The main benefit of innovation for your organization is not competitive advantage. It is survival.

Paul Sloane
OUR SERVICES

Intellectual Property Rights
We advise and assist you in all legal and technical questions concerning patentability and patent application proceedings in Germany and Europe. Our team directly represents patent applicants before the European Patent Office and the national offices in Germany, Spain, Italy and the United Kingdom, and instructs carefully selected local representatives when applying for patents for our clients in the rest of the world.

Opposition and Nullity Proceedings
Our patent attorneys for biotechnology oversee a great number of opposition proceedings, both before the European Patent Office and the German Patent and Trade Mark Office. We also represent clients in nullity proceedings before the German Federal Patent Court and the German Federal Court of Justice. The members of our biotechnology team have accumulated more than 170 years of experience in pan-European and global patent disputes, with four attorneys having 19 to 25 years of experience each, and have been involved in many key decisions.

Patent Infringement
Our team has extensive litigation experience and supports you in patent infringement suits brought before German and other European courts. In enforcing your intellectual property rights or defending your activities against infringement claims, we cooperate with our internal IP litigation team or external lawyers from specialized IP litigation firms.

Expert Opinions
Our biotechnology team draws up comprehensive advice on infringement issues and on the validity of IP rights. These often lay the cornerstones of successful proceedings and are appreciated by our clients for their realistic assessment. A further focus is due diligence inspections and freedom-to-operate opinions.

OUR STRENGTHS

Biotechnology
In addition to a number of large or medium-sized global companies, our internationally active biotechnology team of national and European patent attorneys handles the patent portfolios of many renowned academic institutions and also assists smaller “start-up” biotech companies. HOFFMANN EITLE’s biotech team, including 17 professionals with PhDs in the life sciences, was awarded the Corporate INTL Legal Award “Biotech Patents Law Firm of the Year in Germany” in 2014, 2015 and 2016. Our expertise covers all biotechnological inventions, including medicines, antibodies, stem cells, biodiagnostics, biologics, biosimilars, plants, genetic engineering, microbiology, metabolic engineering, enzyme production and medical technology.

OUR FIRM

Founded in 1892 HOFFMANN EITLE has been a synonym for experience and quality in the legal protection of intellectual property. With approximately 400 employees at six locations in Germany and the rest of Europe, HOFFMANN EITLE today is one of the largest and most successful firms covering intellectual property law in Europe and offering patent and legal services tailored to meet your specific needs.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

We help you to protect your innovations effectively and enduringly. Our teams of experts successfully register, enforce, and defend your IP rights and provide competent advice in a profession where speed, thoroughness and a mastery of both technical and legal detail are key to preserving and extending ownership of your intellectual property. By concentrating on building up those key skills within our firm, we have come to stand out for our top-ranking expertise as well as for our speed and efficiency.