

IP PORTFOLIO REVIEW AND AUDIT

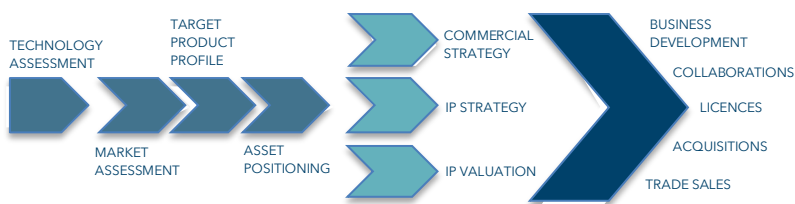


REVIEW OF A UNIVERSITY IP PORTFOLIO

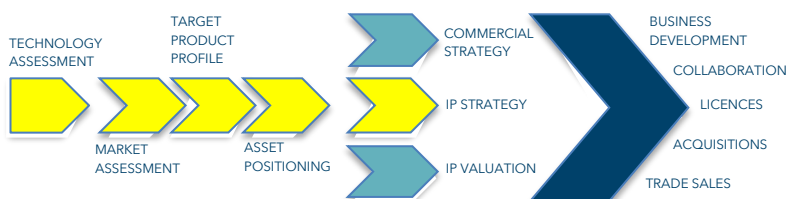
Universities around the world are under huge pressure to commercialise intellectual property created from within their grant-funded programmes and collaborations. Since universities are intrinsically creative institutions, there is no shortage of inventions that can be patented. However, the rate of patenting nearly always outstrips the number of opportunities to monetise inventions resulting in IP costs mounting year-on-year.

We reviewed a portfolio of patents and patent applications for one of the UK’s top universities. We assessed 56 inventions across the life and physical sciences. The IP and related projects were viewed from a ruthlessly commercial perspective. We identified about 6 projects that could be commercialised almost immediately. Out of the remaining 50 opportunities, we considered 15 not to have any obvious commercial promise, and a further 40 that had commercial potential based on the information and data available at the time. In order to assess these 40 projects further, we provided recommendations on what should be done next to test the commercial proposition in the market. We also proposed what research or development work should be undertaken before making internal decisions about which cases to continue funding and which patent applications should be allowed to lapse.

Our client used this exercise to change the way they assessed new inventions in the future. They reorganised their technology transfer groups to follow our working practices and methodologies which are always founded on an understanding of the market.



The workplan:



CASE STUDY NOTES

Inventions (many of them patentable) are not in short supply. Market-savvy innovations are much more scarce. These are the inventions that merit more attention and justify support from an IP budget.

CONTACT