

About the Authors

The authors are Minneapolis-based attorneys specializing in intellectual property (IP) law, including patents, trademarks, copyright, unfair competition, and related licensing and litigation. The authors have worked with clients in a wide range of technological fields, and assist individuals and groups of all sizes, from small domestic businesses to large multinational corporations. All of the authors regularly prosecute patents and engage in freedom-to-operate studies, helping our clients to identify, understand, and avoid risks posed by the patents of their competitors.

AUSTEN P. ZUEGE is an officer and attorney with Westman, Champlin & Koehler. He has extensive experience organizing and conducting patent freedom-to-operate studies as well as managing large teams involved with them. In addition to practicing IP prosecution and litigation, Austen regularly writes and speaks about IP law topics. He has also trained many young patent attorneys on topics such as patent searching and infringement analysis. Austen received his Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and received his Juris Doctor (cum laude) from the University of Illinois College of Law.

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ALAN M. KOENCK is vice president of Kinney & Lange, and has more than 20 years of experience as an IP law attorney. He is a member of the Planning Committee of the Midwest IP Institute, and has been a presenter and author at numerous conferences and seminars on a variety of topics in IP law. Alan received his Juris Doctor (with high distinction) from the University of Iowa, where he was named to the Order of the Coif. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Iowa State University. Alan previously worked as an assistant in the legal department at Norand Corporation, a major manufacturer of portable data collection and communication systems.

LARRIN P. BERGMAN practices IP law in both transactional and litigation settings, including patent and trade secret matters. He regularly organizes and manages complex freedom-to-operate studies, advises on IP strategies, provides opinion of counsel and related analyses, and creates other strategic plans for companies. Prior to law school, Larrin worked as an engineer designing various recreational vehicles and related equipment. He frequently writes and speaks on IP topics. Larrin received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering from North Dakota State University, and earned his Juris Doctor from the University of North Dakota (with distinction). Larrin has also studied International Comparative Law at the University of Oslo in Oslo, Norway.

MATTHEW J. DE RUYTER is a senior IP counsel with AkzoNobel Inc. He graduated from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry. After his undergraduate studies, Matt worked as a research scientist at CIMA Labs Inc., where his work primarily involved oral dosage drug delivery. Matt received his Juris Doctor (cum laude) from William Mitchell College of Law. While attending law school, Matt clerked at Ecolab, Inc. and was a nationals qualifier in the Giles Rich Moot Court Competition.

BRIAN T. CRAGGS has been an attorney at Kinney & Lange since 2009, after earning his Juris Doctor and graduating magna cum laude from the University of Minnesota Law School. Brian simultaneously received Bachelor of Science degrees in both Chemical Engineering and Materials Science & Engineering from the University of Michigan. Brian worked as a legal research assistant at Southwestern University School of Law in Los Angeles, California, and as a student attorney for

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GRANT M. McNEILLY has been an attorney at Kinney & Lange since 2010. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, during which time Grant was an engineering intern at Orbital Technologies Corporation and GE Healthcare. He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 2010.

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SCOTT C. KRUEGER has been an attorney at Kinney & Lange since 2011. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Engineering from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, and his Juris Doctor from the University of Wisconsin Law School. Prior to attending law school, Scott worked as a component design engineer for Intel Corp. in Hillsboro, Oregon.

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JESSICA M. A. THOMAS has been an attorney at Kinney & Lange since 2013. She received her Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering from

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BOYD B. BLACK has been an attorney at Kinney & Lange since 2012. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Brigham Young University, and his Juris Doctor from the University of Iowa. While earning his undergraduate degree, he interned in the legal department at Novatek Inc., a research and development company specializing in super materials, downhole drilling assemblies, and alternative energy solutions.

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NICHOLAS J. PETERKA is an attorney at Kinney & Lange. He received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, summa cum laude, from North Dakota State University (NDSU) and his Juris Doctor, summa cum laude, from William Mitchell College of Law. At NDSU, Nick's research in materials science and the development of biomaterials earned him the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, a national award given for undergraduate research. While in law school, Nick was an editor of the *William Mitchell Law Review* and a staff member of *Cybaris*[®], an *Intellectual Property Law Review*, a judicial intern for Magistrate Judge Franklin L. Noel in the U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota, and a research assistant for Professor R. Carl Moy. Nick focuses primarily in the mechanical arts, but also has experience in the electrical and computer science fields. Nick assists clients with litigation, patent and trademark prosecution, and freedom-to-operate studies.

THEA E. REILKOFF is an attorney at Kinney & Lange. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Mayville State University and a Master of Science degree in Environmental Science and

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LEA E. WESTMAN is an attorney at Kinney & Lange. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Pepperdine University and her Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of St. Thomas School of Law. During law school, she founded the Student Intellectual Property Law Association, was sponsored by the Federal Bar Association to compete in the Thurgood Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition, and participated in St. Thomas's litigation practicum. Throughout law school, she worked in-house at an e-discovery company, learning the newest technology law. Lea primarily focuses on patent preparation and prosecution.

TONY A. SALMO is an attorney with Schwegman, Lundberg & Woessner. He graduated magna cum laude from William Mitchell College of Law, where he earned his Juris Doctor in 2015. At William Mitchell, Tony was a staff writer for *Cybaris*[®], an *Intellectual Property Law Review* for two years. Tony also participated in the William Mitchell Intellectual Property Law Clinic, assisting independent inventors

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