



MICHAEL E. MILZ SHAREHOLDER

455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive | Suite 3600
Chicago, IL 60611

P 312.321.4273
F 312.321.4299
mmilz@brinksgilson.com

EDUCATION

J.D., with Honors
Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago-Kent College of Law, 1990
B.S., Civil Engineering
University of Illinois, 1983

Michael Milz counsels clients in obtaining or avoiding U.S. and foreign patents. To date, he has prepared and/or prosecuted hundreds of U.S. patents in mechanical and related technologies including heavy industrial construction equipment, medical devices, electro-mechanical devices, harvesting machinery, electric and gas fireplaces, office furniture and machinery for the printing/converting industry.

Clients value Michael's insights early in the patent process, and often call on him at the outset of product development to help steer a path through crowded technology spaces. He brings to bear a unique perspective based on more than a decade of patent infringement and related litigation, enabling him to think forward to how courts and administrative judges will view a patent or product.

Michael has a particular focus in the field of medical devices, and frequently collaborates with doctors and engineers who are working to develop successful new products or improve on existing ones. He has a deep knowledge of their competitive landscape and prior art, and is a valued counselor on the best options to manage risk and obtain protection.

EXPERIENCE | OVERVIEW

- Counsels one of the world's leading health care device companies on product development and patent protection worldwide.
- Represented Western Printing Machinery Company in patent litigation involving high speed machinery for shingling paper products and in litigation against former employee for misappropriation of trade secrets, false advertising and tortious interference with prospective economic advantage.
- Represented CFM International in patent litigation involving direct-vent gas fireplaces and gas stoves, and in patent infringement, breach of contract and misappropriation of trade secrets relating to ceramic fiber products.
- Represented Herman Miller, Inc. in multi-billion dollar patent litigation involving electric-powered office panels and panel systems.

EXPERIENCE | NON-LEGAL

- **Envirodyne Engineers, Inc.**, Chicago, Illinois
Structural Engineer, May 1983 - May 1989

PRACTICE GROUPS

Patent Prosecution
Litigation
International Patent

AREA OF FOCUS

Mechanical
Medical Device

FORWARD THINKING

Alerts

- Federal Circuit, in *Apple Inc. v. Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. et. al.*, Held That Apple's Analyzer Server Patent Not Infringed by Samsung, And Apple's Slide-to-Unlock And Autocorrect Patents are Invalid for Obviousness, March 09, 2016
- Federal Circuit Concludes Differently on Two Exceptional Case Actions, June 12, 2017

HONORS

- *Legal 500*, Recommended Intellectual Property Lawyer, 2014
- Leading Intellectual Property Lawyer, Leading Lawyers Network, Law Bulletin Publishing Company, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2009-2012, 2014, 2016

AFFILIATIONS

- Chicago Bar Association
- American Bar Association
Member, Intellectual Property Law Section
- American Intellectual Property Law Association
- Registered Professional Engineer - State of Illinois

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- **Significant Litigation Experience**
- *Scheffer v. Western Printing Machinery*. Second chair in patent litigation involving high-speed machinery for shingling paper products.
- *Western Printing Machinery v. Walter Powley et al.* Second chair in litigation against former employee for misappropriation of trade secrets, false advertising and tortious interference with prospective economic advantage.
- *CFM v. Heat-N-610*. Second chair in patent litigation involving direct vent gas fireplaces.
- *Carry v. CFM*. Second chair in litigation for patent infringement, breach of contract and misappropriation of trade secrets relating to ceramic fiber products.
- *Superion v. CFM*. Second chair in patent litigation involving rent-free gas stoves.
- **Other Litigation Experience**
- *Haworth v. Herman Miller*. Multi-billion dollar patent litigation involving electric powered office panels and panel systems.
- *Viskase v. Grace*. Patent litigation involving oxygen barrier bags.
- *Motor Wheel v. Kelsey-Hayes*. Patent litigation involving automotive wheels.