



THINK FORWARD

2017 Supreme Court Patent Cases, Nanotechnology Developments Headline Brinks Gilson & Lione's Research Triangle Park Webinar

January 31, 2017

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C.—Brinks Gilson & Lione attorneys Rashad L. Morgan, Aisha R. Hasan, and Mark David Jenkins will present “The Realm of Chemicals: Nanotechnology and Key Cases for 2017” in a webinar on February 1, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. EST.

Morgan, Hasan, and Jenkins—all based in the firm’s offices in Research Triangle Park, N.C.—will provide an overview of the United States National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI), and discuss the so-called nanotechnology “patent thicket” and recent case law related to nanotechnology. They will also offer a preview of three upcoming patent cases at the U.S. Supreme Court.

The attorneys will offer insights on the NNI, a collaboration between 20 U.S. government departments and independent agencies with the shared vision of “a future in which the ability to understand and control matter at the nanoscale leads to a revolution in technology and industry that benefits society.” They will also discuss the NNI’s 2016 Strategic Plan, its goals for the next three years, its correlation with intellectual property legal policy, and its position on the open-source approach of making publicly funded nanotechnology research and innovation freely available to everyone.

The panel will also discuss strategies for navigating the nanotechnology patent thicket and review its impact on litigation in 2016. The phrase describes those overlapping sets of patent rights that require innovators to reach licensing agreements for multiple patents from multiple sources.

The webinar will conclude with a preview of three patent cases scheduled to be decided in the current term of the U.S. Supreme Court: *TC Heartland LLC v. Kraft Foods Group Brands LLC*, in which the Court will decide whether to impose new limits on where patent lawsuits can be filed; *Life Technologies Corporation v. Promega Corporation*, a case with implications for companies exporting components of a patented invention, and *Impression Products, Inc. v. Lexmark International, Inc.*, which concerns the appropriate scope of the common-law doctrine of patent exhaustion.

Brinks Gilson & Lione shareholder Rashad Morgan maintains a broad-based intellectual property practice that focuses on patent prosecution in the U.S. and abroad, and includes opinion work, due diligence review, and litigation. Trained as a chemical engineer, Morgan is co-chair of Brinks’ chemicals, energy and agriculture practice group.

Patent attorney Aisha Hasan brings an extensive background as a research scientist to her legal practice at Brinks. She prepares and prosecutes U.S. and foreign patent applications, conducts patentability and freedom-to-operate analyses and prior art searches, and supports litigation teams in proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office’s Patent Trial and Appeal Board.

Patent attorney Mark Jenkins, a former product development chemist, brings significant industry experience to his work providing guidance on IP strategies to chemical and biotechnology clients. He manages large international patent portfolios and applications, and conducts due diligence reviews,

freedom-to-operate analyses, validity analyses, and post-grant proceedings in the U.S. and abroad.

Brinks' Research Triangle Park office was recently ranked in the top tier by *U.S. News and World Report* and *Best Lawyers* in its seventh annual edition of "Best Law Firms," in Biotechnology Law and Patent Law. Brinks Gilson & Lione is one of the largest intellectual property law firms in the U.S., with seven offices and more than 140 attorneys nationwide.

The one-hour webinar offers MCLE credit in Illinois and is pending accreditation in North Carolina. Visit <http://www.brinksgilson.com/brinks-webinar-the-realm-of-chemicals-nanotechnology-and-key-cases-for-2017> for more information.

Brinks Gilson & Lione

Celebrating its centennial year in 2017, Brinks Gilson & Lione is one of the largest intellectual property law firms in the US, and helps clients around the world to protect and enforce their intellectual property rights. Our more than 140 lawyers, patent agents and scientific advisors assist clients in all aspects of patent, trademark, unfair competition, trade secret, and copyright law. Brinks attorneys provide informed counsel with respect to innovations in a range of complex and valuable technologies, including pharmaceuticals, chemicals, bioengineering, industrial manufacturing, electronics and software, and medical devices. More information is at www.brinksgilson.com.