FISH.



Timothy W. Riffe

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Overview

Timothy W. Riffe's practice emphasizes complex patent litigation in U.S. district courts and the U.S. International Trade Commission and post-grant proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board.

Tim also advises clients in strategic patent counseling and prosecution. At the ITC, Tim is a first-chair litigator and has led numerous litigations to victory. At the PTAB, Tim has appeared in approximately 250 proceedings for both patent owners and petitioners across a multitude of technology areas. Tim's extensive litigation and prosecution/counseling experience combined with his post-grant practice allows him to bring a wealth of knowledge across multiple disciplines within the intellectual property field to bear on clients' behalf.

Tim has received numerous accolades regarding his legal work, including being named to *IAM Patent 1000*: "The World's Leading Patent Professionals" for the past five years and being named as a "Top PTAB Practitioner" and recommended for ITC and for patent by *IAM*. He also has been distinguished as one of *Washingtonian* magazine's top lawyers in IP in Washington, D.C.

He has handled technical matters in such diverse fields as oil refining processes, semiconductors, optical networking systems, lithium-ion batteries, medical devices, power generation, and telecommunications.

Tim assists in the management of patent portfolios for a variety of large and small technology clients. Tim's services include patent portfolio strategy and development, opinions on patent validity and infringement, and patent landscape and freedom to operate (right to practice) studies.

Prior to his legal career, Tim worked as a design and process engineer for Michelin Tire Corp. and DuPont.

Experience

U.S. District Court

G.W. Aru LLC, et al. v. W.R. Grace & Co. (D. Md.): Secured a ruling of no infringement for defendant W.R. Grace & Co. in this patent infringement and false advertising suit under the Lanham Act involving catalysts and combustion promoters used in modern petroleum refining.

MLC Intellectual Property, LLC v. Micron Technology, Inc. (N.D. Cal.): Secured a favorable settlement for defendant Micron Technology, Inc., in case involving multi-level NAND flash memory devices.

EMS Technologies, LLC v. Micron Technology, Inc. and IM Flash Technologies, LLC (E.D. Tex.): Represented defendants Micron and IMFT in case involving memory devices. Case settled.

Sling Media, Inc. v. Belkin International, Inc. and Monsoon Multimedia, Inc. (N.D. Cal.): Represented plaintiff, Sling Media, in case involving devices having placeshifting or display replication functionality. Case settled.

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois v. Micron Technology, Inc. (C.D. Ill.): Obtained a key patent victory for Micron Technology, Inc., following litigation against the University of Illinois regarding semiconductor manufacturing technology.

Mitel Networks Corp. and Mitel (Delaware), Inc. v. Facebook, Inc. (D. Del.): Represented the Mitel plaintiffs in case involving web-based services and products. Case settled.

Virnetx Inc. v. Mitel Networks Corporation, Mitel Networks, Inc. et al. (E.D. Tex.): Represented Mitel defendants in case involving virtual private networks and domain name services. Case settled.

LeRoy G. Hagenbuch v. Komatsu America Corp. (C.D. Ill.): Represented defendant Komatsu America in case involving earth-moving equipment. Case settled.

Innovative Global Systems, LLC v. Komatsu America Corp. et al. (E.D. Tex.): Represented defendant Komatsu America in case involving data communications between heavy duty vehicles and remote terminals. Case settled.

Condatis LLC v. Windrock Inc. (E.D. Tex.): Represented defendant Windrock, Inc., in case involving real-time management of powered vehicles. Case settled.

Microsoft Corporation v. Primax Electronics Ltd. (N.D. Cal.): Represented plaintiff Microsoft in case involving computer peripheral devices.Case settled.

Computer Cache Coherency Corporation v. Intel Corporation (N.D. Cal.): Represented defendant Intel in case involving interface circuits. Obtained summary judgment of non-infringement.

Seagate Technology LLC v. Cornice, Inc. (D. Del.): Represented plaintiff Seagate Technology in case involving technology contained in micro-disc drives. Case settled.

DataTreasury Corp. v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. et al. (E.D. Tex.): Represented defendant ACS in case involving document imaging and storage systems. Case settled.

Genesis Microchip (Delaware) Inc. v. Media Reality Technologies, Inc., et al. (N.D. Cal.): Represented plaintiff Genesis Microchip in case involving display controller chips. Obtained summary judgment of infringement.

U.S. International Trade Commission, Section 337 proceedings

Certain Subsea Telecommunication Systems and Components Thereof, Inv. No. 337-TA-1098, and *Certain Submarine Telecommunication Systems* (Inv. No. 337-TA-1113): Represented NEC Corporation as respondent and represented NEC Corporation as complainant, respectively, in investigations concerning subsea telecommunication equipment.

Certain Electronic Devices Having Placeshifting or Display Replication Functionality and Products Containing Same (Inv. No. 337-TA-878): Represented Complainant Sling Media, Inc., seeking exclusion of placeshifting devices imported by Belkin International, Monsoon Multimedia, and C2 Microsystems.

Certain Flash Memory Chips and Products Containing Same (Inv. No. 337-TA-735): Defended respondent Samsung Electronics against patent infringement claims brought by Spansion LLC seeking exclusion of Samsung's NAND flash memory chips and downstream products containing those chips manufactured by Samsung and Samsung customers.

Certain Electronic Devices Having Image Capture or Display Functionality and Components Thereof (Inv. No. 337-TA-672):

Represented complainant LG Electronics, Inc., in investigation involving digital cameras. Case settled.

Certain Peripheral Devices and Components Thereof and Products Containing the Same (Inv. No. 337-TA-654): Represented complainant Microsoft Corporation in investigation involving computer peripheral devices. Case settled.

