

If You Have Been Sued for Patent Infringement,
We Can Help You Achieve a Finding of No Infringement

1. How will we help you successfully defend against a charge of patent infringement?

You can win a lawsuit in which you have been charged with patent infringement if you are able to show that your opponent's patent is invalid. Of course, you already knew this since you are a patent practitioner. And just as any patent practitioner in your position would do, you have no doubt already searched the usual US and European patent databases in an attempt to invalidate the patent at issue. What's that? Your search came up dry? If so, then you have come to the right place. We can give you a valuable tool that you may have been missing .

The tool we propose you use is to search the Japanese patent and utility model application database. Roughly 400,000 to 500,000 Japanese patent applications are filed annually, the bulk of which are not translated except for their abstracts. Moreover, up to about 200,000 Japanese utility model applications are filed annually, and for most of these, not even the abstract has been translated into English.

Japanese corporations, especially during their heyday in the 1980s, aggressively sought to obtain patents for technologies which they speculated might become practical in the future. It is therefore very likely that the claims of your opponent's patent are anticipated or rendered obvious in light of prior art applications submitted by Japanese firms during this period. We will search this largely unexploited treasure trove of prior art to find the reference or references that will invalidate your opponent's patent.

2. What database will we search and how will we know what to search for?

Please describe the characteristics of the prior art search you require by completing the attached form. We will use PATOLIS, one of the largest and most complete Japanese databases, to search for published Japanese patent applications and issued Japanese patents, as well as published Japanese utility model applications and registered Japanese utility models, that disclose the characteristics you specify. Within approximately one week, we will send you a report containing the results of our search (please contact us if your case is urgent and requires a faster turnaround time).

3. How much do we charge?

We charge about JPY 500,000 (USD \$5,500 at current exchange rates). We will be happy to send you a detailed estimate after we have the details of your particular case.

Use our search results to win your infringement case!

To: FURUTANI PATENT OFFICE

(FAX: +81 6 6368 2163 / EMAIL <fp@furutani.jp>)

Please send me an estimate of the cost of performing the following prior art search:

Patent number of patent at issue and/or filing date (priority date) of patent at issue

Describe the features you would like to find in the prior art

Your name:

Firm name:

Address: