# Intellectual Property Owners Association



IP5 Meeting Sofitel Porticcio Thalassa Corsica, France June 2012



# Who is IPO?

- Trade association of more than 200 Companies, 12,000 individual members. Established in 1972.
- IPO represents interests of all IP owners in various industries – patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets.
- IPO advocates for legislation and rules to provide greater legal certainty and more effective and affordable IP rights in the U.S. and abroad. IPO is one of the largest filers of friend of the court briefs on significant IP issues.



# **IPO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

3M Innovative Properties Co.	Corning Inc.
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Monsanto Co.	United Technologies, Corp.
Motorola Solutions, Inc.	Xerox Corp.
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IPO Advocacy:

- Provided advice to Congress on America Invents Act:
  - IPO supported First Inventor to File provision
  - IPO supported Prior User Rights provision
  - IPO supported False Patent Marking provision
  - IPO supported full funding for the USPTO



IPO Advocacy:

- Providing advice on implementation of America Invents Act to USPTO
- Providing advice on Patent Fees to USPTO and Patent Public Advisory Committee



IPO Advocacy:

- Reporting to CONGRESS on implementation of America Invents Act
  - House Judiciary Hearing May 16, 2012
    - IPO testified before the House Judiciary Committee on "Implementation of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act."



IPO Advocacy:

- Filed Friend of the Court briefs in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and U.S. Supreme Court
- Submitted comments to European Court of Justice on Oracle v. usedSoft



IPO Committees:

- 31 Corporate-Chaired Committees Addressing All Areas of IP
  - International Committees
    - Asian Practice
    - European Practice
    - International Patent Practice
    - International Trademark Practice
    - Latin American Practice
    - Genetic Resources and Traditional Knowledge



Other Association Activities:

- IPO Involvement in International Organizations
  - Industry Trilateral
  - WIPO Standing Committee on Patents
  - EPO Partnership for Quality
  - PCT Advisory Group



Other Association Activities:

- IPO Meetings, Education and Networking
  - 2012 IPO Annual Meeting Sept. 9-11 in San Antonio, Texas
    - Approximately 850 corporate and law firm members expected.
- An Information Resource for Members:
  - IPO Daily News
  - IPO's Federal Circuit Summaries
  - The Top 300 Patent Owners
  - IPO Member Articles and Reports
  - IPO Committee Reports



Public Awareness of IP Rights:

- IPO Education Foundation, established in 2005 to educate the public on the importance of intellectual property rights, conducts public awareness programs, awards and conferences:
  - IP Video Contest Encouraging young adults to illustrate in an original video why they think the patent systems is important.
  - Inventors Patch Program with the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital – Encouraging girls to enter STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) careers and familiarizing them with the patent process and invention.



Public Awareness of IP Rights Continued:

- Inventor of the Year Award Recognizing the most outstanding recent inventors.
- Distinguished IP Professional Award Recognizing an individual who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the intellectual property community.
- PTO Day Bringing together experts from the PTO and the private bar to discuss current developments.
- International Judges Conference Last held in Brussels, Belgium in 2011, this conference brought together more than 70 internationally recognized judges who decide patent cases with patent attorneys to discuss global IP law.

