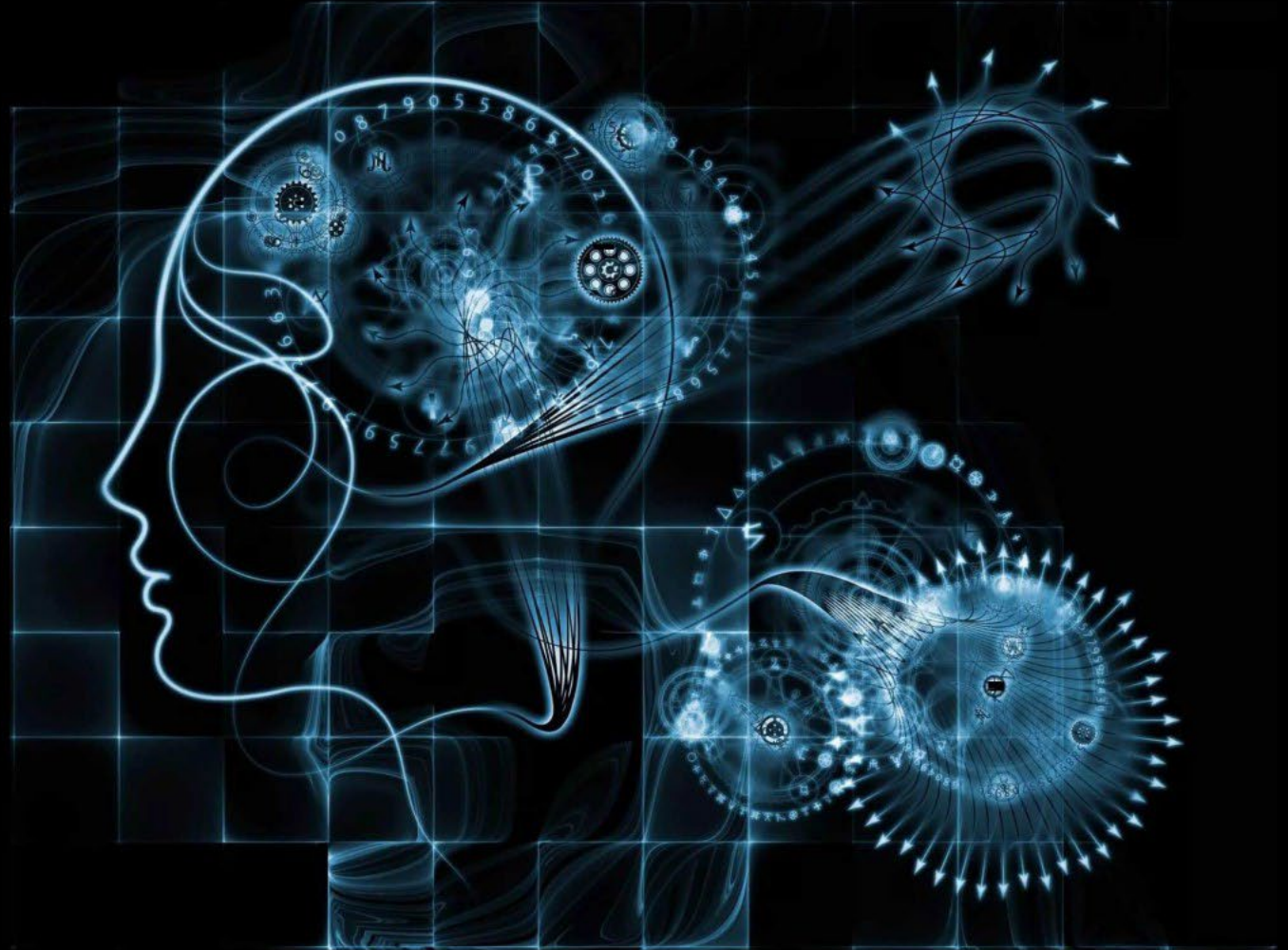


Making Use of Patent Box

- Tips from a patent attorney

High-value, complex patent matters

Better, different™



Content



- Introduction to EIP
- What is a patent?
- How might obtaining patent protection be relevant to your business?
- What makes an invention patentable?
- Tips for using Patent Box

High-value, complex patent matters

About



Our multidisciplinary team combines patent attorneys, litigators and commercial IP lawyers and we operate in three of the world's main patent markets - UK, Germany, and the US, and also in the Nordics through our recent expansion into Sweden.



