

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW DEPARTMENT BEST PRACTICES

A Study of IP Law Department Costs, Staffing, Trends, Filing Strategies, Key Performance Indicators (Measures), and Best Practices

The Intellectual Property (IP) Law Department is central to a corporate innovation protection program. Protecting innovation is paramount to companies' sustainable growth plans and competitiveness. Still, there is an expectation that patent operational performance is efficient, productive, and effective in reducing risk and containing costs. It can be the glue within the organization to capture, protect, manage, and monetize intellectual property.

The IP Law Department Study confirms that while the legal team is budget-driven and managed chiefly as a cost center, it plays a crucial role in identifying protectable inventions and enabling business growth. It is evident from this study that many IP departments are under constant pressure to operate at the lowest cost possible while growing the intellectual property portfolio value.

In this comprehensive study, innovation-driven companies shared operational costs, staffing and attorney responsibilities, patent filing strategies, improvement strategies, and performance metrics.

This groundbreaking report will assist you in evaluating your department's costs and staffing levels. For example, this report details specific attorney and support staff sizes and performance metrics, attorney activities, cycle time and workload, patent filing strategies (including foreign filing decisions), and many other factors that impact a patent operation (see Table of Contents below).

This report includes a thorough executive summary that provides significant highlights and observations. The full report provides descriptive charts and more than 130 pages of detailed statistics, including **popular IP key performance indicators (metrics and ratios)**.

This Intellectual Property Law Department report preview includes more information about the study's background and methodology and a detailed outline of the statistics section.



Report Structure and Organization

Table of Contents - Summary

1. Organization IP Profile and Culture
2. Invention Capture and Patent Protection Metrics and Activities
3. Patenting Performance and Protection Approaches
4. Invention Harvesting
5. Patenting Activity Changes
6. Area Filing Strategies & Locations
7. Provisional Patent Application Filing
8. Patent Portfolio Size and Age
9. Patent Portfolio Management
10. IP Software
11. IP Legal Process Outsourcing
12. IP Law Department Staffing and Management
13. Patent Organization Structure and Staffing
14. Department Performance Department Performance
15. IP Law Department Operational Costs and Budgeting
16. In-House Patent Attorney/Agent Workload
17. Patent Attorney Responsibilities
18. Patent Agent Responsibilities
19. Patenting Workflow Cycle Time
20. Outside Counsel Management
21. Outside Counsel Costs
22. R&D Metrics & Development Projects
23. Business and Organizational Data
24. Noteworthy Elaborations

Who Can Benefit From This Report

- Chief Intellectual Property/Patent Officers
- Chief Legal Officers/General Counsel
- Chief Financial Officers
- Chief Technology Officers
- Intellectual Property Directors

IP Law Department Operation Considerations

Learn about performance impact-based IP law department practices and operational structure.

- Do licensing strategies influence patent filing and maintenance decisions?
- Who is the most senior or people outside the legal department intimately familiar with the IP law department annual plan? Does it impact the IP legal department budget?
- Does an IP Asset Management group separate from the IP Law Department improve the patent attorney efficiency and reduce overall costs?
- Do patent attorneys in your R&D labs and Development Centers improve the ROI on R&D?
- What is the right balance of in-house and outside counsel support to maximize the patent operation budget?
- What are the prevalent factors considered for pruning and annuity management decisions?
- What are the predominant foreign filing strategies and locations in critical industries?
- What are the critical patent department productivity and performance measures?

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ipPerformance Group, Inc. (www.ipperform.com) is the leading intellectual property advisory company. We enable our clients to apply best practices and measure IP performance by drawing upon our knowledge of more than 650 intellectual property management benchmarks from Global 1000 companies. With this knowledge, you can solve complex intellectual property business problems and measurably enhance your ability to build value, manage risk, and improve performance in an intellectual property-driven enterprise.

Custom analyses

When benchmarking peer and internal information, it is essential to understand the context of the data and the factors that can influence a divergence in benchmark results. In addition to benchmarking activities for evaluating best practices, at **ipPerformance**, we have also developed a comprehensive capability maturity model that will allow for an accurate assessment of your program. For more information, please call Rob Williamson at 630-216-9673 (rwilliamson@ipperform.com).

Other Benchmark Reports and Best Practice Guides Available:

- Inventor Rewards and Recognition Programs
- International Inventor Remuneration Practices
- Invention Harvesting, Review, and IP Decisions
- Patent Intelligence (Research and Analytics—People, Processes, Tools, and Services)
- IP Strategy Development Practices and Performance Measures, Driving Business Results
- IP Law Department Budgeting and Cost Management
- Trade Secret Management and Protection Practices
- Intellectual Property Legal Process Outsourcing
- Patent Preparation and Prosecution Quality Practices
- Patent Translation Practices
- Foreign Prosecution Practice
- Intellectual Asset Management Software Satisfaction
- Intellectual Property Training Best Practices
- Intellectual Property Management Guidelines—Standard Operating Procedures
- Best Practices Videos and Templates
- Intellectual Property Technology Valuation Guidelines
- Developing an Inventor Rewards and Recognition Program (with templates)
- IP Training Courses
- IP Knowledge Diagnostic
- IP Culture Diagnostic
- IAM Practices Proficiency

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