



IP Practice in the Age of AI

How Patent Attorneys Can Start Using AI Today
and Prepare for Tomorrow

Session 3: AI in Legal Practice – Preparing for the Future
Advancing Together: Legal Practice and IP Protection in the Age of AI
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Current Landscape ① — From "Legacy" to "Smart" Drafting

	Legacy Drafting	Smart Drafting
Tools	Word — basic features only	Generative AI, macros, and domain-specific AI tools
Spec Drafting	Several hours to several days	AI generates a first draft instantly → attorney refines and reviews
Office Action Response	1–2 hours to read and analyze a rejection	AI extracts key points → attorney confirms in 5 minutes
Cases per Attorney	Conventional level	Potential for significant increase

**The more skilled the practitioner,
the greater the impact of generative AI.**

Current Landscape ② — AI Application Map for IP Practice

● How AI Transforms the IP Workflow — At a Glance

IP workflow		Expected efficiency gain from AI
Pre-Filing	Invention Interview	★★★★★
	Invention Extraction	★★★★★
	Proposal Document	★★★★★
	Prior Art Search	★★
Drafting	Claims	★★★★
	Spec (Introduction)	★★★★★
	Spec (Detailed Desc.)	★★★
Prosecution	OA Analysis	★★★★★
	Claim Chart	★★★★
	Response Draft	★★★
Other Tasks	Publication Summary	★★★★★
	Translation Support	★★★
	Competitor Analysis	★★★★

Practical Applications ① — Prompt Design Fundamentals

● The Key to Using Generative AI Effectively: Prompt Design

– Why Prompts Matter

- The **quality of your instruction** determines the quality of the output
- **Vague instruction → Vague result | Specific instruction → Actionable result**

– Core Techniques

Technique	Description	Example
Role Assignment	Give AI a professional role	"As an experienced patent attorney..."
Specificity	Provide detailed, concrete instructions	State the problem, solution, and key innovations
Step-by-Step Approach	Break complex tasks into stages	①Prior art → ②Problem → ③Solution
Format Specification	Specify the desired output format	"Use the Japanese patent publication paragraph format"

Practical Applications ② — AI-Assisted Workflow Examples

① Invention Interview → Invention Extraction

- Recording and transcription, key points extraction, automatic proposal generation
- Previously took 2-4 hours → Now takes less than 1 hour

② Patent Specification Drafting (Introduction)

- Automatic generation → Patent attorney reviews and edits for content, expression, and accuracy (5-30 minutes)

③ Office Action Response

- Extraction of rejection points, generation of claim chart, and draft of response → Within 1.5 hours

- **The attorney's role: To evaluate, refine, and decide on AI output**

Practical Applications ③ — General-Purpose vs. Domain-Specific AI

- [Organizational level]
 - **Domain-specific AI → Operationalize core workflows** (DX)
- [Individual level]
 - General-purpose AI → Deploy to all team members (task-level and personal optimization)

	General-Purpose AI	Domain-Specific AI
Examples	ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini	appia-engine, Tokkyo.AI, AI Samurai, etc.
Strengths	Versatile; powerful with skilled user input	Built-in IP domain knowledge; easy team standardization
Weaknesses	Tends toward individual optimization	Limited to specific use cases
Best for	Emails, summaries, translation, brainstorming	Spec drafting, prosecution, firm-wide DX

Risks & Ethics ① — The Four Key Risks of AI Use

● Technical Limitations

- **Hallucination:** AI generates plausible-sounding but incorrect information
- **Difficulty handling jurisdiction-specific legal nuances**
- Risk of acting on outdated information

● Legal and Professional Ethics Issues

- **Unauthorized practice risk:** In principle, **AI use is permissible under attorney supervision, but requires careful monitoring**
- **Duty of care (Civil Code Article 644):** Providing unreviewed AI output to clients may constitute a breach
- **Misrepresentation:** Claiming to use AI when you do not (or vice versa) is prohibited

● Confidential and Personal Information Risks

- Input data may be used for AI model training
- **Risk of violating attorney-client confidentiality** (Patent Attorney Act, Article 30)
- Client consent may be required before using AI

