



**International Chamber of Commerce**

*The world business organization*

**Department of Policy and Business Practices**

## Intellectual property related activities in chambers of commerce

Organisation	: <b>German Chambers of Industry and Commerce Association (DIHK)</b>
Country	: Germany
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### 1. General comments

No

### 2. Communication Tools

*What kind of communication tools do you offer? Please elaborate.*

**a) On-line**

Website for general information.

**b) Hard copy publications (e.g. guides, newsletters)**

Publications on intellectual property rights.

**c) Others**

Information about court decisions or other relevant actual news in intellectual property rights for the chambers journal.

### 3. Training

*Do you offer any training programs? Please elaborate.*

**a) Seminars/ workshops**

Occasionally

**b) On-line tutorials**

No

**c) Others**

No

#### **4. Consultancy/ Advisory Services**

*Do you offer any IP-consultancy services? This could include a helpline, legal/ financial/ commercial/consulting services etc.. Are Intellectual property aspects included in general commercial/business advice provided by your chamber?*

Many chambers of commerce and industries work close together with local patent attorneys to offer a first consultancy especially for technical inventions.

Consultancy for SME's according to IP Rights is organised as follows: The local Chambers of Commerce and Industry work together with their local patent attorneys and offer once a month a free first consultancy for those companies or inventors to know, what to do for protecting their innovations. Though the attorneys advise how to get a patent or brand or utility model or design and on the other hand they show how the innovation could be better used in practice or how to find licences etc. Though, the innovator has a better orientation what to do and how to use his innovative approach. Apart from that, all Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Germany (81) offer also brochures about intellectual property issues, for instance what a patent is, what a trade mark is, how and where it can be registered etc.

#### **5. Information gathering/ awareness raising**

*Do you conduct surveys or gather information in any other way? Do you carry out any awareness raising activities? Please elaborate.*

Yes, we do, by offering articles for the chambers journal.

The DIHK is also engaged in the German Action Group against counterfeiting, (APM e. V.) where we offer also information to prevent consumers from buying counterfeits.

#### **6. SME case studies**

*Do you publish case studies of SMEs who have actively used IP in their businesses? Can you provide us with any such case studies?*

No

## 7. Facilitation of IP business opportunities

*Do you provide any services to help businesses trade in IP eg IP business matchmaking, marketplaces etc?*

We offer a market-place for providing and offering technical ideas that has been recognized as patent or utility model. Though for instance if someone has made an invention and looks for a company who would be interested to use his patent, registering in that market place might help him to find the proper partner.

## 8. Policy advocacy

*Do you engage in policy advocacy in the IP field? Please provide details.*

This is one of the main tasks of APM. We are always consulted if IP-laws will be revised on the national and European level.

## 9. Encouragement of innovation and IP asset development

*Do you have any initiatives to encourage innovation or the development of IP assets e.g. awards, competitions, technology showcases etc ?*

No

## 10. Others

No

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**We consent to the above information being posted on the ICC (International Chamber of Commerce) website.**

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**Position: Leader of the intellectual property rights department (DIHK)**

**Organization: DIHK Germany**

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