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Kristel Van den Broeck

Chemistry

European Patent Attorney

Senior Associate

As a European patent attorney Kristel Van den Broeck has 18 years of experience, of which 12 years as in-house patent attorney in the chemical industry. She spent most of that time working for Huntsman, where she was in-house patent attorney for the patent portfolio within the polyurethane division. In this position, she was responsible for drafting patent applications and associated global prosecution; advising on invention valorization; assessing patent validity, freedom to operate studies and European oppositions. Before working for Huntsman, Kristel worked within IMEC's patent department, working on microelectronics-related patents.

Kristel holds a degree in bioscience engineering from Ghent University and a PhD in chemical environmental technology from the Catholic University of Leuven.

In April 2023 she joined V.O., where she is active as patent attorney in the Chemistry and Life Science Department, in the Leuven (Belgium) office.

Working experience

- European Patent Attorney, V.O. (April 2023 – present)
- Managing IP Attorney – Huntsman (2018 – February 2023)
- Senior Patent Attorney – Huntsman (2011 – 2018)
- Researcher & (Trainee) Patent Attorney – IMEC (2000 – 2011)
- Postdoctoral researcher, Catholic University of Leuven (1998-2000)

Education

- PhD, Catholic University of Leuven (1998)
- Bioscience Engineer (specialization in chemistry & agricultural industries), Ghent University (1991)

Languages

- Dutch
- English