



Robert H. Walat

Shareholder and Executive Committee Member

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Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, BS, Materials Science and Engineering

Stanford University, MS, Materials Science and Engineering

Suffolk University Law School, JD

Practice Groups

Chemical & Materials Technologies, Chair

Electrical & Computer Technologies

Rob Walat chairs the firm's **Chemical & Materials Technologies Group**. Rob works with clients ranging in size from startup companies to large global corporations on domestic and international patent issues. His practice focuses on competitive analysis, counseling and patent portfolio development. He is particularly experienced in areas of patent prosecution, due diligence, opinion work, foreign patent oppositions and patent litigation support. He is based in Boston, but also serves clients from the firm's New York office.

Rob's work primarily relates to materials and chemical technologies including electronic materials, semiconductors, ceramics, metals and polymeric materials. Rob's technical proficiency also includes areas of nanotechnology, batteries, displays, OLEDs and LEDs. Rob has also been a frequent speaker on IP issues and strategies for the LED and OLED industries at national conferences including "Strategies in Light" (2007-2010), "Phosphor Global Summit" (2009 and 2010) and "OLEDs World Summit" (2012).

Prior to joining Wolf Greenfield, Rob was a materials scientist at a startup company working in the field of polymeric materials, where he was a contributing inventor on several pending patents. He also worked as a semiconductor process engineer at Intel Corporation.

Client testimonial:

"Rob does a fantastic job staying on top of things. I rely heavily on him to get the right information to me so I can make decisions about continuing with the patent or abandoning it."

Client testimonial:

"Every call that I have with Rob starts with him asking, 'How is the business doing?' and not 'How is the matter going?' Rob can probably recite our business strategy better than I can."

Client testimonial:

"If we are working on something that requires a lot of information, Rob can synthesize it to what I need to get to a decision. He makes the best use of my time without wasting it."

Client testimonial:

"Rob's willingness to do off-the-clock work probably doesn't cost him a lot, but we never feel like we are being penny pitched. Also, we have hour and half-hour off-the-clock patent strategy sessions that Rob participates in, and he went to DC for us, and that was off the clock too. That kind of stuff really helps distinguish him. A lot of firms will just send reporting letters, but Rob will follow up with an e-mail and is very proactive."

Experience

- Developed patent portfolios and strategies for numerous early-stage companies. Current clients have raised over \$500 million in funding from venture capital firms and other funding sources.
- Developed and managed portfolio of hundreds of patents for a world market leader with a significant licensing program.
- Guided successful defenses of a client's key patents which were challenged by a competitor. Counseled on related offensive strategy.
- Frequent advisor to investors on IP strengths and risks associated with start-up companies in which they may invest.

Activities

- Boston Patent Law Association
- MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge - Committee member

Recognition

- Rob has been repeatedly named to the list of Massachusetts Super Lawyers for his work in the field of intellectual property law.
- Recognized for excellent client care and quality of service by the 2018 Client Choice Awards.