



Ontex is looking for a

Group Patent Manager

Ontex is a fast growing international company where people are the most valuable asset. To reinforce our IP team we are looking for a Group Patent Manager, reporting directly to the Group Head of IP.

Your role

As a member of the IP team you will support the Company's growth strategy in the highly innovative and competitive personal hygiene consumer goods market with first-class patent support and contribute to the design and roll-out of its patent strategy and develop and implement state-of-the-art patent tools and processes.

You will have a special responsibility to provide support to, and work closely together with, the Group's R&D organization, in particular with Ontex-R&D in Belgium (Aalst).

The Group Patent Manager will:

- Provide full range of patent advisory and services: monitoring, searches and analysis (prior art and FTO); patentability opinions, patent drafting, filing and maintenance, licensing (in and out);
- Identify patent worthy inventions during development and initiate and supervise the patenting process;
- Identify and communicate evolutions and new development opportunities in sight of the existing patent landscape;
- Develop and implement an adaptive patent strategy and contribute to design and implement effective and state of the art tools, processes and policies;
- Draft and prosecution of patent applications;
- Draft and review development, intellectual property, knowhow, technology and licensing agreements;
- Managing disputes and litigation within the patent law area;
- Provide training to the Company's research and business community;
- Managing (a network of) outside advisors and service providers in relation to all of the above;
- Develop and maintain strong business partner relationships and collaborative model with the stakeholders in the Company's corporate functions (in particular Manufacturing, R&D, Sales and Marketing) and the Company's business divisions;
- Develop and maintain a network of relevant authorities, regulators and other external stakeholders;
- Contributing to the deployment of best in class tools, processes and systems with respect to IP and patent management.

Your profile

Education-Experience

- A relevant Master's degree from a first rate Belgian or European university, with high academic credentials; a post-graduate degree at a distinguished academic institution is a plus;
- Extensive training in the field of intellectual property, in particular in the field of patents.
- Qualification or part-qualification as European patent attorney is a big plus.
- At least 1,5 years of relevant professional experience as a patent lawyer/manager/attorney/engineer.

Job Specific Competencies

- Ability to work effectively in an international and multi-cultural environment;
- Ability to manage complex projects and lead cross-functional project teams;
- A result-oriented ("can do") attitude without compromising on quality and integrity and an ability to make sound judgment calls;
- Business orientation and commercial awareness combined with solid risk management skills and authority;
- Clear and effective communication skills;
- True team player;
- Some experience in the development and implementation of IP management initiatives, driving process improvements, resource efficiencies and change management in provision of IP services will be an advantage;
- Ability and willingness to effect business travel;
- Excellent knowledge of English; working knowledge of Dutch and/or French and/or Spanish is a plus.

We offer you

- A professional environment with a wealth of opportunities for your personal growth and career development.
- A fun working atmosphere where team spirit is the real deal.
- Exciting and challenging projects with an international scope.
- A competitive salary package in line with your experience.

Interested?

Please send your CV and motivation letter to jobs.aalst@ontexglobal.com before 15/01/2017

About Ontex

Ontex is a leading international producer of disposable personal hygiene solutions for all generations. We distribute in more than 110 countries through leading retailer private labels, as well as under our own brands. The group employs 8,000 employees over the world. Ontex is listed on Euronext Brussels and is part of the BEL20® index. To support our continuous growth, we are recruiting multiple profiles, in various regions. If you want to be part of this exciting journey, join our online community by consulting our job opportunities!

About our office

Ontex Aalst has been the headquarters of the Ontex Group since June 2014. At Ontex Aalst we focus mainly on functions such as marketing, sales, R&D, quality, sustainability, finance, ICT, legal, HR, supply chain, and procurement. Our site has about 180 employees who are all dedicated to our company and our vision.