

Patent Law

von

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Patent Law

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**Maximilian Haedicke and
Henrik Timmann**

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Foreword

The practical relevance of German patent law and of European patent law as applied in Germany is reflected in its enormous economic impact, Germany being Europe's most important location for patent infringement suits and the country in which most European patent applications are filed. Hence, German patent law is of particular interest not only for German practitioners, but for practitioners throughout the world. Literally everybody who is concerned with patents in Europe has to take the legal situation in Germany into account.

Furthermore, German patent-related legal research and case law have evolved for more than a century, strongly influencing European patent law. It is a further goal of this book to make such long-standing principles accessible to those unfamiliar with the German language in order to enrich the international debate in all legal matters related to patents.

Thus, the Patent Law Handbook is meant for lawyers, legal and patent departments of business entities, as well as judges and administrative bodies worldwide, in order to support them in their day-to-day business when they are concerned with questions relating specifically to German patent law, and in order to allow a comparison of their own legal assessment with German principles.

For these purposes, this book offers a comprehensive presentation and analysis of the substantive issues of German, European and international patent law. It also covers procedural aspects insofar as they do not relate solely to the German court system and therefore seem to be of international interest.

The content of this book is essentially an English translation of its parallel German publication "Handbuch des Patentrechts", which was published in 2012 by C. H. Beck. Some sections of the German equivalent have been adapted to better meet international needs, one section covering purely procedural aspects of infringement suits has been omitted.

The authors of the Patent Law Handbook are judges, attorneys, patent attorneys and researchers. All of them have years of experience in the field of patent law and practice. The editors wish to thank all the authors for their unrelenting efforts and work.

Literature and case law up to February 2012 have been taken into account.

Freiburg and Düsseldorf, August 2013

Maximilian Haedicke

Henrik Timmann



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