

Inventive step: technical features and technical problems

Programme | 10 – 24 March 2026

Format - **Online workshop**

Seminar reference - **OW06-2026**

Organised by

European Patent Academy

European Patent Office

Bob-van-Bentham-Platz 1

80469 Munich

Germany



Description

The aim of this workshop is to allow participants to further understand the concepts of technical feature and technical problem in the assessment of inventive step.

Through examples and exercises in accessible technical fields, participants will be able to understand the differences between technical and non-technical features as well as be able to properly identify the underlying technical problem the invention is solving.

The workshop includes two live sessions. The first one focuses on the theoretical aspects as well as presenting examples. The second session will build upon the previously discussed topics, explore further examples and expand on the formulation of problem solution approach.

Technical requirements

The online sessions will be held on Zoom.

All times given in the programme are CET.

Duration

5 hours of online sessions and 13 hours of self-study.

EPO tutors:

Edward Cooke and Sébastien Bareyt,
EPO Patent examiners

Tuesday
10 March

09:20	<i>Zoom link activated</i>
09:30	Inventive step Generalities <i>Edward Cooke</i>
11.30	Special situations, Chemistry and Biotech <i>Sébastien Bareyt</i>
12.00	<i>End of session</i>

Tuesday
24 March

09:20	<i>Zoom link activated</i>
09:30	A step by step example of IS in chemistry/ pharma <i>Sébastien Bareyt</i>
11:30	Tips and tricks for formulating the PSA <i>Edward Cooke</i>
12.00	<i>End of session</i>