

## When Is A Blueberry Bush Not A Blueberry Bush?



### HEIDI SEASE NEBEL

Partner, Patent Attorney, Chair, Chemical and Biotechnology Practice Group

Breeders wanting to protect their varieties internationally can take advantage of International Plant Breeder's Rights (PBRs). These are codified individually in each country and based upon proposed legislation drafted by and updated by the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV).

The American adoption of this legislation is Plant Variety Protection and is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture.

Plant Breeder's Rights are available in almost every country in the world and allow Breeders to stop others from propagating the variety for commercial purposes. Plant Breeders Rights offer important patent-like protection in many countries where patents rights may not be available for plant varieties.

While UPOV offers sample legislation, each country proposes and ratifies their own version of the legislation. For example, UPOV proposed a revision in 1991 to add protection to "essentially derived" varieties. About two thirds of the countries that offer PBRs have added legislation to expand protection accordingly.

PBRs have a term of 25 years for trees and vines and 20 years for all other plants. This distinction also comes into play also with the first sale doctrine, in that an applicant has 6 years from first sale anywhere to file for PBR for trees and vines and 4 years for all other crops (bushes, seed propagated crops etc.).

The distinction between a "bush" and "tree" or "vine" as one might surmise can be subtle. For example, the European Union defines "trees and vines" to include vines, trees, groups of flower bulbs, woody small fruits, woody ornamentals, potatoes and asparagus.



Blueberries are characterized as a woody bush (akin to a tree) and subject to 6 year on sale prohibition in almost every country, however Russia, when confronted with an Applicant that was 5 and a half years from first sale, decided blueberries would be treated as a bush and subject to 4 year limit! The Applicant was barred from filing for protection there by the on sale prohibition.

***What is the takeaway?***

Sadly, one has to look at each country and find out which UPOV proposed legislation has been enacted, how trees and vines are defined, and a myriad of other individual idiosyncrasies between countries!

***So a blueberry bush is not always a blueberry bush!***





# Anna Mangin

## 1880's Inventor



### JONATHAN L. KENNEDY

Partner Practicing in Intellectual Property Law and Litigation,  
Chair, Litigation Practice Group

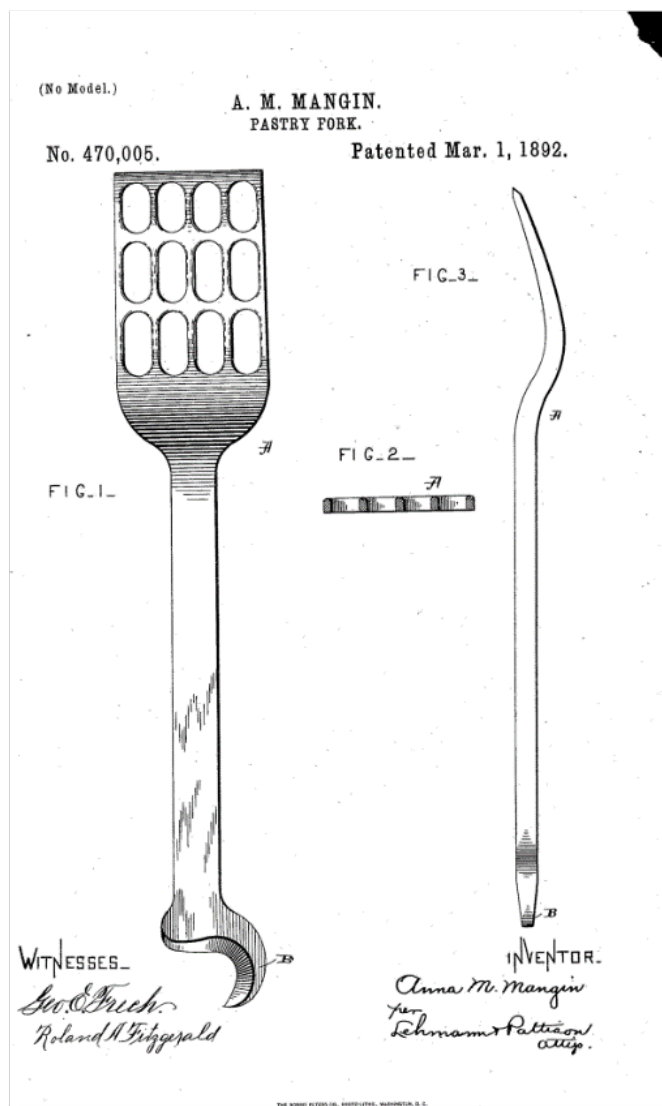
With the arrival of fall, it is time to be excited for the restart of the best of televised competition. The weekly hard-fought battles for the end of season trophy. Efforts to surpass the last week's best and the upsets surprising each week. That is right Halloween Baking Championship is back!