Better, different™

EIP Northern Ireland



- EIP has been working with NI clients since 2012 - Openwave Mobility (now part of Enea)
- We now have a seat at Catalyst Innovation Centre and are committed to growing our presence in N.Ireland



One Firm



Across disciplines

Our attorneys, litigators and commercial IP lawyers combine with in-house IP strategy and patent searching capabilities to offer advice on the entire IP lifecycle.



Litigation

Representation in European patent litigation



Oppositions

Oppositions and other post-grant challenges



Patenting

Drafting and prosecution of patent applications



Commercial

Advisory, exploitation of IPRs and data protection



Intelligence

Portfolio management, analytics and risk analysis



IP Strategy

Developing value creation strategies for innovators



SEP Analysis

Standard-Essential Patent (SEP) analysis and advice



Patentise® is a unique service from EIP that provides the assistance companies need to maximise the benefit of the Patent Box.

Technologies

EIP's attorneys work in specific legal and technical areas, with some having expertise in multiple areas. Specialised practice groups pool staff, expertise and resources in a dynamic way.

A blue icon representing a microchip or circuit board.

Digital

Communications,
computing and electronic
devices

A red icon representing interlocking gears or mechanical parts.

Dynamics

Mechanical and heavy
engineering practice

A yellow icon representing an atomic structure with a central nucleus and orbiting electrons.

Elements

Chemistry, pharmaceuticals
and materials practice

A green icon representing a lightning bolt.

Energy

Climate change reduction
and energy production

A teal icon representing a heart with a pulse line.

HealthTech

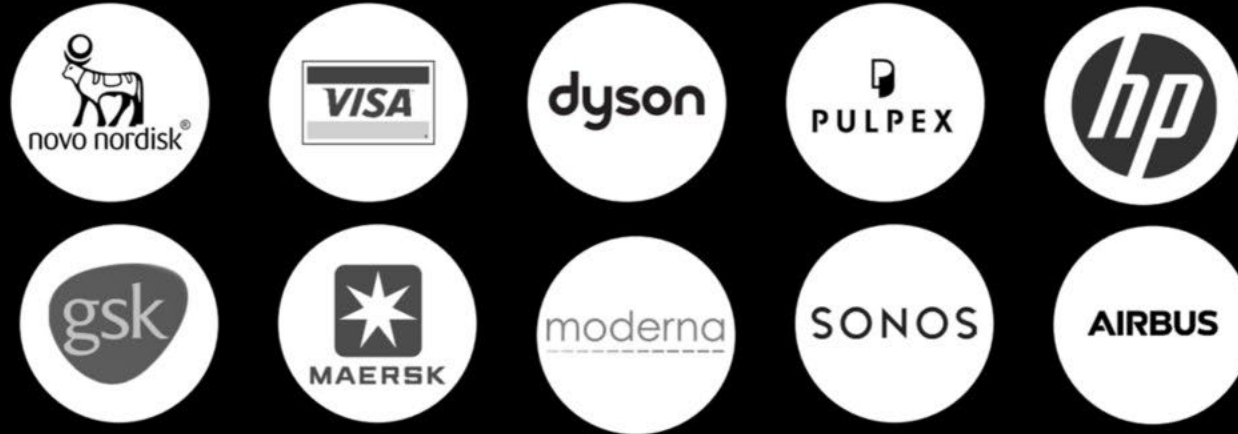
Technology in the healthcare
and medical sectors

An orange icon representing a DNA double helix.

