

Dr. Marcus Schönknecht, LL.M. (Columbia)

Counsel
Dusseldorf

Biography

Marcus Schönknecht protects his clients' most valuable asset: their know-how.

When their secrets are stolen, their inventions are used by competitors or their products are imitated, clients turn to Marcus. He has successfully litigated countless trade secret, patent and design cases before all major IP courts in Germany. Clients value his comprehensive knowledge in mechanical engineering, construction and medical devices.

Marcus is an authority on trade secret protection in Germany. He won some of the first court decisions on behalf of his clients on the new German Trade Secrets Act, playing a significant role in shaping the case law. He is author of the acclaimed commentary on the Trade Secrets Act published by C.H. Beck. Marcus holds regular seminars on the subject, educating inhouse counsels and external lawyers on the latest developments.

Having received his legal education in Germany, Italy and the United States, Marcus is skilled in making complex aspects of German law easily understandable to clients from other countries – from Europe to the U.S. and Japan.

Representative experience

Representing a major German chemical company in a complex case of international industrial espionage and



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Languages

English
German

Practices

Intellectual Property
Patents
Trade Secrets and Confidential Know-how
Designs
Trademarks and Brands

Industries

Manufacturing and Industrials
Life Sciences and Health Care
Automotive and Mobility

trade secrets theft.

Defending an innovative producer of machines for railroad track construction and maintenance in complex cross-border unfair imitation and trade secrets case.

Representing companies in the machines, tool engineering, handling and medical products industries in complex patent matters.

Representing and advising companies in the steel, engineering, medical devices, drug discovery and telecommunications industries in employee inventions matters.

Awards and rankings

- Intellectual Property: Patent Litigation, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2019
- Intellectual Property: Trade marks and unfair competition, *Legal 500 EMEA*, 2019
- Recommended lawyer for Trademark and Competition Law, *Legal 500 Germany*, 2019
- Recommended lawyer for Patents: Dispute Settlement, *Legal 500 Germany*, 2019

Latest thinking and events

- Insights and Analysis
 - IPunkt – German Language (Deutsch) IP Newsletter Jan 2019
- News
 - Germany: Making an Impact – Enforcing Patents at Trade Fairs
- Insights and Analysis
 - IPunkt – German Language (Deutsch) IP Newsletter (October 2017)

Consumer

Technology and Telecoms

Areas of focus

Construction and Engineering

Chemical and Industrial Products

Medical Devices

Licensing and Commercial Transactions

False Advertising and Unfair Competition

Education and admissions

Education

LL.M., Columbia University, 2011

Second State Exam in Law, Higher Regional Court of Cologne, 2008

Dr. iur., Doctorate in Law, University of Cologne, 2007

First State Exam in Law, University of Cologne, 2004

Memberships

Member, German Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (GRUR)

Member, German-American Lawyers Association (DAJV)

Bar admissions and qualifications

Germany
