

Shumaker & Sieffert, P.A., is a law firm devoted to the intellectual property needs of high tech companies. The firm's attorneys have current and intensive technical backgrounds in the software, electronics, telecommunications, chemical, mechanical, materials and medical device fields.

We offer extensive patent law knowledge and ongoing attention to legal trends, helping our clients navigate the most complex patent infringement issues. A unique combination of legal skill, technical knowledge and corporate experience helps us craft intellectual property strategies customized to serve our clients' business objectives.

Steve Shumaker and Kent Sieffert founded the firm in January 2001 to address their shared desire to focus exclusively on high quality patent prosecution, patent infringement counseling and licensing. Located in the Twin Cities, the firm has grown to serve clients across the U.S. and internationally.

We currently represent companies in a wide variety of industries including computer systems, medical devices, consumer electronics, software, coatings, chemicals and Internet services. Our clients range from established Fortune 500 companies to start-ups.

By 2007 we had grown from two partners to 29 employees, including 15 attorneys, three technology specialists and two law clerks. Shumaker & Sieffert's attorneys have prosecuted more than 2600 U.S. patents, providing protection for inventions ranging from microprocessors to neurological stimulators.

Our attorneys also have extensive experience filing and prosecuting foreign patent applications. To aid our foreign practice, we maintain professional relationships with a variety of high quality patent law firms around the world. By January 2007, Shumaker & Sieffert had prosecuted over 500 applications under the Patent Cooperation Treaty, and over 1000 national applications in individual countries all over the world.

*At Shumaker & Sieffert, we know your technology
and we have mastered the legal issues that impact it.*

Steven J. Shumaker, Principal

University of Wisconsin: B.S.E.E. 1990, George Washington University: J.D. 1994, with High Honors, Order of the Coif, George Washington Law Review

A founding Principal of Shumaker & Sieffert, Steve specializes in electrical, software, and medical device technologies. He focuses on patent prosecution, infringement counseling, portfolio development and licensing. Steve has written and lectured on topics ranging from business method patenting to patent protection strategies. He serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota Law School where he teaches Patent Practice with Kent Sieffert.



Kent J. Sieffert, Principal

Michigan Technological University: B.S.E.E. 1989, summa cum laude, University of Michigan: M.S. Computer Engineering 1991, University of Minnesota: J.D. 1998, cum laude

A founding Principal of Shumaker & Sieffert, Kent specializes in complex electrical and software technologies. He focuses on all facets of patent prosecution, strategic counseling, patent portfolio management and development, opinions, and pre-suit investigations. He serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota Law School where he teaches Patent Practice with Steve Shumaker. Kent is an inventor on several software patents.



H. Sanders Gwin, Principal

Birmingham Southern College: B.S. Physics and Chemistry 1983 cum laude, Samford University, Cumberland School of Law: J.D. 1989

Sanders is a Principal of Shumaker & Sieffert specializing in the fields of materials, optical electronics and software. Previously Sanders was a Principal of Fish & Richardson, P.C., and a patent attorney with 3M. He serves as an adjunct professor at William Mitchell College of Law.



Kelly P. Fitzgerald, Principal

University of Iowa: B.A., Physics, 1997, with distinction, University of Iowa: J.D. 2000, magna cum laude, Order of the Coif

Kelly is a principal of Shumaker & Sieffert specializing in the electronics, software and optics areas. Previously, Kelly was a patent attorney at Fish & Richardson and a patent agent at Intermec Technologies Corporation. Kelly has written and lectured on topics relating to patent protection, enforcement and reexamination.



Jason Kelly, Principal

University of Iowa B.S. Biomedical Engineering 1997, University of Iowa College of Law J.D. 2000

Jason is a principal of Shumaker & Sieffert specializing in patent prosecution in the electronics, software, and medical device areas. Previously, Jason was an associate at Fish & Richardson. Jason's biomedical engineering background, in combination with a strong foundation in electronics and computing, has aided his extensive work in the patenting of medical devices, such as pacemakers, defibrillators and neurostimulators, as well as counseling in this area.