● Human Resource Concerns

- AI has inherent limits in deep professional judgment and creativity

- 8 – **"The AI said so" is not an acceptable professional justification**

Risks & Ethics ② — Building AI Governance

● Establishing AI Governance for Your Firm

– Why Governance is Necessary

- To elevate AI use from personal experimentation → standardized professional practice

– Two Documents to Establish

- ① **Generative AI Usage Policy** ("Shared rules for confident AI use")
 - Clearly define permitted uses, prohibited inputs, and scope of use
 - Mandate fact-checking and **Human-In-The-Loop (HITL) review**
 - Specify approved tools (free vs. paid plans) and authorization procedures
- ② **AI Whitelist** ("A list of AI services approved for professional use")
 - Only include services with verified safety, commercial use rights, and Data Processing Agreements (DPA)
 - Prevent "Shadow AI" — **unauthorized use of unapproved tools**

– Client Alignment

- **Define the scope of AI use on a per-client basis**
- Obtain prior approval for matters involving confidential information
- Consider including AI usage terms in engagement agreements

Getting Ready ① — Building AI Skills

● Three Skills Every IP Professional Should Develop

– Skill 1 — Prompt Engineering

- The ability to write clear, effective instructions for AI; **closely linked to existing patent drafting expertise**

– Skill 2 — Critical Review

- The ability to evaluate AI output for accuracy, completeness, and legal soundness; **requires deep domain knowledge**

– Skill 3 — AI Governance Design

- The ability to design and implement policies and systems that allow **an organization to use AI at scale safely**

● Practical Learning Advice

- **Start by trying it** — Whether AI is useful can only be determined through hands-on use

- **Use AI to accelerate your own learning** — Invest the time saved into professional development

- **Strengthen accountability** — **Be able to explain your conclusions in your own words, not just "the AI said so"**

Getting Ready ② — AI Adoption Roadmap for Firms

● AI Adoption Roadmap for Patent and Law Firms

– Step 1: Assessment and Pilot (Months 0–3)

- Map your current workflows (**identify where AI does and does not add value**)
- Have all team members experiment with general-purpose AI tools
- Build early wins and shared experience

– Step 2: Governance Setup (Months 3–6)

- Draft and implement a **Generative AI Usage Policy**
- Create an **AI Whitelist**
- Develop client consent templates for AI use

– Step 3: Domain-Specific AI Adoption and Standardization (Month 6+)

- Integrate AI into core workflows (spec drafting, prosecution, etc.)
- Digitize and standardize processes (DX)
- Continuously evaluate and improve

– The Most Important Principle

- **Do not think "we just need to find the right AI tool."**
- **First, redesign your workflows.**
- **Then, integrate AI where it fits.**

Looking Ahead — The Future Role of the Patent Attorney

● What Will Change — and What Will Not

– What Will Change

- Most routine drafting tasks will be accelerated with AI support
- The number of cases one attorney can handle will increase significantly
- Clients themselves will begin using AI and may bring AI-drafted specifications
- Patent examiners may increasingly use AI in examination

– What Will NOT Change

- The role of the professional who bears final responsibility
- The ability to see to the heart of an invention
- Deep, trust-based relationships with clients
- Creative and strategic thinking

– What the AI-Era Patent Attorney Needs

- Deep Technical & Legal Expertise × AI Proficiency × Professional Ethics & Accountability → Creating new value as an "AI-empowered expert"

Summary - Key Takeaways

① Start using it — then form your judgment

- The potential of AI can only be **understood through direct experience**
- "It's not useful" is only a valid conclusion after you've actually tried it

② AI assists, humans decide

- **Final judgment, responsibility, and accountability always rest with the professional**
- Fact-checking and **HITL (Human In The Loop)** are non-negotiable

③ Redesign for the AI era

- Rethink your workflows from the ground up
- Build governance so your whole organization can use AI safely
- Use the time AI saves to deepen your own expertise

● **AI does not replace the value of IP professionals — it amplifies it.**



Thank you!



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