European Patent Practice: What Every U.S. Practitioner Should Know

- Dates: April 18-20, 2018
- Venue: Hyatt Regency New Orleans - Louisiana
- Schedule: 8:15-11:30; 1:00-4:15 (Wed-Thurs); 8:15-11:30 (Fri)
- Projected CLE Credit: 15.0
- Faculty: Hazel Ford (Finnegan Henderson); Martin Hyden (Finnegan Henderson)
- Course Syllabus

U.S. and European patent practice differ in many ways. With global patenting strategies, companies often struggle to ensure consistency when prosecuting applications to grant in both jurisdictions. Using practical examples, this course will highlight and explain the differences from the European perspective to give those attending this course a better understanding of the European system and enable them to work more effectively with their European counterparts.

Throughout the course, we will provide the latest state of European Patent Law, including the most recent changes and decisions from the European Patent Office (EPO) and other Court decisions of importance, as well as new and important developments in the European Union (EU) Unitary Patent and Unified Patent Court Package. While discussing many aspects of European practice, we shall continually sprinkle the discussions with specification and claim drafting tips that will provide your applications with a solid footing for European prosecution and enforcement.

Among the topics to be discussed:

- An overview of the European Patent Convention (EPC) and the national patent system
- Successful European claim drafting
- Successful patent prosecution – rules, regulations, and best practices, including tools to use and pitfalls to avoid for overcoming substantive objections
- Entitlement to priority and pitfalls for the unwary
- European Patent Office Oppositions
- The latest changes in European law