

## Legal Hacks for Creators, Inventors and Entrepreneurs

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*Welcome back to my very short and informal newsletter, sharing a bit of what I find interesting, quirky or just fun about intellectual property law and patents. I publish this newsletter periodically to share at least one idea that I think you will find both engaging and useful.*



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### THE ONE QUESTION EVERY TECH INVENTOR WILL ASK

Every investor wants to know how you will keep your product from being copied and prevent the duplication of the technology paid for with their investment funds. You want to ensure that investors are presented with a solid strategy to ensure their funding is secure now and can grow in the future.

The strongest protection is patents, and in this [video](#), I offer an investor-friendly patent strategy that addresses the common questions investors want answered, including what you are patenting and why. What makes your product special or provides a fresh experience and how patents protect those unique benefits and advantages.

I also address the importance of having a long-range patent strategy that includes developing a portfolio of several patents to protect your invention, including how many patents you may need. Presenting a patent roadmap to current investors fosters the idea of bringing on more potential investors later to add value and grow their investment.

Having a strong patent plan can make all the difference in getting your invention funded now and into the future.

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### **YOU MUST DO THIS BEFORE FILING FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATIONS**

In today's business climate, having a global reach is more important than ever in distributing your invention to as broad a market as possible. With over 190 countries offering patent protections and no single, worldwide patent available, where you file your first patent is critical to your success.

Did you know that U.S. citizens must file their first patent application in the U.S. or obtain permission to file first in foreign country and that failing to do so may result in a permanently invalid U.S. patent? Other countries have similar foreign patent filing penalties, some including fines or even imprisonment.

In this [video](#), I share advice and guidance on U.S. requirements for filing patent applications in foreign countries, including explaining and obtaining a foreign filing license. These tips can be invaluable to avoid costly administrative, regulatory and clerical mistakes when patenting your invention abroad.

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If you've missed previous issues, [CLICK HERE](#) and read them all!

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### **ABOUT JOHN FERRELL**

*John Ferrell is a founder and patent attorney at the Silicon Valley law firm of Carr & Ferrell. The author of two books and a growing YouTube channel on Intellectual Property, John's passion for creating and protecting patent monopolies is reflected in his representation of many of the world's most important companies and inventors—some 5,000 so far.*

*Founded in 1992, Carr & Ferrell has filed more than 10,000 patent applications covering nearly every imaginable technology. John is admitted to practice law in California;*

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