Life

Life sciences and biotech

Our clients

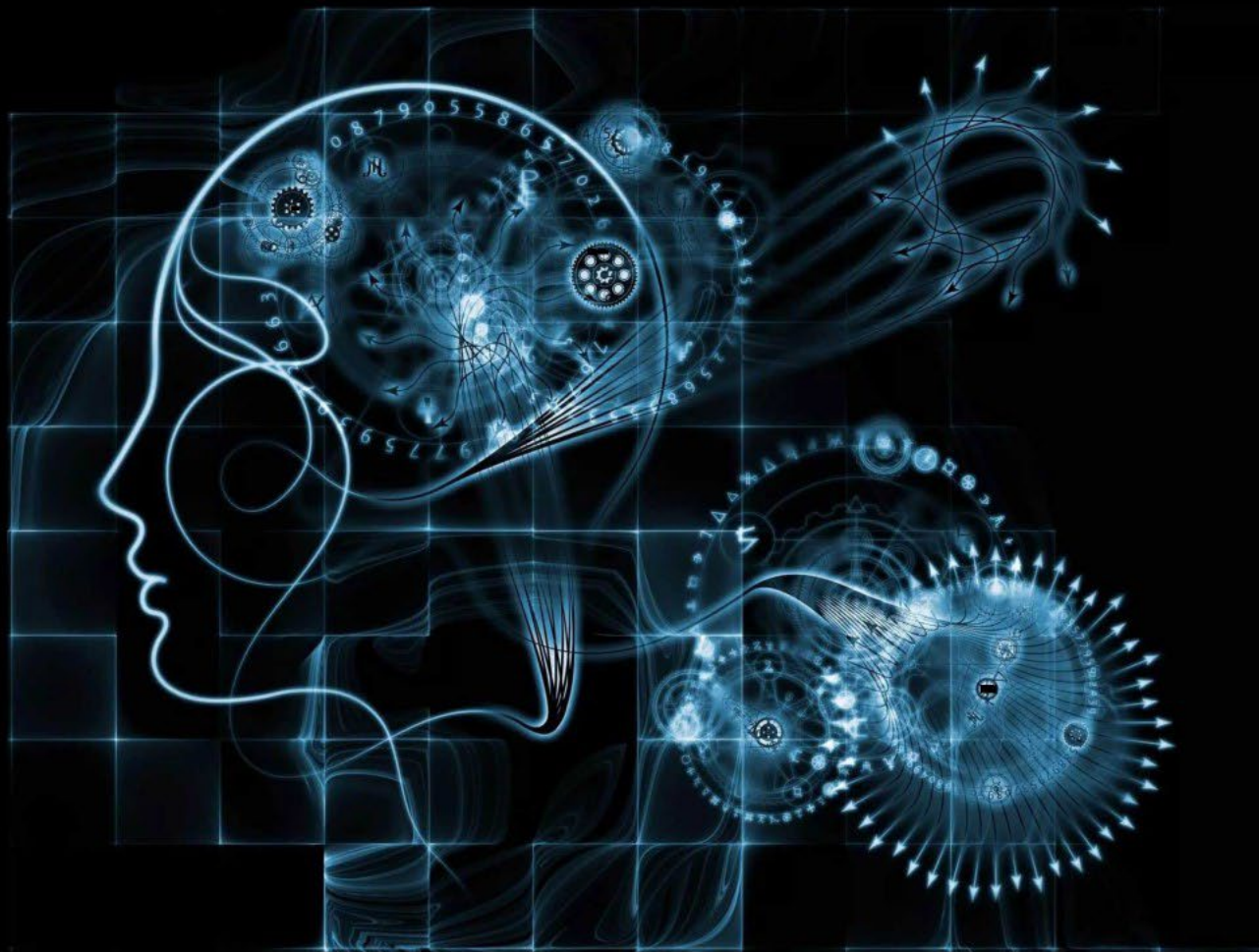


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What is a patent?

Patents give you the right to stop others from exploiting your inventions for a period of 20 years.



Patentable inventions may be entirely new or non-obvious improvements on existing products, processes or systems.



Must teach how your invention works in replicable detail.



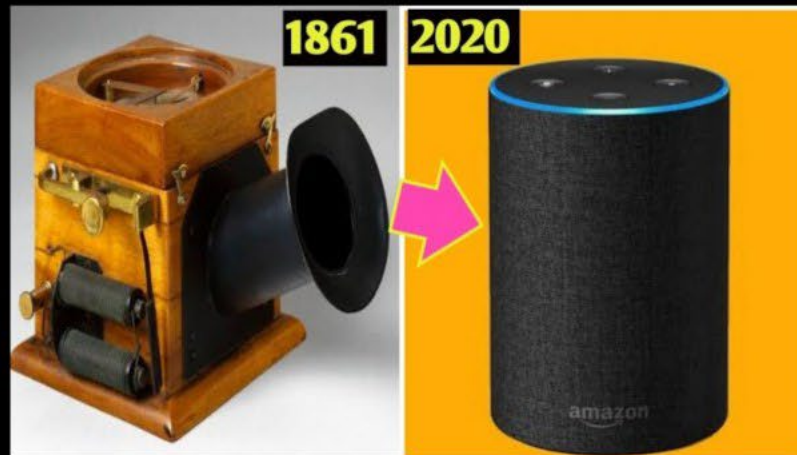
A patent is country specific; e.g. can't use a US patent to prevent use in N. Ireland (need a UK patent)