With baking on the mind, why not think about some of the history around baking and IP. The Pastry Fork (with some changes in today's use) was invented in the late 1800s and patented in 1892 by Anna Mangin. The patent had a single claim which read:

*The herein-described pastry-fork for pressing and cutting and pulverizing dry pastry, consisting of the handle and the flat enlarged portion curved up at the ends and having the straight sharp end edge and the plurality of small transverse apertures having sharp angular cutting-edges on the under side, as shown and described.*

The specification discusses the intent of her invention was to "provide a fork or implement for working together butter or lard and flour without the operator having to touch these articles with the hands, and for making drawn butter and thickening, beating eggs, mashing potatoes, and preparing dressings for salads." Ms. Mangin became a cook and then a caterer after moving to New York. It was then that she identified the difficulties her invention sought to solve. Once she had the idea, Ms. Mangin described her desired pastry fork to her husband, Andrew Mangin. Mr. Mangin, then pursuant to Ms. Mangin's description, whittled the first prototype pastry fork out of yellow pine. Changes were made and once satisfied, Ms. Mangin had one made from iron. Commercial versions were made from other metals. Ms. Mangin's pastry fork was presented and displayed at the New York Afro-American Exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893.

Certainly much has changed with baking and cooking equipment in the last 130 years, but the inventive process is in many ways much the same – an inventor identifies a problem, thinks intuitively about a solution, and works on a prototype.



# Copyright Law Tips for In-House Counsel



## **BRANDON W. CLARK**

Senior Counsel, Chair, Copyright,  
Entertainment and Media Law  
Practice Group

Copyright law can be complex. Issues are usually fact specific, require significant interpretation and a case-by-case analysis. The answer to most copyright law related questions is some iteration of “it depends” but some simple education is often the best tool to avoiding issues and combating copyright myths and misinformation.

### **1. Copyright Law Does Not Protect Ideas**

Copyright law doesn’t protect ideas, facts, concepts, systems, or methods of doing something. Copyright protects original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium of expression. Further, copyright law protects the specific expression of an idea. For example, copyright is not going to protect the general story idea or general plot of a book, marketing materials, or other work, rather, it protects the specific expression (detailed plot, character traits, names, etc.) of the ideas expressed in those works.

**Practical Tip:** You are generally allowed to use or summarize ideas, articles, or topics without reproducing the original(s) to the extent you are not using the original expression.

### **2. Do Not Assume Images or Other Works Posted Online are Free to Use**

Assume that all images and creative works found through online searches are protected by copyright unless/until you can determine that is not the case. Copyright clearance can be time consuming and frustrating, however, even if you are unable to locate the owner of a copyrighted work, without receiving a license and/or written permission from the copyright owner, you run the risk of copyright infringement issues in the future.

**Practical Tip:** Only use a work (image, video, audio file) found through an online search once you have done your copyright research and determined it is not protected by copyright. You must receive permission to use a copyright-protected work, even if the owner is unlocatable or will not respond to your

permission requests. Alternatively, there are plenty of companies online that provide low royalty or royalty free works for use.

