



Collaborating with our clients

About Mathys & Squire

Dedicated to protecting and defending your future.

Mathys & Squire is an intellectual property (IP) powerhouse that puts its specialist knowledge to work for clients, to strengthen and secure what most modern businesses today treat as one of their most valuable strategic assets - intellectual property.

The firm's agile teams of attorneys, scientists and strategists are steeped in experience, working with IP-rich and high-growth industries to leverage complex technologies and sophisticated commercial models across a broad range of industry sectors.

A full-service IP firm, Mathys & Squire has unrivalled expertise in patents, trade marks, design protection and litigation. Highly ranked in leading legal and IP directories, and leading the field with insight, innovation and quality, Mathys & Squire will be celebrating its 115th Anniversary this year, testament to its proven track record in the protection and commercialisation of IP rights.

The firm has a broad spread of clients, ranging from start-ups to major UK and global corporations, many of which are household names. Clients of the firm value its commitment to professional excellence and technical expertise.

Mathys & Squire has over 100 attorneys (both training and qualified) and a dedicated IP consulting team across offices in London, Birmingham, Cambridge, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford, Luxembourg, Munich and Paris, as well as teams based in Belfast, China and Japan. The firm's attorneys and trainees have a mix of scientific degrees extending from chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacology, genetics, microbiology, plant sciences and zoology through to physics, electronics, telecommunications and engineering.

We are passionate about creating and delivering innovative, high-quality, client-focused services and building close and longstanding relationships with clients in order to establish defensive and offensive IP portfolios that generate commercial value. We are proactive when working with clients and valued for our integrity, honesty and collegiate approach.

We protect, so that you can invent the future.

Commercial focus; collaborative approach

Our clients expect more than just expert advice. Our commercial focus and collaborative approach allows us to really help our clients maximise the value of their IP.

Working with a range of organisations - from startups and SMEs through to public sector bodies, universities and multinational enterprises - we cover the full spectrum of industries.

We build close and longstanding relationships with our clients to establish defensive and offensive IP portfolios that generate commercial value, and we have worked on a number of highly successful university spinouts and licensing deals.

We take a proactive approach when working with clients to advise them on a course of action that is best aligned with their business objectives. Understanding the value of a new invention or brand is as important as understanding the technology and marketing behind it.

Clients value our integrity, honesty, collegiate approach and the robust practical advice we give. We share our clients' ambition, passion and entrepreneurial spirit.

We empower our teams to go above and beyond what clients expect when it comes to service delivery.

"I have been working with Mathys & Squire since 2018, and have found their approach to drafting and prosecuting patents to be both insightful and effective. Our technology is not an easy one to grasp, but their team have done a very good job of understanding what we need to protect and how to do it."

Dolphin N2 Limited

Specialist service areas - Patents

We are highly skilled in identifying inventions that are eligible for protection and tailoring those rights to best correspond with our clients' current needs and potential future requirements.

Portfolio management

An effective portfolio management strategy can be key to successful valuations and acquisitions, and our attorneys can help ensure that your IP is managed to maximise its benefit for your commercial aims.

Enforcement

We will support you in enforcement of your IP rights, and in particular with regard to third party infringement of your IP. We have extensive experience of opposition and appeal proceedings before the European Patent Office (EPO), both at first instance and appellate level (split roughly equally between offensive and defensive oppositions) as well as in the UK High Court and Intellectual Property Enterprise Court (IPEC).

Due diligence

We have assisted many companies with due diligence on third party IP (leading to strategic acquisitions and in-licensing). We have also helped guide and defend businesses through rounds of due diligence in applications for funding and prior to acquisition.

Ownership and licensing

We can provide advice on IP agreements, licensing and commercial strategy for collaborations and technology consultancy arrangements, both in the context of prosecution, but also in relation to matters of ownership and entitlement and the background/ foreground division of IP. We have experience of advising in IP licence negotiations between SMEs and larger entities, including Tier 1 OEM and automotive customers.

Legal opinions

We have conducted multi-phase, in-depth freedom to operate analysis on behalf of our clients. Our team regularly provides non-infringement opinions for clients.

