

HOWARD M. COHN & ASSOCIATES
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
30195 CHAGRIN BLVD., SUITE 300 • CLEVELAND, OHIO 44124-5703
TEL: 216.752.0955 • 800.613.1067 • FAX: 866.646.0113
EMAIL: HOWARD.COHN@COHNPATENTS.COM
WWW.COHNPATENTS.COM

INVENTION DISCLOSURE

Name of Inventor(s):

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Name of Invention:

Brief Description

Describe the invention in general terms: What does it do? How does it do it?

Details of the Invention:

- What parts (steps, if a method) make up the invention, in its best (preferred) form?
- Which parts are new to this invention (in form or usage), which are old (conventional, used in the expected way)?
- In what way do the parts interact to make the invention work?
- For each part, indicate if the part (or its form or interconnection) is *ESSENTIAL* to the invention - that is, for each part, ask, "if this part were left out, or changed, would the remaining device still be my invention?" Or, "if this part were changed or left out, would the invention still work?"

- If possible, use labeled sketches to detail your invention. Be sure all essential parts are shown on the sketch, and try not to include extraneous details. Measurements are not required, unless they are essential to the operation of the invention.

Alternatives

You have described the best way to build (perform) your invention. Now consider the alternatives.

Structural Alternatives:

- In what ways could the parts (steps) be changed or equivalent parts substituted without changing the basic invention?
- Is there a generic description for any of the parts you listed (i.e. "fastener" instead of "Machine Screw", or "plastic" instead of "polypropylene")?
- Could the functions of any of the parts be changed, combined, eliminated?
- What could be left out?

Alternate Use: Can your invention be used for anything other than its preferred use?

Limitations: When will the invention *not* work?

- Are there any critical ranges of size, weight, pressure, etc. for any of the parts of your invention? (i.e. "the solution must be heated to a temperature of between 800⁰ and 150⁰ centigrade")
- Must some parts be made of specific substances?

In order to be patentable, an invention must be NOVEL, USEFUL and NOT OBVIOUS to one skilled in the art, based upon everything which was available at the time of the invention.

State of the Art: Consider what was already in existence (whether patented or not) before the invention.

- How is the function of the invention being done today?
- What is the closest device (method) you are aware of to your invention?
- Is there something, which performs the same function in a different way?

- Is there any combination of existing devices (methods) which would be similar to your invention?
- How does your invention perform its function different from, or better than, these prior devices (methods)?

You may not get a patent on an invention which was already patented, or described in a printed publication, or in public use or on sale either: (a) by others, before you invented it, or (b) by anyone, more than one year before you apply for a patent.

Be sure to sign and date the form, and have it witnessed by someone who is not an inventor.

Signed: _____

Dated:

Read, witnessed and understood: _____

Date:

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

Howard M. Cohn, Patent Attorney
Phone: 216-752-0955
toll free: 800-613-0955
fax: 866-646-0113
e-mail howard.cohn@cohnpatents.com
www.cohnpatents.com