

Program Overview

IP Summer Course 2026

Obtaining, Enforcing and Evaluating
Intellectual Property Rights in Europe
(Subject to change)



Dates and Venue

June 29, 2026

Part 1: Trade Mark, EU Systems, Prosecution, Enforcement

June 30 – July 03, 2026

Part 2: Patents, Utility Models, Designs

Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten Kempinski
Maximilianstraße 17, 80539 Munich, Germany

Part 1: Trade marks – Systems in the EU, Prosecution, Enforcement

Monday, June 29, 2026

Session I

9.00 a.m. – 9.20 a.m.
Carl-Richard Haarmann

Opening address

9.20 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.
Malte Nentwig

Obtaining trade mark protection in
Europe – systems and approaches

11.15 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.

Coffee break

11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
Peter Groß

Opposition and Cancellation Proceedings
before the EUIPO

12.30 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.

Lunch break

Session II

1.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.
Hannah Dauer

Recent developments in European trade
mark case law - EUIPO and European
Court

3.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.
Silke Freund/Carl-Richard
Haarmann

Infringement of trade marks – a case
study

Part 2: Patents, utility models, designs

Day 1 - Tuesday, June 30, 2026

Session I

9.00 a.m. – 9.20 a.m. Christian W. Appelt	Opening address
09.20 a.m. – 10.00 a.m. Felix Hermann	Strategies of obtaining patent protection in Europe (national, EP, PCT, UPC)
10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m. Mario Araujo	EPO procedure (search, examination, grant, validation and/or UP), comparison to GPTO procedures
11.00 a.m. – 11.20 a.m.	Coffee break
11.20 a.m. – 12.20 p.m. Christian W. Appelt	Special Features of EPO prosecution – How to avoid pitfalls (Art. 123 (2), (3) EPC, Art. 83/84 EPC)
12.20 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.	Lunch break

Session II

1.30 p.m. – 2.30 p.m. Martin Erbacher	Novelty and inventive step under EPC
2.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. Andreas Dustmann	Design protection in Europe
3.00 p.m. – 3.20 p.m.	Coffee break
3.20 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Malte Windeler	Protection of secret know-how in Europe
4.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Heinz Goddar/Melanie Müller	Trusted depository (TD) for trade secrets and data – a supplement to patent protection
6.30 p.m.	Opening reception and dinner Paulaner am Nockherberg Hochstraße 77 81541 Munich

Part 2: Patents, utility models, designs

Day 2 – Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Session I A – IP & IT

9.00 a.m. – 9.40 a.m. Steffen Schmidt	Patenting of software-based Inventions in Germany and Europe
9.40 a.m. – 10.20 a.m. Jakob Valvoda	A change of perspective: Highlighting the technical features of software-based inventions
10.20 a.m. – 11.00 p.m. Daniel Herrmann	The EPO's approach towards artificial intelligence
11.00 a.m. – 11.20 a.m.	Coffee break
11.20 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. Alexander Thamer	Licensing software and OSS considerations
12.00 p.m. – 12.30 p.m. Matthias Hofmann	Use of AI in patent prosecution

Session I B – Biotech and pharma

09.00 a.m. – 09.45 a.m. Markus Engelhard	Introduction to patentability of biotechnological subject matter under the EPC and the German Patents Act (PatG) – The legal machinery and case law/ selected decisions
09.45 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. Ute Kilger	Plausibility, sufficiency of disclosure and inventive step of biotechnological inventions
10.30 a.m. – 11.00 a.m. Fabian Schmidt	Antibody and epitope patent claims
11.00 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.	Coffee break
11.15 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. Karl-Heinz Metten/José Pfizer	Scope of protection of chemical and pharmaceutical patents
12.00 p.m. – 12.30 p.m. Oleg Lebedev/Alexander Rabe	SPCs and patent term extensions (PTEs)
12.30 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.	Lunch break

Session II

1.30 p.m. – 3.15 p.m.

Prof. Beat Weibel

Head of ETH transfer IP & Licensing /

Sebastian Engels

Legal and commercial aspects of license agreements, competition law aspects

3.15 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Coffee break

3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Christian W. Appelt

Invalidation of granted patents (EPO opposition procedures/German invalidation procedures/UPC central invalidation)

4.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

Felix Hermann

Preparation of EPO oral proceedings of July 2nd

6.00 p.m.

Sightseeing City Tour followed by dinner in a Bavarian restaurant

Part 2: Patents, utility models, designs

Day 3 – Thursday, July 2, 2026

Session I

9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

Attending EPO oral hearings
(videoconference)

At the office of
BOEHMERT & BOEHMERT
Pettenkoferstr. 22
80336 Munich

12.00 p.m. – 1.20 p.m.

Lunch break

1.20 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.

**Transfer to Hotel Vier Jahreszeiten
Kempinski**

Session II

2.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.
Michael Rüberg

Patent litigation in Europe and Germany
(national and UPC procedures)

3.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.
Andreas Lucke

Utility models in Germany – A useful
weapon in litigation

3.30 p.m. – 3.50 p.m.

Coffee break

3.50 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.
Carl-Richard Haarmann

Defence measures against enforcement of
patents – preliminary injunctions, customs
procedures, criminal actions

4.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
Gabriele Mohsler (VP Patent Development,
Ericsson)
Edmund Mangold (Senior Patent Counsel, BMW
Group)

SEP/FRAND developments – industry
perspectives

Part 2: Patents, utility models, designs

Day 4 – Friday, July 3, 2026

Session I

9.00 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

UPC mock trial

Moderation: Christian W. Appelt

Legal Judge

Victor Fetscher

Technical Judge

Jakob Valvoda

Attorneys at Law Plaintiff

Carl-Richard Haarmann
Lars Eggersdorfer

Patent Attorney Plaintiff

Christoph Angerhausen

Attorneys at Law Defendant

Michael Rüberg

Patent Attorney Defendant

Andreas Lucke

12.00 p.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Lunch break

1.00 p.m.

Departure to Lake Starnberg

Half-day excursion

2.00 p.m.

Half-day excursion with boat trip on Lake Starnberg – Coffee break and dinner in Bavarian restaurant