

Monday Morning Session 8:30 - 12:00
How to Find Patent Information - Session Chair: Lucy Akers

9:30 - 10:00

State-of-the-Art Searches

by Lucy Akers, Akers & Co
and Ford Khorstandian, Technology & Patent Research (TPR) International, Inc.

Abstract:

This is the second in a series of papers on patent search types and the corresponding aspects and approaches which may be considered for each type. In this follow-up presentation to our first talk in 2003, we shall focus on the general approach a professional patent searcher should consider using for state-of-the-art searches, while focusing primarily on some of the challenges involved in such studies. We will highlight specific questions to ask during reference interviews to ensure the task is performed relative to the client's true needs. We will also highlight when it is appropriate for document and data analyses to be carried out and when it may be better to consider seeking additional internal and external support for such studies.

Biography:

Lucy Akers is Chair of PIUG, Inc., a U.S. patent agent, and has held various patent and information-related positions, including at Shell and ExxonMobil. She provides IP consultancy services and patent research services, currently focusing primarily on patentability, validity and opposition searches for clients. Lucy teaches in the WON (Netherlands) course for new patent information specialists and evaluates the students' final patentability search examinations. She is a member of the Selection Board for the International Patent Information Award and on the managing committee of the U.K. Patent & Trademark Group. She is also a member of the COPS Group (Certification of Patent Searchers in Europe), the Derwent UK User Group and of ACS.

Ford Khorsandian is President of Technology & Patent Research (TPR) International, Inc., which specializes in searching scientific and patent related information for patentability, infringement, and validity research in the fields of chemistry, biotechnology and electrical/mechanical art; and also provides patent analysis, and competitor intelligence studies. He holds a B.S. degree from the U.K. and started his career in Europe with Derwent Information Ltd. He moved to the U.S. in 1986 and later became Vice President of Derwent North America, working with the patent and information departments of Fortune 500 companies. He was later appointed as a Director at the Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) Division of the American Chemical Society, responsible for CAS international business in Europe, Japan and other Pacific Rim countries. He has been working in the field of patent and technical information for over 20 years, and has also served as the vice chairman of the Patent Information Users Group (PIUG).

Lucy: Grey Friars, Spring Road
Harpenden, Hertfordshire
AL5 3PP, UK
Phone: +44 (0) 1582 467499
Fax: +44 (0) 1582 467615
lucyakers@btopenworld.com

Ford: 16885 Via Del Campo Court
Suite 215
San Diego, CA 92127
Phone: (858) 592-9084
Fax: (858) 592-0045
searches@TPRInternational.com