### **3. Copyright Protection is Automatic**

As mentioned previously, copyright protects original works of authorship, fixed in a tangible medium of expression. Thus, copyright protection attaches to a Work, the minute it is saved, or fixed in a tangible form (e.g. written on paper, saved to a memory card or hard drive). Additionally, while the © symbol and other formalities were required in previous versions of the copyright law, that is no longer the case. The Copyright Act of 1976 removed all formality requirements to copyright protection. While it is no longer required, including a copyright notice or copyright symbol on your documents/works serves as a valuable educational tool to prevent intentional, and unintentional, copying.

**Practical Tip:** Just because you do not see a © symbol does not mean a work is not protected by copyright. But using the © symbol on your documents can be a useful tool to educate users that you are claiming copyright rights in a work.

### **4. Registration with the Copyright Office is not Mandatory**

Registration with the Copyright Office is not mandatory but can provide certain benefits. Namely, registration provides a presumption of copyright validity and certain benefits when enforcing your copyright rights.

**Practical Tip:** Even if the work is not registered with the U.S. Copyright Office, unless it is original to you or your organization, you should generally still assume it is protected by copyright.

### **5. Licenses Expire**

Most licenses have a defined Term and expire after a set amount time or other benchmark identified in the license agreement.

**Practical Tip:** Keep a database of all signed licenses and highlight important provisions including Term, royalties, and any relevant benchmarks.

### **6. Copyrights Can only be Transferred via a Signed Writing**

Copyrights can be assigned or transferred at any time, however, for a copyright assignment to be valid it must be done via a signed writing. There are many copyright assignment templates and documents available online, which may be acceptable depending on your specific question. If you are not sure, it is a

good idea to contact an attorney with expertise in copyright related transfers.

**Practical Tip:** Ensure all copyrights are documented via contract or other written agreement.

## 7. Works Made for Hire

One copyright myth we run into regularly is the assumption that if you or your organization hire a third party to create a Work, you automatically own the copyright in that work. If the author of the Work is an employee of your organization, and the work is created within the normal scope of that employee's job description, that assumption is likely accurate. However, if you engage a third party to develop artwork, a website, or any other creative work, unless that work falls within nine enumerated categories (which are much narrower than most people realize), copyright rights originally vest in the author of a work. Thus, in order for you or your organization to own those copyright rights, they must be transferred via a signed writing.

**Practical Tip:** Ensure that all service agreements and any agreements with third parties have works made for hire and copyright assignment language included in them.

## 8. Not All Copyrights are Equal

Copyright protects original works of authorship fixed in a tangible medium of expression. Thus, originality is a requirement for copyright protection. While the originality requirement is not a high bar, it does have two distinct parts that must be met: 1) the work must have "at least a modicum" of creativity, and 2) it must be the independent creation of its author. However, simply meeting this standard does not always provide the greatest protection under copyright law. Courts have developed the concepts of "thin" and "thick" copyright protection. Thin protection extends to works that involve minimal creativity, or are based on other works and public domain information, while thick protection extends to wholly original or highly creative works.

**Practical Tip:** Just meeting the bare minimum of originality does very little for your business, both from a copyright perspective and from a marketability standpoint. Ensure your organization is making efforts to make the work original and creative.

## 9. Fair Use is Considered on a Case-by-Case Analysis

Any unauthorized use of a work is considered copyright infringement. However, for a variety of reasons, some uses are considered a "fair use" under the Fair Use Doctrine. Fair use is an affirmative defense

to copyright infringement and all fair use analysis' use four fair use factors to make a judgement call.

**The four fair use factors are:**

1. The purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes,
2. the nature of the copyrighted work,
3. the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole, and
4. the effect of the use upon the potential market for, or value of, the copyrighted work.

While you can use a fair use argument to any alleged copyright infringement issues, the only way a "final" determination can be made is by a judge or jury.

**Practical Tip:** Both for-profit and non-profit organizations may apply fair use, but each situation requires its own analysis and judgement call based on specifics of the situation as applied to the four fair use factors. For additional information regarding Fair Use, please visit the following link: "Copyright, Fair Use, and the Internet"

## 10. Understand Your Organization's Risk Management

Copyright compliance = understanding your organization's risk tolerance and making judgment calls.

