



BASTIAAN KOSTER, SENIOR PARTNER, VON SEIDELS (SOUTH AFRICA)

Bastiaan Koster, BSc (Elec Eng), BProc, is a Partner at Von Seidels, a registered South African Patent Attorney and Plant Breeder's Rights Specialist. Von Seidels specialises in all aspects of intellectual property law and is based in Cape Town, South Africa.

EDUCATION / PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- Bastiaan obtained a BSc degree in Electronic Engineering from RAU (1983).
- Thereafter, he worked for three years at the Atomic Energy Corporation and, at the same time, enrolled for a BProc degree through UNISA.
- He joined the intellectual property law firm, John & Kernick (1988).
- He completed his BProc degree (1989) and was admitted as an Attorney (1990).
- He qualified as a Patent Attorney (1991) and became a Partner at his firm (1992).
- He qualified as a Trade Mark Practitioner (2002) through the South African Institute of Intellectual Property Law (SAIPL).

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Over the years, Bastiaan has developed an interest in advising clients generally on intellectual property (IP) matters with specific emphasis on the commercialisation of IP and how IP can be used in business to obtain a competitive edge.
- He also has extensive experience in Plant Breeder's Rights (PBR) matters, again with specific emphasis on the commercialisation of PBR.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

South African Institute of Intellectual Property Attorneys (SAIPL), Fellow

Bastiaan has, for many years, served on the SAIPL Council and was the President of this Institute (2007).

International Federation of Intellectual Property Attorneys (FICPI), Vice-President

Bastiaan is also involved in Intellectual Property in the international arena where he used to be the Chairperson of a sub-committee of FICPI dealing with Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Folklore. FICPI represents over 5000 members; IP Attorneys in Private Practice, from ± 80 countries. Bastiaan is currently the Vice President of FICPI.