Understanding “Europe”

Time and location
Saturday, May 21: 8:45am – 12:30pm; conference room to be determined

Abstract
With the forthcoming unitary effect regulations in the EU, the patent information profession is faced with yet another layer in the multiple identities of “Europe.” Understanding how to obtain IP rights, and how they can be maintained or managed, across the continent of Europe is crucial to companies seeking market exposure in the region. However, whilst some issues of IP are handled on the regional level, many are still subject to national boundaries. This session will seek to unravel the complex identities and functions of many European institutions, and explain how each has a part to play in obtaining and enforcing IP rights. The workshop fee will not, however, be payable in Euros.

Presenter
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Stephen Adams completed a B.Sc. degree in Chemistry at the University of Bristol, UK, followed by an M.Sc. in Information Science from The City University, London, UK. For a number of years, he worked as a technical information searcher in the field of food science at the UK Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food. Following a period as editor of “International Packaging Abstracts” at Pira International, he moved to ICI Agrochemicals (later Zeneca Agrochemicals) to become their principal patent searcher in 1988. He founded Magister Limited in 1997.

Stephen served as the first non-US "Director at Large" for the Patent Information Users Group (PIUG Inc) between 2002 and 2006. He received a Special Recognition Award from the PIUG in May 2008. The citation recorded that this was in Recognition of:

- Stephen's Tireless Service to PIUG,
- Ten Years of Excellent Patent Searching Workshops,
- Membership of the PIUG Board of Directors 2002 to 2006,
- Having been voted Favorite Speaker Countless Times

Stephen is a member of the Association of Independent Information Professionals (AIIP) and is on the editorial board of World Patent Information, The International Journal for Industrial Property Documentation, Information, Classification and Statistics.