Managing your copyright portfolio and compliance is really risk management. It's vital to understand your organization's risk tolerance while making judgment calls for copyrighted works and uses.

**Practical Tip:** Learn how to apply the law to your situations while understanding and being aware of your organization's risk tolerance.





# PSA: More Significant Changes to Canadian Patent Law Coming in 2024 and 2025



**LARS GUNNERSON**  
Senior Associate Attorney

## Overview

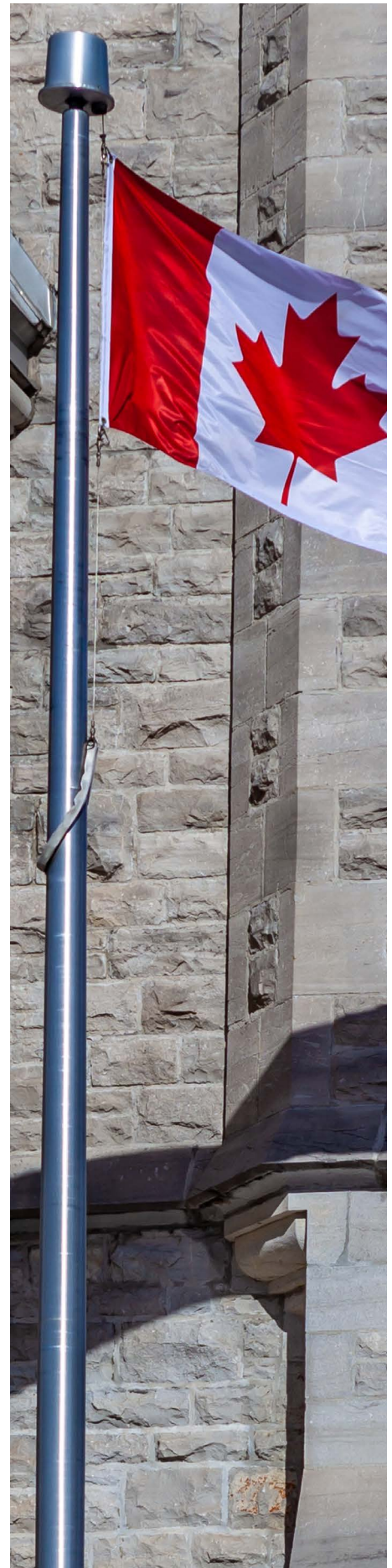
More than 36,000 patent applications are typically filed every year in Canada. Nearly 80% of these applications enter Canada through the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) international system and the remainder are directly filed in Canada. The patent process in Canada could be categorized into two phases: The application phase, which includes examination of the application and the patent phase, which is entered into if the patent application is granted and a patent is issued. Canada has a deferred examination system that provides patent applicants up to 4 years to request examination of their patent applications.

Like the United State Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), CIPO does not receive annual funding for its operations from the Government of Canada, but instead is fully funded through the revenues it generates through service fees. Since 2004, CIPO has not undergone a full fee review, or substantively adjusted its fees. A number of operational and financial factors have converged to put the organization in a critical financial position, including almost 30% inflation since 2004, labor costs, application volumes, and critical capital investments.

In an effort to address its current structural deficit situation and return the organization to a position of financial sustainability, the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (CIPO) is increasing most of its fees on January 1, 2024.

## Summary of Changes Made to Patent Procedures Made in 2022

If you recall, Canada recently introduced a fee of CAD \$100 for each claim in excess of 20. Claim fees are first calculated and payable when examination is requested. They are calculated again when the final fee (i.e. issue fee) is paid. Similar to the USPTO's rules and dissimilar to the Australian Patent Office's rules, the excess claim fee calculation is based on the greatest number of claims pending in the application at any time starting from the date examination is requested and ending on the date the final fee is paid. Additionally, like the USPTO's rules, CIPO implemented a new continued examination scheme that requires a request for continued examination (RCE) and payment of a CAD \$816 fee to continue examination and respond to the third Examiner's Report and every second Examiner's Report thereafter.



