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## **Protecting Hi-Tech Inventions -- an Introduction to Patent Law (with Focus on U.S. Patent Law)**

### **Outline:**

- Introduction and General Description of Patent Systems
- What is a patent?
- Social policy --monopoly for limited period in return for full disclosure of the invention
- What can you do with a patent?
- National character of the right
- Most important requirements for patentability
- What can a patent do for you?
- 90+ % of all patents are worthless
- But, other extreme is also possible --- the recent Blackberry litigation (NTP Inc. v. Research in Motion)
- Specific topics of interest to researchers
- Parts of a patent
- The concept of priority
- What is prior art?
- Duty to disclose all information material to patentability in the US
- Importance of inventorship in US law
- Exclusions from patentability; the differing treatment in the U.S. and Europe of software and business methods

Dr. Sinan Utku is working at Covington & Burling law firm, London Office, representing and assisting clients in connection with the preparation of U.S. patent applications, patent prosecution and drafting patent opinion letters; licensing and other transactional matters in connection with the transfer of intellectual property rights; client counseling relating to U.S. patent law and intellectual property strategy; U.S. patent litigation including infringement and invalidity analyses; and review and analysis of proposed EU legislation concerning intellectual property rights. Previously, he worked at Kenyon & Kenyon law firm, Washington, DC representing and assisting clients in connection with the preparation of U.S. patent applications, patent prosecution and drafting patent opinion letters, and client-counseling matters in the areas of licensing, contracts and export controls. Dr. Utku also worked at the White & Case law firm, Washington, DC assisting clients with matters relating to corporate law, energy law, and government-contracts, preparation of contracts and legal analysis in connection with project financings, joint ventures and other business transactions. Dr. Utku holds a J.D. from Columbia University Law School and a Ph.D. in Physics from Yale University. He is a graduate of Duke University Physics Department and Robert College. Dr. Utku is admitted to practice in Washington, DC, New York, and before the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. He has significant experience in the technology areas of telecommunications, fiber optics, cryptography, image processing, computer software, business methods, other electrical arts, pharmaceuticals and medical devices. He authored various articles on "Europe-Wide Patent System," "EC Software Patent Proposal's Impact," and "Hot CNO Cycle". Dr. Utku can be contacted at Covington & Burling, 265 Strand, London WC2R 1BH, +44-207-067-2037 (direct), +44-207-025-0837 (fax), sutku@cov.com