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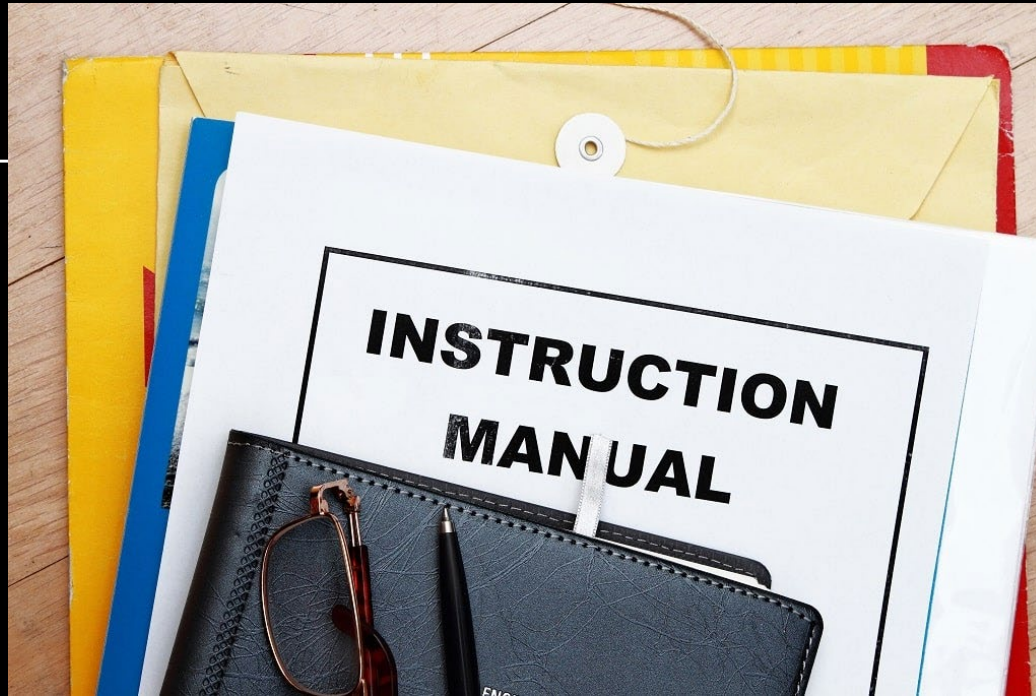
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What can owning a patent do for your business?



Attract and protect investment

Patents are a legal right to prevent others from making, using, or selling an invention without your permission. This can help you attract investment and protect your business from competitors.

Generate revenue via licensing fees

Patents can be licensed to other companies, allowing you to generate revenue from your invention without having to manufacture or sell the product yourself.

Deter competition

Patents can act as a deterrent to competitors, as they know that any attempt to copy your invention could result in legal action.

Protect ideas whilst collaborating

Patents can help you protect your ideas while you collaborate with others, ensuring that your contribution is recognized and protected.

Use as a negotiation tool

Patents can be used as a negotiation tool in business deals, providing you with leverage and a valuable asset.

Reduce UK Tax bill!

Patents can qualify for R&D tax credits, which can significantly reduce your UK tax bill.

Attract and protect investment

- Investors will ask about IP protection
- IP will play a key part in their due diligence process
- Well-protected IP demonstrates substantial value in your business
- Competitive advantage, and that your 'house is in order'.
- R&D is expensive; don't give your competitors a free ride.

