

Dan O'Connor

Senior Associate

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Dan O'Connor is a senior associate in Alston & Bird's Intellectual Property – Patents Group. He focuses his practice on patent solicitation and patent portfolio management for a wide variety of technologies, with a particular focus on high-tech software technologies, electromechanical devices, industrial manufacturing processes, power-storage devices, and Internet-connected hardware. Dan regularly prosecutes patent applications for a variety of Big Data inventions, authentication techniques, battery technologies, and mechanical devices ranging from children's toys to complex medical devices.

He regularly advises clients on the validity and enforceability of competitive patents in his clients' industries. He also has extensive experience providing clients with strategies for developing and maintaining strong, international patent portfolios, and often helps clients with portfolio growth through acquisitions of large, established patent portfolios.

Dan earned his J.D., cum laude, in 2013 from the University of Georgia School of Law, where he served as an articles editor for the *Georgia Law Review*. Before law school, he received his B.S. in mechanical engineering, cum laude, from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He is admitted to practice before the USPTO.

Representative Experience

Patent Prosecution and Counseling

- Leading a team of attorneys and patent agents prosecuting patent applications and conducting freedom-to-operate and patentability investigations for a major battery manufacturer.
- Developing cost-effective and growth-oriented patent prosecution strategies for emerging startups.
- Drafting and prosecuting patent applications directed to machine-learning software systems for companies in a variety of industries, including Internet of Things (IoT) technologies, database management technologies, encryption and authentication technologies, messaging applications, and health care management.
- Patent counsel to a variety of medical device manufacturers, including providing general patent-prosecution advice and services.
- Patent counsel to a global container manufacturer, including providing general patent prosecution services and patentability analysis.
- Providing patent prosecution, freedom-to-operate analysis, and patentability opinions for a global industrial and logistics company.
- Counseling international building materials companies in patent portfolio management and freedom-to-operate matter

IP Transactions

- Intellectual property team lead representing a large container manufacturing company in a cross-industry acquisition.
- Patent advisor for several large-scale merger and acquisition deals.

Education

- University of Georgia (J.D., 2013)
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute (B.S.M.E., 2010)

Admitted to Practice

- California
- Georgia
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Related Services

Intellectual Property | Patent Prosecution, Counseling & Review | Mechanical Patents | Electrical, Software & Computer Science Patents