Mechanical & Electromechanical Technologies Patent Practice

Foley has one of the leading and most sophisticated cross-technology patent counseling and prosecution practices globally, made up of attorneys and business professionals with advanced educations and professional experience in key sectors, including mechanical and electromechanical technologies.

The nearly 70 attorneys and IP professionals in Foley’s Mechanical & Electromechanical Technologies Practice — more than half of whom hold mechanical engineering degrees — have significant patent procurement, licensing, risk analysis, and exploitation analysis experience. Collectively, we have handled hundreds of clients in recent years on thousands of utility and design patent matters in such sectors as:

- Additive manufacturing
- Agricultural and construction machinery and implements
- Automated systems
- Alternative energy products and systems
- Automotive products and components
- Computer hardware and software
- Consumer goods and recreational products
- Containers and packaging
- Energy and oil-field equipment monitoring and control systems
- Food and beverage manufacturing systems and processes
- Forming machines (e.g., presses, rollers, stampers)
- Imaging systems
- Industrial equipment and machinery
- Laser systems
- Machining systems (e.g., casting, grinding, tooling)
- Medical devices, systems, and services
- Pneumatic systems
- Power distribution systems
- Robotics
- Vacuum technology

Foley ranks among the Top 10 law firms for electronics and software patents based on the total number of U.S. utility patents that were issued in 2022, according to Harrity Analytics.
We provide regular on-site counsel, addressing all IP law issues and questions and supporting in-house legal departments. Our strategic and day-to-day counsel encompasses:

- Identifying ways to cut costs by understanding your priorities and the realities of your market to emphasize IP in line with those priorities
- Identifying active patents held by competitors in relevant fields ad providing subsequent clearances and patent procurement services for product introductions
- Analyzing IP portfolios you obtain through acquisitions and rationalizing such portfolios to confirm them to your strategic business objectives

**Design Patent and Industrial Patent Rights**

Foley does not dabble in design patent filings — it is an integral and integrated service we regularly provide to our global client base. Foley’s experience is evidenced by its consistent top 10 ranking in U.S. design patent filings. In the last five years, our Design Patent attorneys, patent agents, paralegals, and draftspersons have collectively filed nearly 1,300 design patents in the U.S. and more than 1,600 in foreign jurisdictions. In that same time period, we have seen more than 1,200 design patents issued in the U.S. and nearly 1,600 issued abroad.

Foley has the experience and infrastructure to support its large design patent practice as evidenced by the fact that our clients have entrusted Foley’s Design Rights team with responsibility for over 7,500 active U.S. and foreign design patents and industrial designs.