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Generate revenue via licensing fees

- Patents are a recognised asset that can be licensed to others in return for a licence fee.
- Licensing can be very lucrative.
- For example, UK technology company Arm Holdings, which designs microchips used in most mobile phones and tablets, generates revenue by licensing its IP (patents) to other companies who can also make its products.
- Arm was bought in 2016 by Japanese company SoftBank Group for £24 billion.

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Deter competition

- Patents are publicly available information and can act as a 'hands-off' warning to competitors even if you don't plan on enforcement.
- You may even decide to mark your products with your patent registration number for increased visibility in the eyes of competitors and potential customers.
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- Work with partner organisations on your technology
- If a patent application is in place to protect your core technology, others prevented from claiming it as their own whilst you work with them

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Use as a negotiation tool

- If your product is starting to attract customers away from competitors, it's not at all unusual for especially larger players to try to use their own patents to block your progress.
- Having patents that cover your innovation, and in particular the features that have caused customers to switch to your products, gives you a negotiating position – and potentially operating freedoms that you otherwise would not have.

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Reduce UK Tax bill!

- You may be able to apply for a tax break – in this case, a lower rate of corporation tax – on profits earned from patented inventions.
- To achieve this, as a starting point, you must be registered for UK corporation tax and making a profit on the patented invention.
- The patent must be exclusively yours, or exclusively licensed to you and you must have been involved in the innovation activity lying behind it.

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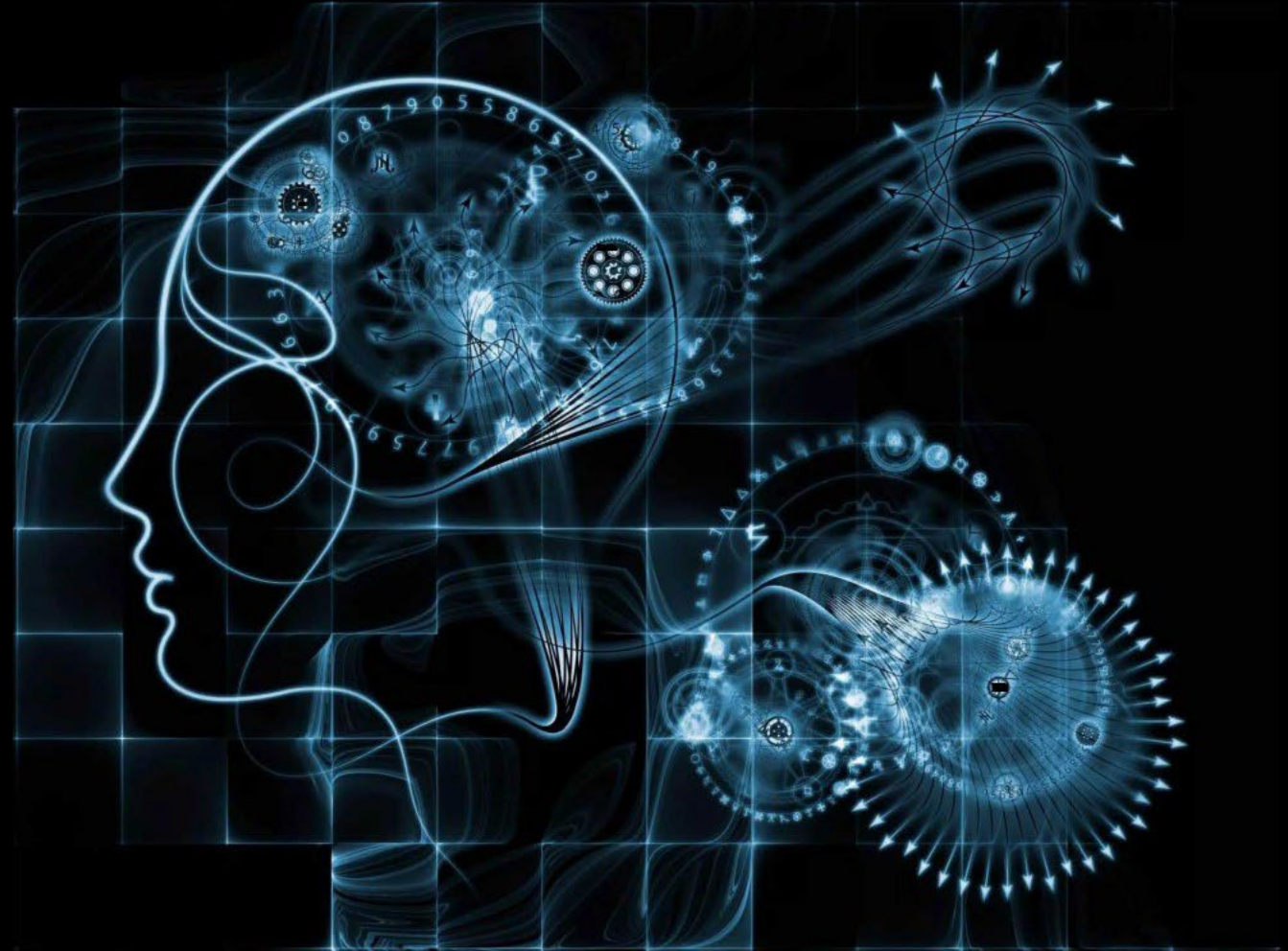
- Difficulty detecting infringement
- Expensive to prosecute and enforce
- Time consuming process
- Lots of prior art in the field

