



Intellectual Property

Our IP practice, valued by clients for its expertise and responsiveness, reflects the fact that intellectual property has become one of the main driving forces behind the business of an increasing number of companies.

We have a dedicated team of lawyers handling contentious and non-contentious IP cases at both national and international levels. In order to provide a seamless service across a range of sectors and practice areas we often work closely together with other teams (IT, Competition & European Law, Trade Practices & Consumer Law, Employment, Tax, etc.) within our firm. This collaboration results in offering a full service to (inter)national undertakings and entrepreneurs.

We act as a one stop shop for litigation, contracting and legal advice to (both Belgian and international) innovative and creative entities on all aspects of Intellectual Property, with a particular focus on copyrights, trademarks, designs and patents. In order to ensure the best possible prosecution work, we reach out to external correspondents depending on the client's activity and industry focus.

We also work with our trusted foreign correspondents for cross-border work.

OUR CLIENTS

Our clients operate in many industrial and commercial sectors including pharmaceutical, retail, food and beverages, chemical, entertainment and media, fashion, construction, etc.

OUR APPROACH

Our approach is **to fully understand the industry sectors in which our clients operate**. We ensure that we understand each client's commercial objectives and concerns, we anticipate the issues and we tailor our services to achieve the best possible IP strategy.

We believe in a modern, pro-active, **practical and business-oriented approach** to legal issues. If needed, we propose alternative dispute resolution, try to reach out-of-court settlements, or negotiate joint ventures instead of indefinitely pursuing litigation. We explore creative solutions and genuinely defend the best interests of our clients in a commercial, cost-effective way.

OUR TEAM

Most of our IP lawyers are **active members of major Belgian and international professional IP associations**. Many of them frequently speak at conferences and have written or co-authored articles and books on IP issues.

All IP team members are **multilingual**, facilitating effective communication with our clients.

OUR SERVICES

Patents

Acting as the first point of contact for prosecution, advising on IP transactions, such as license agreements, technology transfer agreements, joint R&D projects, joint venture agreements, manufacturing agreements or financing projects involving IP key business assets.

Know-how

Ensuring that confidential data is safeguarded, e.g. during negotiations in the framework of commercial agreements and partnerships as well as in employment agreements.

Trademarks

Advising on all aspects of brand protection: assisting clients with registration strategy, with opposition procedures (Benelux and EU) and with the drafting of licensing and transfer agreements.

Copyright and designs

Advising on all aspects of Belgian copyright law. Advising on all aspects of Benelux and European design law.

IP audits

Verifying the adequate identification and protection of IP assets, the validity of existing contracts and their registration when necessary, the adequacy of standard terms and conditions as well as IP transfer in employment contracts.

IP and competition law

Advising on matters of competition law where IP is involved.

Tax implications of intellectual property

Developing and implementing tax optimisation policies of IP assets in close collaboration with our tax department, which includes a dedicated IP team.

OUR DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICES

Representing clients before Belgian courts in various proceedings, such as descriptive seizures aimed at gathering evidence of IP infringement, interim injunctions, copyright/trademark/patent infringement actions and the implementation of border measures involving customs authorities.

GLOBAL PARTNERS

Liedekerke is the exclusive member firm for Belgium of a number of international networks. One of these networks is Lex Mundi, the world's leading network of independent law firms with in-depth experience in 100+ countries worldwide.

www.liedekerke.com

PARTNERS

- Etienne Kairis
- Kristien Carbonez

OF COUNSEL

- Bernard Vanbrabant

COUNSEL

- Sarah van den Brande



WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT US

Liedekerke Wolters Waelbroeck Kirkpatrick's IP Team provides 'hands-on pragmatic advice'

Counsel Sarah van den Brande is 'very charismatic' and 'a master negotiator'.

Legal 500 - Tier 2
(Intellectual Property - Belgium,
2020)

Liedekerke Wolters Waelbroeck Kirkpatrick's IP lawyers are 'proactive and responsive with a good commercial sense'

Legal 500