Searching and investigation

We offer a full range of searching and investigation services, including: periodic competitor reviews; periodic collection searches; landscaping; and due diligence.

Strategy

A particular strength of our attorneys is their ability to consider patent prosecution from a multi-dimensional perspective, taking into account factors such as our clients' commercial aims, the idiosyncrasies of European practice, strategies for dealing with possible oppositions, the law on supplementary protection certificates (SPCs), the interplay of patent law with regulatory data protection, and the need to ensure consistency with foreign prosecution or litigation.

“Some law firms prioritise their bigger clients over smaller ones, but ever since I started working with Mathys & Squire in 2003, whether for a large or small company, the level of attentiveness and professionalism has always been of the same high standard. The pace of our work is very fast and we have found we can rely on the team at Mathys & Squire to respond to our requests in the time-frame that we need it, with us often receiving responses on the same day.”

Molecular Templates

Specialist service areas - Trade marks

Our trade mark team understands how vital it is to protect your brand from inevitable threats. The effective management of a trade mark portfolio encompasses the delivery of a wide range of services.

Trade mark portfolio management

As part of our portfolio management service, we will routinely advise on renewals and the use of trade marks, changes to and refreshing of brands, protection overseas, the maintenance of IP policies and the implementation of effective IP management strategies.

Dedicated support and reporting

We will assign the management of your portfolio to a dedicated and experienced paralegal, under the supervision of our qualified trade mark attorneys.

However you like to work, our team will adapt to your needs. For example, should you require a specific form of reporting or updates, we are happy to accommodate this and provide reports to suit your needs. We can also provide you with access to our records, to assist you in the management and understanding of your trade mark portfolio.

Trade mark availability searches (incl. brand availability analysis for new products and services)

We work with third party search providers to ensure that our clients receive the most reliable and cost effective method of assessing the state of the trade mark register in the country or countries of interest.

Applications, filing and renewal services

We can file UK, EU and international trade mark applications directly with the UKIPO, EUIPO and WIPO respectively. We work with a network of trusted foreign attorneys, with whom we have longstanding relationships, to file in other countries.

Monitoring and watching services

All trade mark applications located by the watching service would be reviewed by us to screen for those that potentially conflict with your company's trade marks.

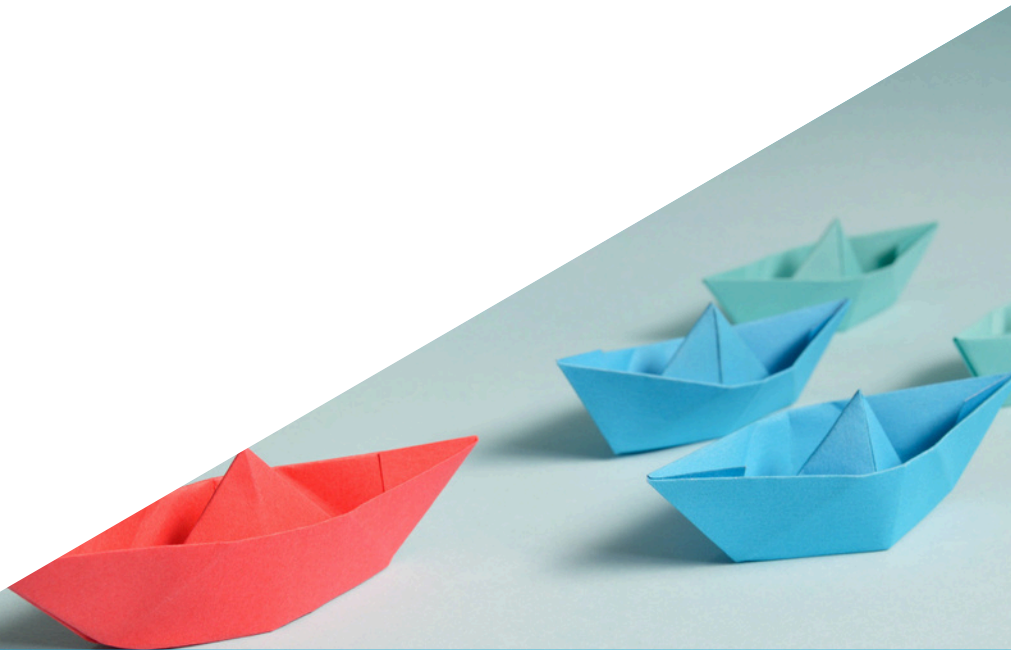
Oppositions (including revocation and invalidity proceedings) and contentious IP proceedings

We routinely deal with trade mark enforcement matters on behalf of our clients. Our services include sending cease and desist letters, the conduct of settlement negotiations, drafting evidence and the preparation and completion of appropriate agreements or undertakings.

