



# 佐野国際特許事務所

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## ABOUT US

Sano & Associates, International Patent Firm is a small sized patent and trademark agent located in heart of Tokyo, Japan. The firm was founded in 1996 by Hiroshi Sano and now the firm has grown into a patent firm with staff members over 10.

Our firm provides technical expertise and protection on IP rights including patent, utility model, design, trademark, copyright and unfair competition prevention law etc.

Our services range from performing preliminary search, filing applications, handling prosecution and protecting registered rights up to supporting litigation related to IP matters on behalf of our clients.



## OUR SERVICES

1) Our patent services cover wide range of technical area. We are highly specialized in the field of mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, and chemical engineering. Our attorneys and technical experts are well experienced and come from various technological backgrounds. The internal network allows us to establish good communication and cooperative relationship and to share knowledge between each other.

2) We are also experts in trademark matter. Before applying for trademark registration, you need to identify the goods and services to which you will actually use the trademark for and we are here to assist you in making a proper decision. Once the application is filed, the application goes through an examination process and when it passes the examination, your trademark is registered. Your trademark registration will give you an exclusive right to use the trademark and to protect your trademark from infringement.

3) We also put emphasis on IP search. When launching a new business, it is important that you check and find out whether you are likely to infringe other people's IP rights by conducting a preliminary search. When starting a new research and development, it is important that you check whether the new art in question has not yet applied for a patent to minimize the risk of filing application having same subject matter or the risk of conducting the same experiment. Prior art search is also indispensable for invalidating defective patent.

4) We act on behalf of medium and small sized companies to assist and support small businesses.

5) We work globally. Not only we represent Japanese companies, we also work for foreign clients. We handle PCT applications and International Trademark registrations based on Madrid Protocol.

6) We form partnership with several law firms which makes us available to deal expeditiously and adequately with litigation matter.

## MESSAGE



Intellectual Property Right is extremely important to every company. How you protect your IP right and how you use your IP right can greatly influence the growth and development of your company.

It has indeed been a great pleasure involving in the IP business and working for our client to serve their needs the best we can.

Most importantly, we are here to help our clients obtain patent protection throughout the world. But, we are also committed to help our clients conceive new and fresh ideas and develop great inventions. Certainly, while inventors and staff in the IP department both play an important role in creating new invention, we have also been using our best endeavor to give our clients all possible advice and support so that they can conceive a good idea.

We are also actively involved in conducting patent search because patent search can be of considerable significance in research development, in the process of obtaining patent protection, and in patent infringement case etc. The result of the patent search can affect the tendency of development, and based on this result, we can consequently determine the scope of the invention of a patent application, grounds for patent opposition, grounds for patent invalidation trial etc.

Moreover, when drafting a patent application, we always dedicate all our effort to enhance the quality of an invention our clients achieved and to propose different and broader aspect of the invention to our clients. It is also vital to have a discussion directly with the inventors who conceived the idea to have a better understanding of the invention and ensure our clients to receive the desired scope of protection. Certainly, in order to do so, we require certain knowledge to understand the technical field of the invention.

Thus, drafting a patent application, conducting a patent search etc., all phases are

closely linked with each other, and quality of each work phase can be improved when all the above-phases can be implemented consistently.

Meanwhile, in this age of rapid globalization, it is important that we provide high quality and distinctive products and services in the global market. And trademark which can serve as an identity, an assurance or advertising to the customer has become more and more important. Many great products and services are protected under the brand name with high economic value across the world. Every company has been strategically using trademark, and especially, when company intends to expand their business globally, trademark protection can be of great importance.

We use best endeavor to provide our client with best trademark services and to serve the needs of our client. We are here to assist our client identify proper goods and services before applying for trademark registration and in this way, you can effectively obtain trademark protection and eliminate unnecessary expenses.

We always strive to understand and meet our client's need to the greatest extent possible. We sincerely hope we can be of any assistance to you to further develop your business through the Intellectual Property.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. Sano". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Patent Attorney  
SANO & Associates, International Patent Firm

## ATTORNEYS & STAFFS

### Hiroshi SANO

#### **PRESIDENT PATENT ATTORNEY**

Established SANO & Associates, International Patent Firm in 1996

Registered as patent attorney in 1993

Graduated from Department of Mechanical Engineering, School of Science and Technology, Nihon University in 1980

Born in Chiba prefecture in 1957

Technical Expertise: Mechanical Engineering Worked for patent related to automobile, two-wheeled vehicle (body, articles, engine etc.), manufacturing technology (press molding, injection molding etc.), architecture, semiconductor device and civil engineering machinery.

Work experience since 1980

### Akio ISHII

#### **PATENT ATTORNEY**

Graduated from Department of Electrical Engineering, Tokyo University of Science in 2004

Graduated from Department of Law, Waseda University in 1993

Registered as patent attorney in 2001

Technical Expertise : Information and Telecommunication, software

Work experience since 1993

### Junpei OKADA

#### **PATENT ATTORNEY**

Graduated from Department of Science (Physics), Tohoku University in 1969 and graduated from Doctorate Course in Science of Kyoto University in 1974, Doctor of Science.

Registered as patent attorney in 1988

Technical Expertise : Physics (optics, measurement, etc.) and others

Work experience since 1987

### **Hayami KIKAWA**

#### **PATENT ATTORNEY**

Graduated from Master Course in Department of Precision Engineering, School of Technology of Shizuoka University in 1997

Registered as patent attorney in 2018

Technical Expertise: Signal Processing, Precision Mechanical Equipment, Measuring Equipment, Mechatronics

Work experience since 2018

### **Tsuyoshi ISOBE**

Graduated from Department of Economics, Ritsumeikan University in 1997

Technical Expertise: Mechanical engineering, control engineering, mechatronics

Work experience since 1998

### **Masakatsu TAKAHASHI**

Graduated from Department of Engineering, School of Chemical Engineering, Tokyo University of Agriculture & Technology in 1985

Technical Expertise: Mechanics and other types of artificial structures

Work experience since 1989

### **Yuji SAKIKAWA**

Graduated from Department of Law, Seikei University in 1995

Technical Expertise : Trademark and Design

Work experience since 1997

### **Hiroshi KATSU**

Graduated from Department of Electrical Engineering, Tokyo Denki University in 1978

Technical Expertise: Mechanics, Electrics and Mechatronics

Work experience since 1979

## CONTACT US

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