

Jonathan A. Thomas

Senior Patent Agent

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Jonathan Thomas is a senior patent agent in Alston & Bird’s IP – Mechanical Patents Group, where he prepares and prosecutes utility and design patent applications, executes patentability and freedom to practice searches, and prepares patent portfolio maps. Jonathan also assists clients in the development and management of their intellectual property portfolios.

As a registered patent agent and experienced patent prosecutor, Jonathan has more than a decade of experience drafting and prosecuting hundreds of patents in a wide variety of fields, including autonomous vehicle control, biomedical devices, surgical tools, software for the health care industry, hand tools, electronics, and aircraft. Jonathan has experience in all aspects of U.S. and international patent prosecution, including patent application preparation, responses to office actions, examiner interviews, and portfolio strategy. Additionally, he has conducted searches and prepared opinions for freedom to operate studies, patentability studies, invalidity analyses, and noninfringement analyses. Jonathan’s extensive patent prosecution experience in diversified fields provides important insight and experience in advising clients and protecting their ideas.

Jonathan received his B.S. in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech, where he worked on a team to develop a hybrid fuel-cell electric vehicle that took top honors in a national competition. Before entering his patent career, he worked for almost 10 years in product development and manufacturing in the aerospace, automotive, and heavy equipment industries.

Representative Experience

- Prepared and prosecuted patents in a wide variety of technological fields, including automotive, communications, printing, surgical devices, safety equipment, manufacturing, and security systems.
- Developed interactive client portfolio patent maps and competitor portfolio patent maps.
- Conducted patentability, noninfringement, and invalidity searches and analyses for numerous applications in the mechanical and electromechanical arts.
- Developed diagnostic software and calibrations for automatic transmissions across several vehicle lines amounting to more than 3 million vehicles worldwide.
- Developed manufacturing methods for products in the aerospace and heavy equipment industries, improving quality and efficiency.
- Designed tooling for use in aerospace manufacturing.

Education

- Virginia Polytechnic Institute (B.S.M.E., 1998)

Admitted to Practice

- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Related Services

Intellectual Property | Patent Prosecution, Counseling & Review | Mechanical Patents