Banner & Witcoff Obtains Most Design Patents for 11th Consecutive Year

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Each year for the past 11 years, Banner & Witcoff, Ltd., a leading national intellectual property law firm, has obtained more U.S. design patents than any other law firm in the country.

According to the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, in 2013, Banner & Witcoff procured 900 U.S. design patents on behalf of its clients, which is more design patents than the next four highest law firms combined. The law firm helped protect many popular and prominent designs, such as Nike's Flyknit® shoes, Microsoft's Xbox OneTM gaming system and Nokia's Lumia® 820, 920 and 1020 smartphones. In addition to Nike, Microsoft and Nokia, the law firm helped many other design-driven clients, including Toshiba, PepsiCo and Electrolux, protect their important product designs.

Banner & Witcoff has helped other Fortune 500, midlevel and emerging companies procure significant design patent portfolios. The firm obtained nearly 6,400 U.S. design patents in the past decade. Demonstrating its depth of client base, the law firm procured design patent portfolios of 40 or more design patents for 18 different clients.

"Our clients are some of the world's most innovative corporations and designers, and they recognize the value of high quality and strategically-procured design patents," said Robert S. Katz, a principal shareholder at Banner & Witcoff. "We look forward to continuing our work with these clients as they seek and secure global protection of their designs."

Banner & Witcoff continues to lead in procuring international design patent portfolios. The law firm has filed hundreds of design registrations in the World Intellectual Property Office for clients who reside in member countries of the Hague System for the International Registration of Industrial Designs. The law firm will seek the same international protections for U.S. clients once the USPTO puts procedures in place for accepting Hague System applications.

“The Hague Agreement will become an important tool for U.S. applicants,” said Katz. “They now have a range of filing options, and we will gladly assist them in determining how best to protect and strengthen their national and international design patent portfolios.”

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