

— Patent Database Use, Patentability and Risk Searches

- Tuesday, 2 September 2025
- 13h00 – 16h30
- Limited to 40 participants
- Protea Hotel Stellenbosch, Cape Town, South Africa

— **CATEGORY:** Innovation and Technology Transfer (I&TT)

— **TARGET AUDIENCE:** Innovation and technology transfer professionals managing the identification and assessment of technologies for appropriate protection strategies.

— **FOCUS AREA:** Early Career and Intermediate

— **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Participants are encouraged to bring their laptops for hands-on demonstrations on searches. The workshop will include live demonstrations, case studies, and interactive discussions.

Overview:

- The workshop will cover two aspects of managing proposed invention and/or innovations. The first aspect will consider the use of patent databases as literature resource sources and landscaping tool showing the direction of research activities. The second aspect will concentrate on assessing proposed inventions and/or innovations for patentability and consequently should these be protected via patents the type of searches conducted focusing on third party risks.

Organisers – Facilitators:

- SARIMA

Speakers:

- Patent attorneys and experts in technology protection strategists

Programme Layout:

1. Welcome and Introduction (15 min)

- Overview of Patent database use, patentability and risk searchest
- Objectives of the workshop

2. Use of Patent Databases for Literature Review and Landscaping (30 min)

- Freely available databases and how to use them for literature reviews
- Technology landscaping

3. Exercises on Using Patent Databases for literature Review (40 min)

- Use of the Abstract and Description sections of the Patent applications

4. Patentability Searches (30 min)

- Questions to consider and the importance of patentability searches
- Search strategies

5. Patentability Search Exercises (40 min)

6. Risk Searches (30 min)

- Freedom to Operate Searches
 - Other related searches
-

7. Closing Remarks and Future Outlook (15 min)

- Summary of key takeaways
- Networking and discussion