

## ERF 2017 – WORKSHOP REPORT

Title of the workshop:	<b>International Workshop on IPR and patent training</b>
Organisers:	<b>Dimitrios Chrysostomou</b> - Aalborg University, Denmark <b>Paolo Barattini</b> - Sharika.eu, Italy <b>Chris Holder</b> - Bristows LLP, UK <b>Anna Chatzimichali</b> - Withers & Rogers LLP, UK <b>Gurvinder Singh Virk</b> - InnoTec, UK
Date - time	23/03/2017 – 10:45 – 15:30
Number of persons attending	40

### Workshop presenters (name, organisation, e-mail)

Matthew Howell – [mhowell@withersrogers.com](mailto:mhowell@withersrogers.com)  
Stuart Latham – [slatham@withersrogers.com](mailto:slatham@withersrogers.com)  
Anna Chatzimichali – [achatzimichali@withersrogers.com](mailto:achatzimichali@withersrogers.com)

All from Withers & Rogers LLP, UK

### Objectives of the workshop (max 15 lines)

The main scope is to provide training in IPR and patents with regards to the specificities of robotics and related software. This kind of issues are mostly unknown to researchers, scientists, startups, spinoffs, SMES. These issues shall be considered since the beginning of any development for relevant choices of design, licenses, foss etc that later on will surface as conflictual or detrimental for exploitation.

### **Key points from presentations and discussion (max 1 page)**

This was a two-part workshop with 90 minutes devoted to each part. The idea behind this highly interactive training event was to help the participants in the format of a crash course. The participants had the opportunity to discuss, provide their experience and knowledge about IPR and patents, do an online search, analyse patents, discuss and elaborate in small groups and provide a brief rationale.

During the workshop a mind map mini session was held where the related words and terms associated with IPR and patents were collected. Fruitful discussions and useful information were provided about the legal framework and were followed by short interactive discussions focused on:

1. When it is necessary to file a patent request,
2. Where should someone start this process and
3. Free and open-source software (FOSS) and open innovation.

The second part of the workshop was fully dedicated to a direct search of information to answer those questions in relation to cases proposed by the participants.

Matthew Howell held a great round table discussion where he presented a clarification between a patent, a copyright and how we can apply for each one of those. He analysed

- what is intellectual property
- how do we get patents
- how do we structure a patent application
- how patent claims can differentiate and
- patent infringement

### **Conclusions – recommendations (max 5 Bullet points)**

1. First event about patents and IPR
2. “Crash course” with practical Q&A session where the participants raised concerns from real-life experiences.

3. Highly recommended to have this type of workshop as a regular and structured as a training event where the audience can ask and get assistance with real products.
4. Small room helped with keeping things non-formal, however, when the attendance was more than 30 people it was hectic. Having a huge auditorium would not be ideal either as people would not be able to ask so many questions. So the recommendation is to have a "classroom" type room for 50-60 people.