CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

SEMINAR SERIES 2012/2013:

Exceptions to Patentability in Europe

By Dr. Christopher Heath
Member of the Boards of Appeal,
European Patent Office; former Head of Asian Department,
Max Planck Institute for Intellectual Property Law, Munich

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VENUE: LEE SHERIDAN CONFERENCE ROOM, EU TON SEN BUILDING

ABSTRACT

The European Patent Convention excludes certain inventions from patentability. Not patentable per se are inventions without technical character, business schemes and computer programs (Art. 52 EPC). Particular exclusions to otherwise patentable inventions exist for inventions contrary to "ordre public", to plant or animal varieties, and to methods of treatment of the human body, Art. 53 EPC. Inventions whose only novel features relate to unpatentable subject matter are refused for lack of novelty. Recent case law of the Boards of Appeal has dealt with the exceptions for computer programs, biological processes for plant breeding, ordre public in connection with stem cell patents and dosage regimes as medical indications.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Christopher Heath, born in 1964, Judge, is a member of the Boards of Appeal, European Patent Office, Munich since 2005 and qualified as an attorney-at-law in Germany.

Dr. Heath studied law in Konstanz, the LSE London and Edinburgh between 1982 and 1989. He was awarded his PhD by the University of Salzburg in 2001. After three years in Japan, between 1992 and 2005, he was the head of East Asian Department, Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Patent, Copyright and Competition Law, Munich.

REGISTRATION

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