## Summary of Fees Adjustments in 2024

CIPO claims 2022 changes, along with the newly 25% increase in fees in 2024, are central to supporting Canada's nationwide Intellectual Property (IP) Strategy. Canada aims to meet growing demand, fulfilling trade and treaty obligations, providing internationally comparable services and addressing the critical capacity and technological investments needed to provide improved services to CIPO's clients.

A detailed summary of the fee adjustment follows. First, the adjusted fee amounts are effective January 1, 2024, and reflect a one-time 25% fee increase to most CIPO fees and the annual fee adjustment, applicable to certain CIPO fees. This adjustment occurs annually and is in line with the requirements of the Service Fees Act. Second, the adjusted fees are rounded to the nearest whole dollar amount. Third, the 25% fee increase does not apply to "small entity" patent fees for Canadian small businesses. Fourth, the Patent Rules definition of small entity is being expanded to include an entity that employs less than 100 employees instead of 50 or fewer employees.

**CIPO's exact fees, both prior to and after January 1, 2024, can be accessed at each of the following links:**

Patents (<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/canadian-intellectual-property-office/en/patents/patent-fees>); Trademarks (<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/canadian-intellectual-property-office/en/trademarks/fees-trademarks>); Copyright (<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/canadian-intellectual-property-office/en/copyright/standard-fees-copyright>); Industrial designs (<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/canadian-intellectual-property-office/en/industrial-designs/fees-industrial-designs>); Geographical indications and official marks (<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/canadian-intellectual-property-office/en/payments-and-fees/fees-geographical-indications-and-official-marks>); and Integrated circuit topographies (<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/canadian-intellectual-property-office/en/fees-integrated-circuit-topographies>).

## Summary of PTA Adjustments Coming in 2025

The duration of the application phase is greatly influenced by the patent applicant's decisions, such as the quality of the patent application and the amount of time taken to request examination, and to respond to notices from CIPO; however, CIPO's timeliness and quality standards also factor into application pendency. Over the past several years CIPO has made concentrated efforts to improve the timeliness of the examination process through both hiring and continuous improvement of our processes and IT infrastructure. As a result, in fiscal year 2022/2023, application pendency from the request for examination date to the issuance of the patent was on average 32.3 months. Contrast this with where pendency was a decade prior, when in fiscal year 2012/2013 the application pendency was 45.7 months.

Regardless, the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) entered into force July 1, 2020. Parties to CUSMA agreed to an updated, comprehensive chapter on Intellectual Property, including a requirement to provide a patent term adjustment to compensate patent owners for unreasonable delays in the processing of their patent applications. A patent is valid for a 20 year term, calculated from the filing date of the patent application on the basis of which it is granted; however, for a patent application filed on or after December 1, 2020 there is a possibility that an additional term of protection could be granted to compensate for delays in the issuance of the patent.

Specifically, the Patent Act requires that the Commissioner shall grant an additional term for a patent if the patent was issued later than five years from the filing date of a patent application, or three years from the date of request for examination (whichever is later), provided that the application was filed on or after December 1, 2020 and that the patentee applies for the additional term and pays the associated fee within three months of the patent issue date. However, this does not account for days that may be subtracted when determining the duration of the additional term, which could result in no additional term being granted. The earliest date on which a patent could be theoretically eligible to receive an additional term would be December 2, 2025.

The Patent Act requires patentees (either themselves or through their assigned patent agent) to make an application for additional term in accordance with the regulations and to pay a prescribed fee within 3 months after the day on which the patent is issued. The information that must be submitted with an application, the details surrounding who can apply, and the amount of the fee will be prescribed in the Patent Rules.

Upon receiving an application for additional term, the Commissioner of CIPO would first conduct an initial review of the prosecution history to determine if the patent was issued after the threshold date (i.e., the later of three years after the request for examination, or five years after the applicable day). The number of days between the threshold date and the date the patent is issued would be the starting point for the calculation of additional term. Then, a number of days determined in the regulations would be subtracted to arrive at the duration of additional term, if any. Subtracting the days specified in the regulations from the number of days between the threshold date and issue date may result in a zero or negative value, indicating that the patent is not entitled to receive additional term.

