

VENKATARAMANAN MANDAKOLATHUR

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Leading an organization to build or maintain Intellectual Property focused approach to support the long-term strategic plan of the organization, by creating and adding value to the products and services being developed for the global market.

||Career Summary

- **Intellectual Property (IP) Strategist and Analyst offering over 18 years** of experience in the field of Medical & Pharmaceutical Devices (both Surgical and Diagnostic) primarily related to Mechanical, Electro-Mechanical and Robotic technologies
- **Expert and Team Leader** in IP Strategy, Worldwide Patent Estate Leadership and Management, IP Management, Patent Processes, IP Risk Management, Patent Litigation Activities, IP Analytics and Front-end Innovation
- Accomplished **inventor** with **15 US granted patents, 9 EP granted patents, 2 AU granted patents, 2 CA granted patents, 1 RU granted patent, 1 CN granted utility model, and several worldwide patent applications**
- **Patent Valuation** based on **proven excellence** in conducting research and resolving issues that jeopardize the integrity of patents
- Driving R&D patent output through expertise in **advising, educating, collaborating** with and providing IP technical advice to inventors and R&D management on patentability, invention value, potential and actual patent scope, and patent status.
- Skilled in **global patent landscape** knowledge and delivering **IP solutions** for global business units, and identifying targets for **patent licenses**
- **Process driven** approach in implementation of industry best practises in monitoring the competitive IP space and working with **Competitive Intelligence / Research Group** for the relevant business to identify potential infringing products
- **Business leadership** with recognized proficiency in spearheading business verticals to develop strategic implementation approach to accomplish corporate plans and goals successfully

||Key Skills

Intellectual Property Strategy	IP Building & Protection	Patent Portfolio Management
Patent Drafting	IP Process Development	IP Risk Management
IP Analytics	Stakeholder Management	Innovation Process

||Work Experience

Mar'20 – Jul'22: Meril Lifesciences Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai as General Manager – Legal and IPR

Key Result Areas:

- **Spearheaded** the **IP Strategy, Litigation Activities and IP Risk Management & Analytics** across all the verticals or technology areas of the organization that significantly contributed towards product launch decisions in **EU & U.S.** markets and resulted in **Multi-Million \$ additional revenue** as well as **savings** to the company
- **Managed a team of IP professionals** engaged in patent drafting, patent analytics, office action responses amongst others
- **Collaborated with innovators** in the **R&D and Marketing departments** to strategically identify & assess new patenting opportunities, protect early stage technologies and cultivate **entrepreneurship**
- **Performed Patent Analyses** such as **patent landscape, patentability of inventions, competitive assessment, patent invalidation, Freedom To Operate (FTO) studies, and patent portfolio analysis**
- **Consulted** and worked closely with **various business sectors** to protect the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in various countries of the PCT
- **Managed** an efficient and transparent **invention disclosure submission and review process**, documentation of research review, scientific advisory and market research inputs
- **Trained and mentored** employees at all levels on **intellectual property matters involving patents, trade secrets and copyrights**
- Drafted, negotiated, interpreted and assisted **c-level executives on intellectual property-related agreements** as well as intellectual property provisions in various commercial agreements

Growth Path:



Significant Accomplishments:

As Manager - Intellectual Property Center of Excellence (IP CoE):

- Received an Encore Platinum Award; Leadership Award for leading the IP activities and contribution towards the divesture of a Global Operating Company in J&J; Encore Gold Award for the contribution on the "IP Metrics Project"
- Distinction of being inducted into the Ethicon Endo-Surgery Inc. "Inventor Hall of Fame" with 15 granted US patents and multiple worldwide patent publications
- Spearheaded the "MD ASPAC IP Matters" and Co-led with the J&J Patent Attorney and collaborated efforts with the stakeholders in the China J&J commercial organization and cross-functional teams (i.e., Legal, Commercial, Marketing and R&D) present across the globe, resulting in approximately 10-Million \$ savings to J&J in 2015

As Principal Engineer - Intellectual Property (IP):

- Contributed and implemented the "best practices" associated with IP procedures and processes; recognized as Certified Patent Valuation Analyst (CPVA)
- Collaborated with the Global Competitive Intelligence group and contributed on the competitive intelligence reports which were circulated at the level of Worldwide Chairman for medical device business unit in the organization

As Manager - Intellectual Property Strategy - Ethicon Endo-Surgery Inc., Cincinnati, USA:

- Johnson & Johnson Certified Green Belt Holder
- Led the Worldwide Patent Liaison Subcommittee Group in 2011; organized 3 meetings to share the best practices in IP
- Successfully spearheaded 4 design contests, generated 500+ internal ideas and 60+ new patent applications for the company; worked as a part of the team that won 1st and 2nd prize in the design contests

As Intellectual Property Executive:

- Worked as a senior member in the R&D team focusing on IP analytics and spearheaded a team of 3 IP engineers and interns; provided IP support to the Global and Regional teams
- Provided successful contribution on the IP team initiatives like Idea Management Process and e-Project Management portal

Key Result Areas:

- Spearheaded the **Patent Strategy, Patent & Innovation Processes, Litigation Support and IP Risk Management & Analytics** for a **Multi-Billion \$ Product Franchise** in J&J, both globally and in the Asia Pacific region. Over the years, saved the company **600-700K \$ single-handedly** in terms of just the IP Risk Management & Analytics. In addition, saved on an average **100K \$/year** over my tenure of more than 12 years in terms of **vendor negotiations / cost controls**
- Co-Developed & Implemented the **Quarterly Reward & Recognition Program** for the Asia Pacific region across all the 3 sectors (Consumer, Pharma & Medical Device) in J&J. Processed close to **500 Recognition Rewards** for the Individual Inventors
- Divestment Strategy & Review -> Co-led the Patent valuation, IP Risk Assessment and Due Diligence for the portfolio divestment. Saved the company approximately **500K \$** by pooling in-house resources in this process. Set up a dedicated 24-hour Fire-walled Attorney help-desk to provide IP Search & Analytics for the business during the divestment offer / acceptance stage
- Provided IP training and awareness programs both globally and in the Asia Pacific region promoting innovation and strategic engagement with the business partners
- Collaborated:
 - And worked closely with the **Ethicon R&D Leadership, Patent Attorneys, and Project Teams** to develop a deep understanding of the projects/products and technology pipeline
 - With **global 8-10 cross-functional team members including R&D Senior Management or Leaders, Patent Attorneys, R&D Engineers and Finance associates** to achieve functional goals, identify gap areas and implement potential solutions
- Led the **patent portfolio management** efforts including patent filing strategies, expiration reports, patent portfolio pruning, and review of expiring patents for opportunities
- Designed and conducted **Patent Mapping Studies** to identify new areas and strategic directions. Converted the output from these studies into **actionable IP Insights**
- Executed **several IP Analytics** projects such as technology landscapes, competitive intelligence, prior art searches, Freedom To Operate (FTO) searches, and invalidity/validity searches at various **New Product Development stages**
- Worked closely with the inventors and identified opportunities for proactively protecting the **Intellectual Property (IP)** of the organization
- Monitored competitor activities through **patent literature and periodically assessed & identified potential new competitors**

- Developed:
 - And maintained the **IP strategies and IP processes** for various J&J Franchises including "Idea / Invention Review Management", "IP Vendor Management", "Enhancement of Rewards & Recognition Program and Process" amongst others
 - **The Patent Plaques, the Patent Wall** and instrumental in holding the "Annual Recognition Dinner Event" as part of the "Recognition" piece of the Reward & Recognition Program

|| Previous Experience

Sep'05 – Jul'06: Pangea3 Global Services Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai as Sr. Specialist (Patents)

Aug'04 – Aug'05: Patel & Alunit, P.C., Bangalore as Patent Design Executive

Jul'01 – Jan'02: Trilogy Systems Corp., Houston, USA as Design Engineer

Feb'98 – Oct'98: Indian Space Research Organization, Bangalore as Project Trainee

|| Education

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| • 2004: Master of Science (Applied Mechanics) from University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA | 3.89 CGPA |
| • 2001: Master of Engineering Science (Mechanical) from Lamar University, Beaumont, TX, USA | 3.70 CGPA |
| • 1998: Bachelor of Engineering (Mechanical) from U.V.C.E., Bangalore University, INDIA | 3.60 CGPA |

|| Academic / Research Experience

- **Jul'02 – Jan'04: CT Global Fuel Cell Center, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT as Research Assistant**
Description: Worked on Direct Methane Oxidation on Ceria-based Anode system for Intermediate-Temperature Solid Oxide Fuel Cells using a Perovskite based Oxide-ion Conductor
- **Jan'00 – May'01: Lamar University, Mechanical Engineering Dept., Beaumont, TX as Research Assistant**
Description: Completed an advanced technology project on mechanical alloying of hard ceramic materials to attain Nanostructured Composites that can be used as ceramic engines due to their high strength and hardness. Helped in the Texas Dept. of Transportation project in which composite beams were analyzed using Pro/E and Pro/MECHANICA for their deflection and stress distribution.
- **Aug'99 – Dec'99: Lamar University, Mechanical Engineering Dept., Beaumont, TX as Teaching Assistant**
Description: Educated basic concepts of engineering design/drawing, dynamics and kinematics, and instructed the strength of materials laboratory. Prepared the undergraduate course assignments and reviewed their test materials; provided guidance to friends in their Pro/E course - modeling mechanical parts.

|| Conference Paper and Publications

- Direct Methane Oxidation in Micro-Tubular Solid Oxide Fuel Cells using Doped LaGaO₃ Electrolyte at SOFC VIII, Paris, France in May 2003
- Studies on Nano-structured Titanium Silicide, Proceedings of the Annual ASEE Conference in June 2002
- 15 US granted patents, 9 EP granted patents, 2 AU granted patents, 2 CA granted patents, 1 RU granted patent, 1 CN granted utility model, and several worldwide patent applications

|| Achievements

- Distinction of being inducted into the Ethicon Endo-Surgery Inc. "Inventor Hall of Fame" with 15 granted US patents and multiple worldwide patent publications
- Only IP team member from J&J India to be selected and sent on an International Assignment for 3 years to Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc. (a part of the J&J family of companies) in Cincinnati, OH, USA.
- School of Engineering Dean's Academic Scholarship in the [Equivalent to] Master of Science (Applied Mechanics) and Master of Engineering Science (Mechanical) program
- Best Student of the Year Award in the final year of Undergraduate Program