectual property transactions and technology transfer and corporate due diligence.

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About Fox Williams

Fox Williams is an independent business law firm based in the City of London. We have a strong reputation for our core areas practice of corporate and commercial, employment, real estate, dispute resolution, immigration, tax, e-commerce and partnership law.

Operating as business partners with our clients, we have built a solid reputation for advising on complex legal and regulatory issues in our core areas of expertise. Fox Williams is often first choice for referrals of work from other law firms when City expertise is required.

The firm's foundations are built upon an entrepreneurial spirit, which enables us to understand our clients' aspirations, current needs and future requirements. We give clients a high degree of partner involvement, with the objective of delivering a fast and responsive service. This is what differentiates our service offering from other law firms.

At the same time, we strive to create a happy and efficient working environment for all members of the firm, which has resulted in an Investors in People accreditation, "Best Company" accreditation in 2007 and being named among the "Best Professional Firms to Work For" by Managing Partners Forum in 2008.

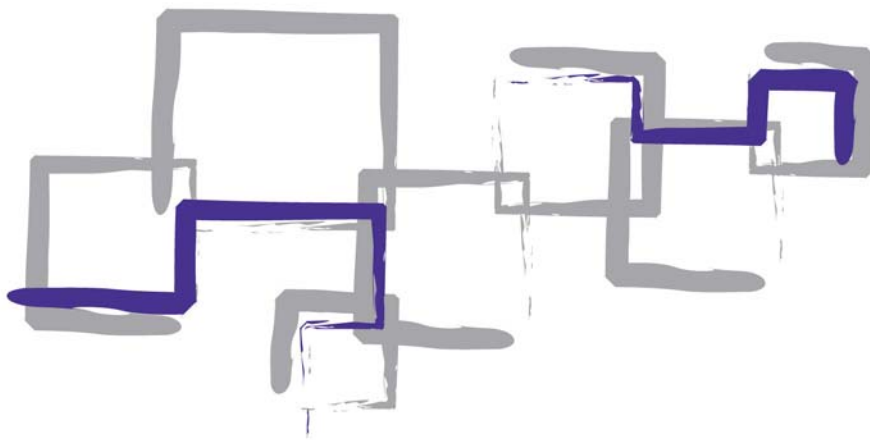
Among our recent awards are "Capital Markets Team of the Year 2010" by Corporate International Magazine, "Mid-Sized Technology Law Firm of the Year 2009" at the ACQ Country Awards and a "Highly Commended" accreditation at the Law Society Excellence Awards in Client Services 2008.



Contact details

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