In the determination of which days are to be subtracted, the Commissioner of CIPO may be authorized to consider periods of time not explicitly recited in the Patent Rules and may make determinations on the percentage of days in a particular period that are to be subtracted. It is proposed that overlapping days, i.e., those that occur in more than one period of time, would be counted only once. Some examples of actions and periods of time that may lead to days being subtracted in the determination of additional term include:

1. Where the threshold date is based on the applicable date, the number of days taken to request examination of the application and to pay the prescribed fee;
2. The number of days taken to meet certain formality requirements in respect of the application;
3. The number of days taken to respond to notices from CIPO, such as examination reports;
4. The number of days during which the application is deemed abandoned;
5. The number of days utilized during authorized extensions of time;
6. Under certain circumstances, submitting voluntary amendments or supplementary responses may lead to a number of days to be subtracted;
7. If required fees are not paid on time, the number of days taken to pay the fee;
8. The number of days taken to respond to a notice of allowance or conditional notice of allowance;
9. The number of days required to complete examination following a request for continued examination and for applications filed prior to October 3, 2022, following a 3rd examiner report; and,
10. Periods of time beyond the control of CIPO, such as in force majeure situations.

CIPO also may make public an initial determination of additional term to be followed by an observation period, where any person, including the patentee, may submit observations on the initial determination. The Commissioner would consider those observations before making the required determination.

Finally, a Certificate of Additional Term will be sent to the patentee in the case where any additional term is granted. In contrast, the USPTO prints the amount of PTA on the patent itself. Should the Commissioner of CIPO decide that the patentee is not entitled to additional term, the Commissioner will notify the patentee of their decision. The information contained in a certificate of additional term may include the patent number, the filing date of the application the name of the patentee, and the duration of the additional term.



# Miniature Infringement: Levi's Once Again Sues Over Pocket "Tab"



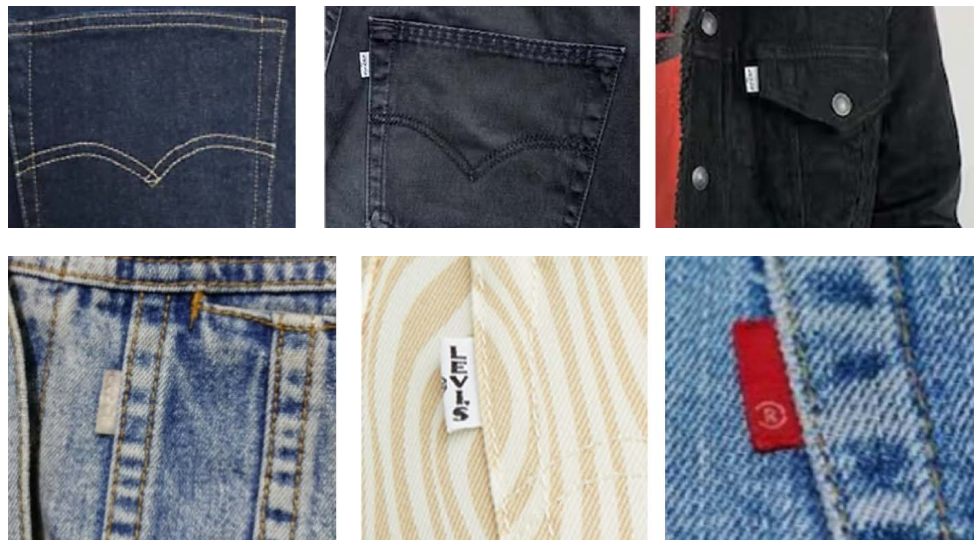
**NICHOLAS KROB**  
Senior Counsel

Levi Strauss & Co. is back in court again, once again fighting over a piece of fabric no bigger than a fingernail.

