



VLP's David Roise Featured in Law360 Q&A Series

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[David Roise](#), a partner at VLP and Chair of the firm's Intellectual Property Practice Group, was recently featured in Law360's Q&A series. In the interview, David discussed his experiences and challenges of being a patent prosecution attorney. This included the ongoing tension in the world of patent law between businesses in the high-tech space, such as computer hardware, software and the Internet, and those in the life science and pharmaceutical industries. For high-tech companies, the technology changes so fast that in many cases it may not even be worth pursuing patent protection for their innovations, whereas biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies have an extremely long development period for their products. For them, the biggest value in the patent coverage often occurs at the end of the patent term, not at the beginning.

Q: What aspects of your practice area are in need of reform and why?

A: The harmonization of patent laws around the world is an important goal that is slowly being achieved. Recent changes in U.S. patent laws, including the switch to a "first-inventor-to-file" system, are significant in that they bring the U.S. system more in line with the rest of the world. There are still significant differences in subject matter eligibility in various jurisdictions, however, and it would be helpful if it were easier to write a single set of patent claims that could be consistently examined in all countries.

It would also be helpful if the enforcement of patent rights, and IP rights in general, was more uniform around the world. There is an understandable concern among rights holders that some countries do not yet have reliable and fair court systems or a fully developed case law. Consistent examination and granting of patent rights is only one side of the coin. Equally important is the predictability and fairness of courts in determining the outcome of patent infringement suits.

For the full article, please click [here](#).