Certain Semiconductor Chips with Minimized Chip Package Size and Products Containing Same (III) (Inv. No. 337-TA-630): Represented respondent Ramaxel Technology, Ltd., in investigation involving small-format BGA semiconductor packages and products containing such packages.

Certain Baseband Processor Chips and Chipsets, Transmitter and Receiver (Radio) Chips, Power Control Chips, and Products Containing Same, Including Cellular Telephone Handsets (Inv. No. 337-TA-543): Represented intervenor LG Electronics Mobilecomm USA in investigation involving baseband processor chips, which are components of cellular telephone handsets.

Certain Disc Drives, Components Thereof, and Products Containing Same (Inv. No. 337-TA-516): Represented complainant Seagate Technology, LLC, in investigation involving technology contained in micro-disc drives. After first day of trial, settled favorably after respondent agreed to cease manufacture of accused products.

Certain Display Controllers and Products Containing Same (Inv. No. 337-TA-491): Represented complainant Genesis Microchip in investigation involving digital scaling and multiple display format controller chips. Obtained exclusion order after full hearing on the merits barring all accused products from entry into the U.S.

Certain Display Controllers With Upscaling Functionality and Products Containing Same (Inv. No. 337-TA-481): Represented complainant Genesis Microchip in investigation involving flat panel controller chips. Obtained exclusion order after full hearing on the merits and review by the Commission barring all accused products from entry into the U.S.

Recognitions & awards

IAM Patent 1000

IAM 2012-2014, 2016-2026

Client Service All-Star

BTI Consulting Group Inc. 2024

Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

District of Columbia Courts 2013, 2022-2023

Pro Bono Achievement Certificate

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) 2020

Top PTAB Practitioner

Managing Intellectual Property (MIP) 2018

Top Lawyer for Intellectual Property

Washingtonian Magazine 2011-2012

Testimonials

"Tim quickly grasps technical concepts and is able to convey arguments to his audience in a way that simply makes sense." —*Client Testimonial, 2022 Chambers and Partners USA*

Pro bono activities

Has represented a number of clients on a pro bono basis in obtaining guardianship or adoption of children through his work with the Children's Law Center of Washington, D.C., and previously served on its advisory board.

Insights

Article | May 1, 2018
Challenges Ahead For PTAB After High Court SAS Ruling

Law360

Article | April 7, 2017
Celgard Can't Salvage Battery Patent Claims At Fed. Circ.

Law360

Article | January 13, 2016
PTAB Designates Previous Board Decision in Westlake Services v. Credit Acceptance as Precedential

Fish & Richardson

Article | July 17, 2014
9 Common Pitfalls With Post-Grant Proceedings

Law360

Article | May 18, 2013
Avoiding Waiver with Thorough Explanation of Anticipated Motion

Fish & Richardson

News

June 3, 2026
Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2026 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

May 30, 2025
Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2025 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

June 11, 2024
Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2024 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

June 4, 2024
Two Fish Principals Named 2024 Client Service All-Stars by BTI Consulting Group

May 6, 2024
18 Fish & Richardson Attorneys Recognized by D.C. Courts in the 2023 Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

July 31, 2023
Twenty-Eight Fish & Richardson Attorneys Recognized by D.C. Courts in the 2022 Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

June 27, 2023
Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2023 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

September 8, 2022
Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2022 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

August 31, 2021
Fish & Richardson Secures Precedential Damages Win for Micron Technology in Federal Circuit Appeal

July 7, 2021
Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2021 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000*: The World's Leading Patent Professionals

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Events & Webinars

March 20, 2014
Discussion With Ted Leonsis

Startup Grind

January 21, 2014
Discussion with Alex Hawkinson

Startup Grind

June 12, 2013
How the Use of Discovery is Evolving in *Inter Partes* Review Proceedings

Webinar

May 29, 2013
The IP Strategy Summit: Enforcement

The IP Strategy Summit

Additional insights

Publications

- "Recent Legislation: The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999," *Bio-Science Law Review*3: 93-98 (1999)
- "Proposed Changes In US Patent Regulations May Impose Increased Burdens With Respect To Information Disclosure Statements," *Bio-Science Law Review*3: 123-25 (1998)
- "Status of Legislation To Reorganize The US Patent And Trademark Office And Amend US Patent Law," *Bio-Science Law Review*2: 78 (1998)

Speaking engagements

- "IP Roundtable for Startups: Patent Q&A," *Fish & Richardson* (February 8, 2017)
- "Post-Grant Executive Roundtable," *Consero Group* (September 2014)
- "The New Age of Enforcement: Post-Grant. How to Avoid Being the Victim When Asserting Your Patents," *The IP Strategy Summit: Enforcement*, Washington, D.C. (May 29, 2013)

Services

Litigation
Patent Litigation
Post-Grant
Inter Partes Review

Post-Grant Review
Ex Parte Reexamination

Patent
Patent Prosecution
Strategic Patent Counseling & Opinions
Patent Portfolio Management
IP Licensing, Transactions & Agreements
Standard Essential Patents

Industries

Electrical & Computer Technology
Semiconductors
Consumer Electronics
Optics
Financial, Business & FinTech Services
Telecommunications
Energy & Chemicals
Petrochemical
Cleantech
Medical Devices
Manufacturing

Admissions

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (1999)
District of Columbia (2003)
U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
Virginia

Education

J.D. with honors, George Washington University Law School (2001) Member, *The American Intellectual Property Law Association Quarterly Journal*
B.S., Mechanical Engineering, Virginia Tech (1993)

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