

RYAN P. O'CONNOR

Dr. Ryan P. O'Connor is a Partner and President of O'Connor & Company. His practice includes patent preparation and prosecution, as well as intellectual-property strategy consulting, for chemicals, materials, energy, biotechnology, and business methods.

Experience

Dr. Ryan O'Connor has over a dozen years of R&D experience in the chemicals, energy, and biotechnology industries. Ryan's thesis studies involved the engineering of new, environmentally friendly reactor technologies. In six years with the biotechnology company NatureWorks LLC (Cargill), Ryan developed patent-pending biorefining technologies to turn biomass (such as corn stalks) into renewable plastics, chemicals, and energy. Service to NatureWorks included drafting patent applications and conducting prosecution for inventions related to biomass fractionation, new polymer compositions, catalyst formulations, fermentation process optimization, genetic engineering, and other areas. Ryan also taught the principles of patent engineering to the organization to obtain the broadest and most-valuable patent protection possible. At Range Fuels, Inc., a renewable-energy start-up company, Ryan has directed IP strategy since 2007 and built, from the ground up, a large portfolio of pending patents and trade secrets.

In his practice, Ryan has prepared and filed over one hundred U.S. and PCT (international) patent applications. In 2007, Ryan secured a patent for a client under the new Accelerated Examination program. The patent (U.S. Patent No. 7,251,621) was the first ever allowed in the business-methods art via Accelerated Examination.

Education

B.S., University of Notre Dame, Chemical Engineering (*summa cum laude*)
Ph.D., University of Minnesota, Chemical Engineering

Bar Admission

Patent Bar, United States Patent & Trademark Office, Registration No. 56693

Certification

NAPP-Certified Patent Practitioner, 2008–2010

Professional Associations and Societies

National Association of Patent Practitioners (NAPP)
American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)
Minnesota Intellectual Property Law Association (MIPLA)
Energy Bar Association (EBA)
American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE)
American Chemical Society (ACS)
American Scientific Affiliation (ASA)

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