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Phone: +1 646 783 7100 | Fax: +1 646 783 7161 | customerservice@law360.com

Fish & Richardson Launches Patent-Focused AI Tool

By **Adrian Cruz**

Law360 (June 22, 2026, 4:48 PM EDT) -- Intellectual property firm Fish & Richardson PC announced Monday that it has launched an artificial intelligence tool created in-house to assist with patent prosecution matters.

FishStream AI was launched after a multiyear effort by Fish & Richardson to figure out the best way to integrate AI technology into its operation, developer and principal Tracy Hitt told Law360 Pulse. He said that after testing a number of third-party AI tools on the market, she felt the best solution would be to develop a tool from scratch that takes the firm's specific needs into account.

"I still felt that Fish needed to create a tool built on the foundation of how Fish attorneys actually practice, how we analyze office actions, evaluate strategy, and build arguments," Hitt said. "FishStream AI represents a deliberate, patent prosecution-specific application of AI built by Fish attorneys."

Fish & Richardson also decided to develop FishStream AI in-house to ease the learning curve of integrating the tool into attorneys' daily workflows, which Hitt said had been slowing adoption. In making the tool internally, she said, Fish & Richardson was able to develop an intuitive user interface and integrate automation technology that allows for an easier user experience while giving more experienced attorneys flexibility in how they employ it.

"FishStream is effective irrespective of the user's level of experience with AI," Hitt said. "By building it in-house, we were able to customize a lot of the features and workflows to better support our existing workflows rather than completely changing workflows to adopt the tool."

Hitt said FishStream AI is focused on accelerating the initial, time-intensive parts of patent prosecution, such as prior art review and analysis, letting attorneys concentrate on the strategic side of the work, including evaluating examiner positions, argument development and handling client-facing matters.

"Prosecution traditionally requires manually parsing large volumes of prior art, technical diagrams, and dense office action boilerplate before the strategic work can even begin," Hitt said. "That foundational document-processing layer is one of the real strengths of AI, when properly applied. It can quickly analyze and synthesize massive documents into actionable starting points."

Hitt added, "For our attorneys and technology specialists, that means they have the results of the foundational review at the outset of a task, which allows them to focus on precise claim drafting, nuanced technical arguments, and overall strategy. For clients, it means we can explore multiple options

more fully, and apply our patent experience to generate work product that strengthens their IP."

Hitt said early results from FishStream AI have shown enhanced work quality, which he attributes to attorneys being able to reach informed, well-grounded strategies earlier in the prosecution cycle.

"As an example, we are quickly able to test out various response strategies, explore various technical distinctions, and create persuasive arguments," Hitt said. "The ability to strategically and creatively evaluate different claim and argument options allows us to think more critically about how we get to an allowance while maximizing the scope of protection obtained."

Challenges that typically accompany the adoption of AI technology include hallucinated information, algorithmic bias, and data security. Hitt said applying a "human-in-the-loop model," where AI handles the heavy lifting of getting the attorneys up to speed, and attorneys apply their knowledge to the strategy, arguments, and final work product, mitigates those issues.

"Accuracy, accountability, and confidentiality are central to how FishStream AI is designed and used," he said. "AI supports early analysis, but attorneys and patent agents review, refine, and take full responsibility for all work product, and every submission to the USPTO remains firmly in human hands. On security, FishStream AI operates entirely within the firm's enterprise environment, and data input to the model is never used to train the model."

--Editing by Linda Voorhis.
