

CARRIE JOHNSON

Carrie's passion for designs and copyright is apparent from the position she held as Chief/Principal Examiner for the profession's Patent Examination Board. For several years she set and marked the design and copyright examination paper that forms part of the qualification for patent attorneys in the UK. She is heavily involved in the training of the firm's trainees. She also sits on our Brexit committee so is well placed to advise on the impact on designs of the UK leaving the EU.

JOHN LAWRENCE

John's experience includes giving freedom to operate opinions on designs and negotiating acquisition of designs as a solution to freedom to operate issues. He has advised clients on licensed designs and creating innovative design protection strategies for traditionally design-light sectors (e.g. screenshots, user operated icons, brands and user-experienced environments). He has also managed IP design-around projects and trained in-house engineers on design-related IP issues. John works with clients across many sectors including aerospace, automotive, food and drinks, packaging, toys and gaming, ICT and medical devices. He regularly advises US law firms on EU design law issues.



NICHOLAS BRADDON

Nicholas understands that there is value in the distinctive appearance of products and the consequent commercial importance of having good, cost-effective design protection in place. He advises clients in relation to registered designs, unregistered design rights and ancillary copyright-related issues. He has obtained registered designs for clients in the UK, EU and in other jurisdictions.

Nick has experience of using the international (Hague) system for registering designs in multiple countries. Clients to have benefited from Nicholas's advice in relation to designs and copyright have come from a variety of sectors including: food and drink; garden equipment and machinery; toys and games; jewellery design; and furniture. Nicholas is a member of the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys' designs and copyright committee.



DAVID HARRIS

David is a firm believer in the designs system as providing cost-effective protection for products that would be too costly to protect through the patent system or where the chances of obtaining useful patent protection are unclear. He deals with the protection of the appearance of products, both aesthetic and functional, and in particular frequently deals with Community registered designs and international (Hague Agreement) designs.

David was involved in assisting a major multinational remove copycat products from sites such as eBay and Amazon and believes that registered designs are a very useful tool in stopping copycats. He has also been involved with various design infringement cases that have reached the English courts and has fought for his clients before the UKIPO to get unjustifiably registered designs revoked. He has advised on designs ranging from handbags, soft furnishings through consumer appliances, baby products and power tools to automotive parts.



TRACY ARCH

Tracy is an experienced trade mark and design practitioner, brand strategist and partner with more than 21 years of experience providing trade mark advice and protection. Tracy has built her practice on providing strategic advice to companies with large global portfolios, utilising her vast experience and understanding of the commercial impact of IPR management to work alongside in-house legal teams both in the UK and overseas. Whilst she works with a broad range of clients, she has particular experience in consumer goods, industrial manufacturing and hospitality industry. Tracy also heads the firm's food & drink sector group and is a champion for the firm's start-up group and initiatives.



NEIL KILPATRICK

Neil has worked on the preparation and filing of well over 100 designs, with his IT skills and attention to detail ensuring that the best protection possible is leveraged from each filing. Neil appreciates that with designs, it is crucial to get the drawings right first time – a misplaced line or feature can prove fatal. In particular, Neil takes pride in filing the clearest and most accurate drawings possible from whatever source images are available.

One of Neil's core skills is that he enjoys using image editing software to achieve this, upgrading (or sometimes downgrading) the available images to generate the best possible design for his client. Although primarily focused on EU Community registered designs, Neil has filed and prosecuted designs around the world, including in the US and Australia.



STEPHEN LOWRY

Stephen is a qualified Irish, UK and European trade mark attorney, specialising in all areas of trade mark and brand work, including designs. Stephen also acts on behalf of clients in EUIPO opposition, revocation and invalidation proceedings and has considerable experience relating to trade mark infringement and passing off matters. This well rounded experience enables Stephen to provide legal advice with a real commercial approach and is adept at working to highly demanding time frames. Stephen is also very willing to provide in-house support via secondment, irrespective of location, if the need for additional support arises.



LINN BERGGREN

Linn is a Swedish lawyer specialising in intellectual property law and has 16 years' attorney experience. Linn focuses mainly on trade mark law and is an authorised European trade mark and design attorney and Swedish intellectual property attorney. Linn has extensive experience in advising clients on local and international IP protection, particularly in the area of trademark law, including registrability advice, clearance searches, oppositions and cancellation actions, as well as portfolio management and strategic advice. She works with a large range of clients but has particular expertise in the food and beverage, tobacco, information technology and medical sectors.



PHILIP COBRAN

Phil is a trainee patent attorney with great technical skills and understanding of the commercial importance of IP protection, including designs. He works with a wide range of businesses from start-ups through to international corporates and specialises in material science, metallurgy and mechanical engineering.

