

For Immediate Release

**The National Association of Patent Practitioners Holds its
2011 Annual Meeting and Conference and Elects New Slate of Officers**

The National Association of Patent Practitioners (NAPP) held its 2011 Annual Meeting and Conference and elected a new slate of officers and directors on July 16-19, 2011, in Las Vegas, Nevada, at the Venetian/Palazzo Congress Center. The University of Nevada Las Vegas - William S. Boyd School of Law co-hosted the event.

On Saturday, July 16, 2011, NAPP held “The Nuts & Bolts of Patent Prosecution Practice” seminar for attendees, covering topics including Patent Searching, Inventorship & Ownership, Patent Specification and Claim Drafting, Patent Drawings, Information Disclosure Statements, Office Actions, Final Disposition: Notice of Allowance and Issuance and Growing a Successful Patent Practice. Speakers included: Stan Lewis of National Patent Services, Dr. Jacqueline Hartt of GrayRobinson, P.A., Professor David Grossman of the George Mason University School of Law, Stephen Kruse of Advanced Intellectual Property Graphics, George White of G. White Patents, Jerry Miller of Miller Patent Services, Joshua S. Schoonover of Coastal Patent Agency, Anthony Murabito of Murabito, Hao and Barnes, and Fredrick J. Zustak of Sony Intellectual Property.

On Sunday, July 17, 2011, at the Annual Business Meeting, the following slate of Officers was elected by acclamation:

President:	Joshua S. Schoonover
Vice President:	Fred Zustak
Secretary:	Dr. Jacqueline Hartt
Treasurer:	George White

Joshua Schoonover is a Registered Patent Agent and President of Coastal Patent Agency in San Diego, CA. Fred Zustak is Director of Operations for the Intellectual Property Dept. of Sony Corp. of America in San Diego, CA. Dr. Jacqueline Hartt is a Registered Patent Agent with GrayRobinson, P.A., George White is a Registered Patent Agent with G. White Patents in Long Beach, CA.

On Monday and Tuesday, July 18th and 19th, a wide range of topics were covered in the annual “Patent Practice Update,” including: Accelerated Examination Practice, Interviews for Compact Prosecution, Anticipating Claim Construction & Strategic Claims Drafting, Commercial Liability: Considerations for Patent Practitioners, Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences - Appeals Practice, WIPO/PCT Updates, Update on Business Methods Patents and Best Practices, Outsourcing Foreign Filings, Portfolio Management, USPTO Outreach and Initiatives - The Creation of the Office of Patent Innovation Development, Multi-Party Infringement, Federal Circuit Update, Inequitable Conduct, Doing Business in Asia, Patents in Korea, Using Inherent Anticipation to Break a Patent, and NAPP Best Practices & Ethical Considerations.

These topics were presented by a distinguished list of speakers. NAPP was honored to have Wynn Coggins, Director of Business Method Patents at the USPTO, Elizabeth Dougherty, Acting Deputy Director for the Office of Patent Legal Administration at the USPTO and Matthew Bryan, Director of PCT Legal Division at WIPO as speakers this year.

Additional distinguished speakers included: Nick Witchey of Fish & Associated, PC, Ernie Beffel of Haynes, Beffel & Wolfeld, LLP, Stuart Soffer of IPriori, Inc., Lawrence Hilton of Dominion Insurance Services, Steven Greenberg of CRGP Law Firm, Jeffrey Shieh of Inovia, JiNan Glasgow of Neo Patents, Louis Hoffman of the Hoffman Patent Firm, John Rogitz of Rogitz & Associates, James Edmondson of Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP, Kimberley Nobels of Dickstein Shapiro LLP, Dr. Kyoung-Jin Moon of DeRook International Patent and Law Firm, David Gange of Altimatia, LLC, and Joshua S. Schoonover of Coastal Patent Agency.

The Annual Meeting and Conference was sponsored by Dominion Insurance Services (www.dominioninsurance.com), Computer Packages Inc. (www.computerpackages.com), H K Acharya & Company (www.hkindia.com), National Patent Services (www.nationalpatentservices.com), Inovia (www.inoviaip.com), and Stokes Wealth Management.

Full bios of the speakers and officers as well as additional information on NAPP and the annual meeting program are available at www.napp.org.

The NAPP is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting patent practitioners and those working in the field of patent law in matters relating to patent law, its practice and technological advances. For more information, visit www.napp.org. The NAPP offers many benefits to members including access to discounted professional liability insurance through membership and further discounts through participation in the NAPP CERTIFICATION program which requires patent practitioners to adopt Best Practices Standards designed to enhance the quality of their practice.