On September 7th, Levi's sued French fashion brand Coperni in the Northern District of California, alleging Coperni has been infringing Levi's trademark rights by sewing a small white fabric "tab" onto the back pocket of its jeans and front pocket of its button-up shirts.

Levi's claims that it has been sewing fabric tabs onto the back pocket of its jeans since 1936, making it one of "the oldest and most well-respected apparel trademarks in the world." The tab Levi's is referring to, which is normally red and bears the word "Levi's," was allegedly added for the very purpose of allowing consumers to easily identify Levi's pants. According to Levi's, these small tabs are "recognized around the world and throughout the U.S. by consumers as signifying authentic, high-quality LEVI'S® garments." Accordingly, Levi's believes that Coperni's inclusion of a fabric tab as "a symbol for its own apparel products" infringes upon and dilutes the "famous" Levi's tab trademark.

While a small tab sewn on to the back pocket of a pair of pants may seem like an unusual and/or insignificant trademark, it illustrates the underlying purpose of trademark law. Trademarks are designed as source identifiers, or as a way for consumers to quickly and easily distinguish the source of good or services from those of another. Classic examples of this are words like "Nike" and "McDonalds." But this function can also be accomplished by non-word marks, like a distinctive tag affixed to clothing.



Levi's certainly believes its fabric tabs effectively serve this purpose, routinely engaging in litigation to enforce its rights. Levi's has previously sued, among others, shorts maker Hammies, luxury fashion brand Saint Laurent, denim brand Green Tab, and clothing company Vineyard Vines on this issue.

Certainly, even something as minor as affixing a small piece of fabric to the back pocket of a pair of pants or front pocket of a shirt can constitute trademark infringement. As before, however, the ultimate question is whether it actually does here. Notably, do differences between Levi's and Coperni's tabs—such as their color and logos—differentiate the two enough for the latter to avoid liability for infringement? Or are Levi's rights in its tab trademark so extensive as to cover virtually any pocket tab? This once again remains a question for the court or jury to decide.

# WHERE WE'LL BE

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## Legal Marketing Association Midwest Regional Conference

October 2-3, 2023 - Chicago, Illinois

**Richard Marsolais**, Business Development Director

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## ABI Manufacturing Conference

October 4, 2023 - Ankeny, Iowa

**Luke T. Mohrhauser**, Managing Partner and Chair, MVS Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

**Kirk M. Hartung**, Patent Attorney, MVS Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

**Joseph M. Hallman**, Intellectual Property Attorney in the MVS Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

**Richard Marsolais**, Business Development Director

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## Ames Chamber of Commerce Manufacturing Breakfast

October 6, 2023 - Ames, Iowa

**Luke T. Mohrhauser**, Managing Partner and Chair, MVS Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

**Joseph M. Hallman**, Intellectual Property Attorney in the MVS Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

**Richard Marsolais**, Business Development Director

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## Ag Startup Engine Unconference

October 6, 2023 - Des Moines, Iowa

**Luke T. Mohrhauser**, Managing Partner and Chair, MVS Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

**Cassie J. Edgar**, Patent Attorney and Chair, MVS Regulatory Law Practice Group and Co-Chair, Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Practice Group

**Richard Marsolais**, Business Development Director

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## Hatch-Waxman/Biosimilars Conference

October 10, 2023

**Cassie J. Edgar**, Patent Attorney and Chair, MVS Regulatory Law Practice Group and Co-Chair, Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Practice Group

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## Iowa Legal Aid Equal Justice After Hours

October 12, 2023 - Des Moines, Iowa

**Sponsored by MVS**

## Licensing Executives Society (LES) Annual Meeting

October 15-17, 2023 - Chicago, Illinois

**Kevin M. Kercher**, Intellectual Property Attorney in the MVS Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

*Kevin is the new co-chair for the High Technology Sector*

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## Invent Penn State Venture & IP Conference

October 16-17, 2023 - Hershey, Pennsylvania

**Gregory Lars Gunnerson**, Intellectual Property Attorney in the MVS Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

