

IP position defense Third Party Observation



THE SITUATION

The client is a leading player in the biotech industry positioned in a market where the competition is fierce. As a first response, the client intended to compare R&D strategies and patent portfolios of its competitors, and if necessary to hinder the development of their patent portfolio. In order to achieve this goal the client intended to monitor new patent families of selected players such as potential competitors and even a 'copycat' competitor.

OUR APPROACH

Starting with a customized expert questionnaire, a technology matrix was built in cooperation with the client's subject-matter experts, reflecting the client's core R&D & technology areas and known players in the field, including potential competitors and partners.

For each of the technology matrix elements, multiple patent search queries were developed and improved in several iteration rounds.

The patent search results were imported into our proprietary RAPID platform in order to generate further insights and to perform selected additional search & analytics to highlight corresponding & adjacent patents.

Additionally, we conducted various Third-Party Observations (TPO) against potentially blocking IP, including a patent family trying to protect again ancient IP filed by our customer. After dedicated prior art searches, we provided relevant documents that were not identified by patent examiners.

RESULTS & BENEFITS

Our client obtained a comprehensive technology matrix that is fully searchable (e.g. legal status, litigation activity, assignee) and that identifies where which patent belongs to with respect to its core technology.

Using selected patent metrics, we identify the key technology leaders and their inventions that provide an overview to the client on the level of innovativeness required for successful patenting.

Analyzing the technology trends and key applicants within core R&D areas, the client receives a clearer picture on their innovation efforts they should further focus on and which potential cooperation partners might be addressable from adjacent life science industries.

Finally, most of the patent members of 'copycat' family are still pending but most of the claims in Europe have been amended.

CONTACT US :

 biotech@scbt.ch