



IP Maintenance Solutions

Best Practices

Challenge:

Patent portfolio maintenance is a critical responsibility for IP professionals. Accuracy and reliability are paramount, as is achieving cost control and effectively stewarding resources. As a result, many have sought out specialized third-party providers to support their patent annuity needs.

? Questions

When considering an approach to IP maintenance, many consider the following questions:

- Does the annuity service provider offer cost-effective, efficient services across all common jurisdictions?
- Do I have a dedicated point-of-contact and expert-level professionals responsive to my questions and handling my annuities casework?
- What technologies does this provider leverage and what does their use of technology mean to me?

💡 Solutions

A modern, optimized IP maintenance strategy gravitates toward the use of a patent annuities service, provided that the service meets or exceeds key criteria. These include:

- Fully-compliant processes that stay current with evolving, jurisdiction-specific rules
- Seamless data verification for every client's patent portfolio
- Easy-to-use technology tools, particularly those that enable cost reporting
- Centralization that enables greater efficiency and cost control
- High degree of client responsiveness coupled with proven expertise in annuities
- Integration with other global IP functions, such as foreign prosecution and translations

Determining which patent annuities service to rely on is a critical dimension of any IP maintenance strategy. Not all service providers are created equal and due diligence is required.