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Patent Box

Achieving broad claim scope is expensive

Component = Metal (broad)
Component = Aluminium (narrow)

Wide geographical coverage is expensive



- Necessary to retain local attorneys
- Translation costs
- Local patent office fees
- Annuities paid in each country

Enforcement is expensive (and tricky?)



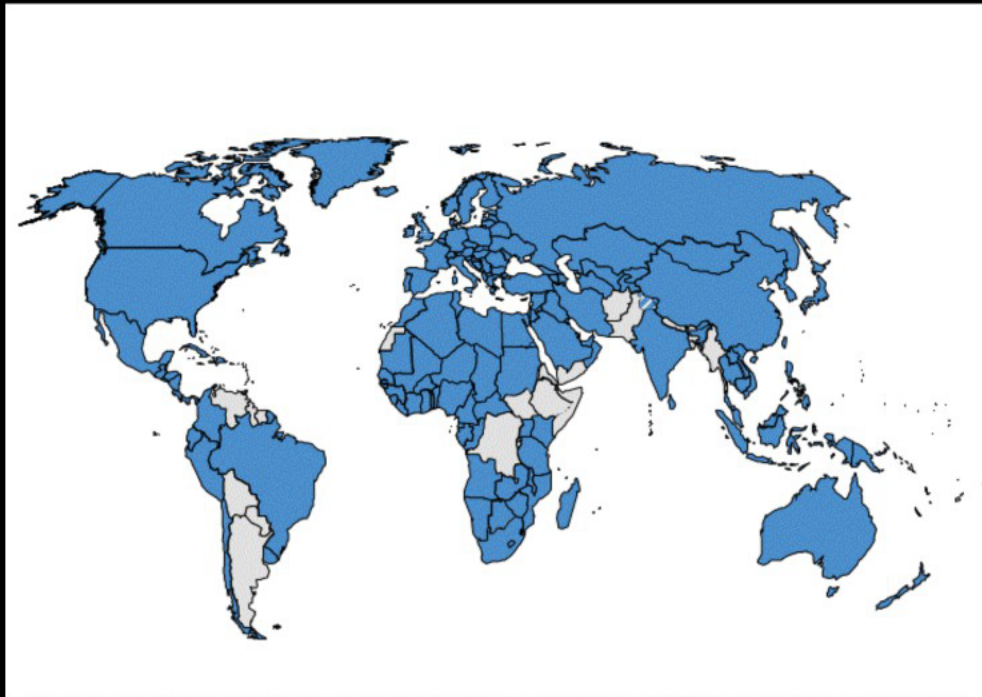
Acheiving broad claim scope is expensive

Component = Metal (broad)

Component = Aluminium (narrow)

- A patent which narrowly covers your product is adequate for patent box
- Claiming your invention specifically without fighting for broadest scope makes examination much quicker (and cheaper!)

Wide geographical coverage is expensive



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A UK or EP patent is
enough to make use of
patent box to reduce
your UK corporation tax
due on worldwide
profits derived from
your invention

Enforcement is expensive (and tricky?)



Enforcement is expensive (and tricky?)



- You do not need to be able to detect infringement to make use of patent box.
- You do not need to enforce your patent to make use of patent box.