Where a resolution cannot be reached, we pursue proceedings in the IPEC, the High Court, the Court of Appeal, and, in the EU, The General Court of the European Union and The Court of Justice of the European Union.

Online brand protection and enforcement services

We are experienced at issuing take-down notices on various social media and/or online auction sites, liaising with Trading Standards, preparing evidence, engaging with customs authorities, handling seizure notices and reviewing and analysing web watch and domain name watch results.





Specialist service areas - Designs

We have a large and well established designs practice which has helped numerous household names secure strategic protection for their designs internationally.

Using the registered design system to maximise protection for key design aspects

We work closely with our clients to cover key design aspects of new products and product lines covering, where appropriate, overall shape, texture, and/or surface finish of products. We have particular expertise in obtaining broad design protection for features that pervade product lines. We also have significant experience in obtaining design protection for user interfaces.

Providing you with a dedicated designs paralegal team

Our dedicated and experienced designs paralegal team enables us to handle design filing and prosecution efficiently and cost effectively in multiple jurisdictions.

International expertise

We have built up a number of significant international design portfolios covering a wide range of jurisdictions, and have therefore acquired an intimate knowledge of the unique variations in local practice. Owing to our expertise in international design protection, we are often instructed by large multinational companies specifically to handle large overseas design filing programmes.

Integrating design protection into the product development cycle

We can integrate design protection into the product development cycle to reduce costs and management time associated with seeking design protection. We often provide guidance and/or in-house training to designers so they can provide the drawings we need for design filings without disrupting the product design process.

In particular, we can assist in setting up a workflow in which drawings in a ready-to-file or near ready-to-file state are provided by an organisation's designers, allowing us to file new design applications quickly. We have experience in putting such systems in place with several of our larger clients.

Specialist service areas - Litigation

Our litigation team is made up of solicitors, patent attorneys and trade mark attorneys, who understand both the complexities of the law and the practical intricacies of the technologies in IP disputes.

Our litigation team includes experienced patent and trade mark attorneys who already have an in-depth understanding of our clients' businesses and objectives, as well as having technical knowledge which underpins their clients' IP portfolios. This is essential to obtaining a successful result in litigation.

Choice of court

We are skilled at conducting litigation in the High Court, IPEC, the Court of Appeal and the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Our litigation team has particular expertise in conducting patent and trade mark litigation in the IPEC, where we frequently take advantage of the IPEC's streamlined proceedings, reduced expenses and accessibility for our clients.

We are proud to be regarded by our clients as their first port of call for IPEC litigation, especially in relation to trade marks, designs and copyright, as the vast majority of disputes in these areas are heard in the IPEC.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)

We strive to avoid prolonged and costly litigation unless it is in our view the best way for our clients to achieve their objectives and commercial goals. Our expertise in ADR and other informal methods of dispute resolution mean that we have all of the tools and knowhow at our disposal to ensure the best possible result is achieved. Our experience includes conducting informal negotiation, and employing ADR formats such as mediation and arbitration.

Sound advice

Our litigation team provides sound, decisive advice and will give you an honest, jargon-free assessment of the merits of the case, as well as the best strategies to adopt.

Multi-jurisdictional litigation

We are sensitive to and fully understand the implications of multi-jurisdictional litigation. Our attorneys use our relationships with trusted attorneys in foreign jurisdictions, where necessary, to ensure the effective conduct of the litigation.

Results driven

We are value and results driven – our team recognise and understand that clients want a commercial result and the aim is not to set legal precedent, but for the infringement to stop and for our client to make a solid return on their investment.



