



Matthew C. Francis

SENIOR PATENT AGENT

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OVERVIEW

An electrical engineer by training, Matt assists clients with patent applications.

Matt likes knowing how things work. Nothing fascinates him more than a deep dive into how a machine, a technological innovation, or a scientific process functions, and he earned an engineering degree as a result. When entering engineering school, Matt planned on working in the automotive field. However, during his time as an undergraduate, Matt discovered patent law and realized that this was a field where he could spend his days digging into the inner workings of hundreds of machines and technologies. He joined his first law firm as a patent agent after graduation.

Today, Matt assists with a variety of patent-related tasks including drafting patent applications, guiding clients' patent strategy, assessing patent infringement risks, and assisting clients with design workarounds. Matt has worked with clients across a broad range of industries and technologies, including industrial machinery, automotive technology, audio and acoustics, batteries, computer networks, medical devices, semiconductor and computer processing devices, power tools, commercial lighting systems, and power equipment.

Matt joined the firm in 2023 out of excitement for our strategic growth and enthusiasm for our Midwestern roots and culture. Husch Blackwell's people-driven emphasis on client service is a perfect fit with Matt's own approach: he is dedicated to providing clients with a top-quality work product accompanied by highly responsive, timely service.

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Intellectual Property
Patent Preparation & Prosecution

Experience

- Serviced clients' patent prosecution and clearance investigation needs for software and electrical technologies related to power and cooling systems for high-performance computing devices, compression algorithms and cache management for parallel processing systems, control algorithms and hardware design for surgical robots, digital content streaming systems, smart utility meter infrastructure, audio and speaker technologies, PCB design, mesh and cellular networks, CAD software, and training and implementation of ML models.
- Serviced clients' patent prosecution and clearance investigation needs for software and electrical technologies related to control and safety equipment for the electrical grid, electrical switching and wiring devices, smart sensors for utilities, audio and speaker technologies, battery cells and packs, motors, power tools and industrial machinery, medical equipment, vehicle power trains, commercial lighting systems, and automated storage and retrieval systems.
- Drafted provisional, non-provisional, and PCT patent applications, prepared responses to domestic and international office actions, prepared appeal briefs, prepared invalidity claim charts for competitor patents, and prepared clearance opinions.
- Assisted partners and in-house counsel with managing large domestic and international patent portfolios.

Education

- B.S., Illinois Institute of Technology, Armour College of Engineering
 - *summa cum laude*
 - Electrical Engineering

Admissions

- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office