

Corporate Patent Counsel - Harley-Davidson Motor Company

At Harley-Davidson Motor Company we do much more than just build motorcycles; we fulfill dreams of personal freedom. We are customer led in all we do, and we believe and invest in our people and our communities. Harley-Davidson believes that its people are the only real long-term competitive advantage and their energy and commitment is what has made us successful since 1903.

Position

Harley-Davidson is seeking a Corporate Patent Counsel for the Willie G. Davidson Product Development Center (PDC) located in Wauwatosa, WI. This 370,000 square-foot facility opened its doors for operation in March 1997 and was built to bring together the Original Equipment (OE) Engineering, Styling and Developmental Purchasing groups in a centralized location to improve the product development process. The functions represented within the PDC include Styling, Engineering, Finance, Information Services, Product Liability, Purchasing, Marketing, Homologation, Sales, Service and key suppliers. The employees located at the PDC are responsible for new product development, testing, styling and developmental purchasing.

Key Deliverables

Reporting to Senior Counsel, the Corporate Patent Counsel is responsible for providing guidance, direction and support to internal stakeholders of Harley-Davidson, Inc. and its affiliates. This includes stakeholders in Engineering, General Merchandise, Manufacturing, Materials, Parts/Accessories/Customization, and Styling. In addition, this role conducts and manages non-infringement and clearance analysis.

On a broad level, this role provides guidance to legal support staff, managing outside counsel, implementing tactics, policies and procedures, and representing Harley-Davidson with external stakeholders. They actively participate in Harley-Davidson's invention disclosure review process and Patent Review Committee to help ensure that Harley-Davidson's inventions are identified and patented.

The Corporate Patent Counsel is also working hands-on in drafting, negotiating, revising, and finalizing a broad spectrum of agreements, including license, service, joint development, and non-disclosure agreements (and managing outside counsel in performing the same.) They supervise outside counsel in preparation and prosecution of patent applications, both domestically and internationally. Additionally, they manage U.S. and foreign patent applications and issued patents throughout the patent lifecycle by collaborating directly with colleagues in Harley-Davidson's inventor community.

Job Requirements

This position requires a Bachelor's degree and a Juris Doctorate from an accredited law school.

- Preferred fields of study are: Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Computer Engineering, or Computer Science, and/or an advanced degree recognized by the USPTO.

This position also requires admission to the State Bar of Wisconsin, or meeting the requirements under Wisconsin Supreme Court Rule 10.03(4) (f) to register as an in-house counsel in Wisconsin and successfully completing such registration within 60 days after the commencement of employment with Harley-Davidson; and registration to practice before the USPTO.

The successful candidate will have a minimum of 3+ years of experience (3 – 6 years' of experience preferred) in a law firm or corporate legal department. In addition they will have demonstrated the following:

- Providing counsel related to Intellectual Property matters and in drafting and negotiating commercial agreements with Intellectual Property issues
- High level of integrity as well as organization, planning and research skills
- Excellent judgment, analytic skills and ability to identify all relevant issues
- Strong written and verbal communication skills (including good listening skills) and the ability to achieve positive outcomes through influence
- Ability to lead and/or work well in a team environment
- Ability to respond to and provide sound legal advice for client needs consistent with corporate strategies and objectives
- Appreciation and awareness of the legal/business interface

Other Requirements

At Harley-Davidson it is not just what degree you have or what you know you must also exhibit and demonstrate our valued behaviors in everything that you do:

- Be accountable
- Model Integrity
- Value Individuality and Diversity
- Inspire Teamwork
- Encourage Creativity

Any unsolicited resumes submitted will become the property of Harley-Davidson.