

Dr. rer. nat. Bernhard Virnekäs

Dipl.-Chem.

European Patent Attorney

Languages

German, English, French

Contact

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Technical Expertise

Chemistry

Pharma

Biotechnology

Legal Expertise

Patent and Utility Model Protection

Opposition and Appeal Proceedings

IP Contracts and Licenses

IP Due Diligence

Dr. Bernhard Virnekäs holds a doctorate in chemistry and was admitted as a European Patent Attorney in 1998. Dr. Virnekäs worked for a long time in a leading position in the biotechnology industry and joined the law firm WR in 2008.

Legal Practice

Based on his strong industrial background, Dr. Virnekäs focuses on advising companies in the chemical, pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries on all matters of patent law, such as strategic IP management and due diligence work, as well as freedom-to-operate analyses.

Technical Background

Dr. Virnekäs studied chemistry at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University in Munich and received his PhD in organic chemistry in 1992. He then began his career in the biotechnology industry at the Munich-based start-up company MorphoSys, where he worked in the field of recombinant antibody libraries and screening technologies. He worked there from 1992 to 2005, first as a chemist and then in the Intellectual Property department.

He built up the company's in-house IP department and was involved in all IP aspects of the company, ranging from protection of the proprietary technology platform to licensing and complex patent infringement litigation in the US.

In 2005, Dr. Virnekäs joined GPC Biotech AG, where he was jointly responsible for the company's IP portfolio related to antitumor drug development, ranging from platinum complexes and small molecule kinase inhibitors to recombinant antibody products.

Career | Memberships



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Career

2008 Joined the law firm WR

2005 Joined GPC Biotech AG, co-responsible for the company's IP portfolio

since 1998 Admission as European Patent Attorney

1992–2005 Worked at the start-up company MorphoSys. Initially as chemist in the field of recombinant antibody libraries and screening technologies. Establishment of the in-house IP department Supervision of all IP aspects of the company

1992 Doctorate in Organic Chemistry

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Chemistry

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Memberships

+ Institute of Professional Representatives before the European Patent Office (epi)
+ Licensing Executives Society (LES)