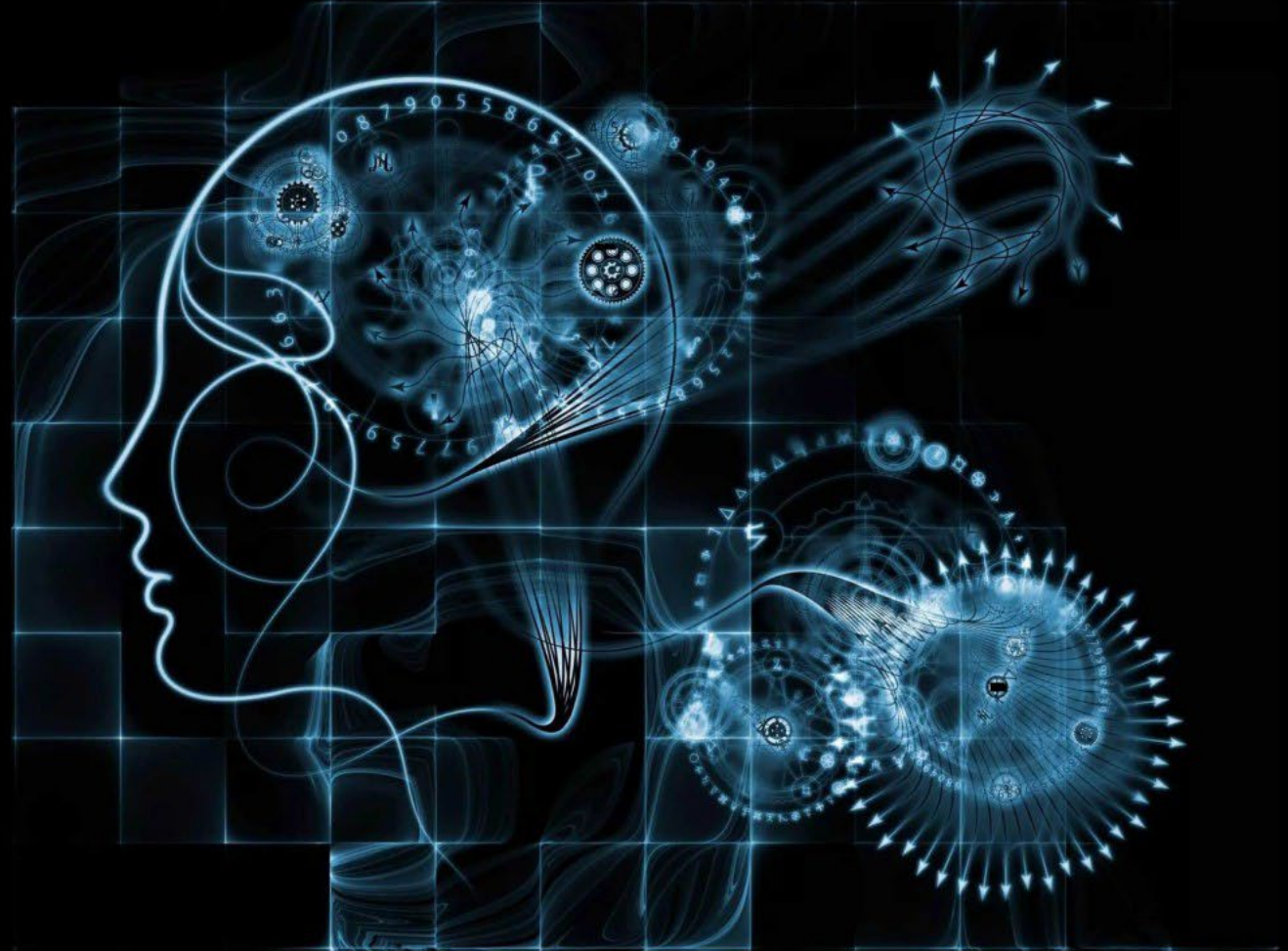
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Summary

- Leaveraging your IP to reduce tax burden is a very good reason to seek patent protection.
- If you previously thought patents would not be useful to your business, but now think they might be then speak to our Patentise team who can work with your to acheive a cost effective patent which will meet the criteria for Patent Box.

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