



The Oblon and Maiwald firms are pleased to invite you to a *complimentary*:

Joint International Symposium on U.S. and European Patent Practice

to be presented in two convenient locations / dates:

1. **Tokyo: Monday, June 18, 2018 at the Fukuracia Marunouchi Oazo**
2. **Osaka: Thursday, June 21, 2018 at the Osaka Science & Technology Center**

At this joint international symposium, we will together examine current aspects of IP practice including prosecuting applications and defending patents in the U.S. and in Europe. U.S. and European patent systems have their pros and cons, which do not always neatly align. Applicants for U.S. and European patents need to be aware of the peculiarities and most recent developments in each system in order to achieve the best results. In particular, the symposium will address the following important topics for today's practitioners:

1. Practical guidance for patent application drafting in Europe and in the U.S., and pitfalls to avoid in your drafting practice;
2. Inventive step (Europe) vs. obviousness (U.S.): the problem-solution approach vs. the hypothetical person of ordinary skill; and
3. European Opposition proceedings and U.S. Post-grant proceedings, including a discussion of the Supreme Court's recently issued *Oil States* and *SAS* opinions.

This complimentary symposium will include serial translation from English to Japanese.

Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be provided at a casual reception following the symposium.

For more detail, see:

<http://www.maiwald.eu/oblon-and-maiwald-joint-symposium>

<http://www.oblon.com/events/oblon-and-maiwald-joint-symposium>

If you plan to attend, please send an e-mail to patentconference@oblon.com or empfang@maiwald.eu, identifying your name, affiliated company, and place of participation (Tokyo or Osaka). The final registration deadline is May 20, 2018 and attendance is limited to 100 participants in each of Tokyo and Osaka.

We look forward to welcoming you and your colleagues.

Sincerely,

Oblon, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, L.L.P. & Maiwald Patentanwalts GmbH

Event locations / dates:

Tokyo:

Monday, June 18, 2018

13:00 – 19:00

Fukuracia Marunouchi Oazo

フクラシア丸の内オアゾ

東京都千代田区丸の内 1-6-5 丸

の内北ロビルディング 15F

https://www.fukuracia.jp/images/tools/map_marunouchi.pdf

Osaka:

Thursday, June 21, 2018

13:00 – 19:00

Osaka Science & Technology Center

大阪市西区鞆本町 1-8-4

一般財団法人 大阪科学技術センター 4F

http://www.ostec.or.jp/pop/access/index_e.html

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Oblon, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, L.L.P.

For more than 25 years, Oblon has obtained more U.S. patents for its clients each year than any other law firm in the U.S. Oblon offers all aspects of IP services, including prosecution, opinions, counseling, IP transactions, litigation, and representation in post-grant proceedings. Oblon has one of the top Patent Trial and Appeal Board practice groups in the U.S. and Oblon's attorneys have developed a strong U.S. IP presence for a number of foreign and domestic companies. Many of Oblon's attorneys have advanced degrees in science or engineering, adding a high degree of technical understanding to their legal knowledge. Oblon also maintains strong connections with people in the neighboring U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and has hired several former U.S. Patent Examiners and Administrative Patent Judges to represent its clients in patent matters before the Office.

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Maiwald Patentanwalts GmbH

Maiwald, one of the top IP firms in Germany, recently named "European Patent Prosecution Firm of the Year 2018" by Managing IP, covers the full spectrum of IP-related matters. We draft and file patent and trademark applications and defend and enforce our clients' intellectual property rights in Germany, Europe, and throughout the world. Our highly-specialized interdisciplinary teams of technically-qualified patent attorneys and attorneys-at-law provide combined expertise across a wide range of disciplines: life sciences, chemistry and physics; mechanical, electrical, electronic and aeronautic engineering; communication technologies; infringement litigation, trademark, design, contract, and copyright law. Maiwald's fresh approach opens up new perspectives, and delivers customized solutions that safeguard our clients' IP rights in order to promote the success of their businesses.

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Program – June 18 and 21, 2018

Welcome address (13:00~13:15)

Session 1: Practical guidance for patent application drafting in the U.S. and in Europe, and pitfalls to avoid in your drafting practice (13:15~14:20)

- Drafting patent applications in Europe and the U.S. can involve significantly different considerations. We plan to cover fundamental topics, such as discussing the prior art in the specification, using functional language like "means" or "unit" for performing a function, which U.S. Examiners view with heightened scrutiny, the consequences in Europe and the U.S. of describing advantages of the invention in the Specification, particularly in view of current challenges in the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. §101, reciting multiply dependent claims/embodiments, and more.

Break (14:20~14:35)

Session 2: Inventive step (Europe) vs. obviousness (U.S.): the problem-solution approach vs. the hypothetical person of ordinary skill (14:35~15:35)

- Almost every application will face an obviousness or inventive step rejection during prosecution. Yet arguments that may overcome an inventive step rejection in Europe may not be persuasive to overcome an obviousness rejection in the U.S., and vice versa. We will highlight key differences to help sharpen your understanding of these types of rejections in the U.S. and Europe, including application of multiple references, analogous art, identifying the problem to be solved, and more.

Break (15:35~15:50)

Session 3: European Opposition proceedings and U.S. Post-grant proceedings, including a discussion of the *Oil States* case before the U.S. Supreme Court (15:50~16:50)

- EPO Opposition proceedings and USPTO PTAB proceedings are always significant events. We will provide updates on the U.S. Supreme Court's recent *Oil States* and *SAS* opinions regarding the constitutionality of IPR proceedings and the requirement that the USPTO address all claims presented in an IPR petition. We will also briefly touch on important trends. In Europe, EPO measures to streamline the opposition procedure and present developments to revise the rules of procedure before the Appeal Boards influence timing and opposition strategies of clients. We will present an update on new rules, success statistics and their impact on EPO opposition cases.

Q & A (16:50~17:00)

Reception & Refreshments (17:10~19:00)