**Melissa Mitchell**, Intellectual Property Attorney in the Biotechnology and Chemical Practice Group

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## South Dakota School of Mines Entrepreneur in Residence Brainstorming Event

October 16-17, 2023 - Rapid City, South Dakota

**Jonathan L. Kennedy**, Partner practicing in Intellectual Property Law and Litigation

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## South Dakota Innovation Expo

October 17, 2023 - Rapid City, South Dakota

**Jonathan L. Kennedy**, Partner practicing in Intellectual Property Law and Litigation

**Sponsored by MVS**

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## Mark S. Cady Day of Public Service

October 20, 2023

MVS will be taking part in the Mark S. Cady Day of Public Service honoring the late Iowa Supreme Court Justice Mark S. Cady. The firm will be packing meals for Meals from the Heartland.

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## BioBash

October 24, 2023 - St. Louis, Missouri

*A community-driven annual career networking and job fair event hosted by the Committee for Scientific Training and Mentoring (CSTM) at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center in St. Louis, Missouri.*

**Charles P. Romano, Ph.D.**, Senior Patent Agent in the MVS Biotechnology and Chemical Practice Group

**Sponsored by MVS**

# WHERE WE'LL BE

## World Food Prize Foundation 2023 Borlaug Dialogue

October 24-26, 2023 - Des Moines, Iowa

**Heidi Sease Nebel**, Patent Attorney and Chair, MVS  
Biotechnology and Chemical Practice Group

**Cassie J. Edgar**, Patent Attorney and Chair, MVS  
Regulatory Law Practice Group and Co-Chair, Data  
Privacy and Cybersecurity Practice Group

**Brian D. Keppler, Ph.D.**, Patent Agent in the  
Biotechnology and Chemical Practice Group

## Legus International Fall Meeting

October 26-28, 2023 - Phoenix, Arizona

**Kirk M. Hartung**, Patent Attorney, MVS Mechanical-  
Electrical Practice Group

**Jill N. Link, Pharm.D.**, Patent Attorney and Chair, MVS  
Licensing Practice Group

## The Iowa CEO Summit presented by REF Iowa

November 1, 2023 - Ankeny, Iowa

**Luke T. Mohrhauser**, Managing Partner and Chair, MVS  
Mechanical-Electrical Practice Group

## South Dakota School of Mines Innovation Expo

November 2, 2023 - Sioux Falls, South Dakota

**Jonathan L. Kennedy**, Partner practicing in Intellectual  
Property Law and Litigation

**Sponsored by MVS**

## Polk County Women Attorneys Seasons of Change Charity Basket Auction

November 2, 2023 - Des Moines, Iowa

**MVS Attorneys will be attending**

**Sponsored by MVS**

## Iowa Intellectual Property Law Association (IIPLA) Conference

November 3, 2023 - Des Moines, Iowa

MVS attorneys will be attending the Iowa Intellectual  
Property Law Association (IIPLA) Conference in Des  
Moines, Iowa. Sarah Luth and Lars Gunnerson are  
members of the IIPLA board of directors.

## Licensing Executives Society, Iowa Chapter Event

November 6, 2023 - Coralville, Iowa

**Nicholas J. Krob**, Intellectual Property Attorney in the MVS  
Licensing Practice Group

*The title of the event is "Show Me the Money: Optimizing  
Monetization Through IP Valuation."*

## Nutech Ventures' Innovators Celebration

November 6, 2023 - Lincoln, Nebraska

**MVS Attorneys will be attending**

**Sponsored by MVS**

## Patent Public Advisory Committee (PPAC) Executive Session

November 29, 2023 - Washington, DC

**Heidi Sease Nebel**, Patent Attorney and Chair, MVS  
Biotechnology and Chemical Practice Group

## Patent Public Advisory Committee (PPAC) Executive Session

November 30, 2023 - Washington, DC

**Heidi Sease Nebel**, Patent Attorney and Chair, MVS  
Biotechnology and Chemical Practice Group

## ASTA Field Crop Seed Convention

December 5-8, 2023 - Orlando, Florida

**MVS Attorneys will be attending**

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