



Law Firm Patent Search FAQ

Q1. Who uses Global Patent Solutions at law firms?

Most of our law firm relationships are with attorneys: partners, associates and litigation or prosecution leads. They come to us when the stakes are high and they need search work they can stand behind in front of clients, courts and opposing counsel.

Q2. What kinds of patent searches do you perform for law firms?

We run a full range of searches that support prosecution, litigation, portfolio strategy and monetization, including:

- Patentability/novelty searches (before filing).
- Freedom-to-operate (FTO)/clearance searches.
- Targeted invalidity and deep-dive invalidity searches for IPR and litigation.
- Due diligence validity searches for assertion, licensing and M&A.
- Bull's-eye and "peek behind the curtain" searches to quickly size up a matter.
- Ongoing alerts and search updates when cases or portfolios evolve.

Each project is scoped to the matter: search type, technology domain, report format, jurisdictions and your budget and deadlines.

Q3. What makes a GPS search court-defensible?

Our searches are built to withstand scrutiny from courts, the USPTO and opposing experts:

- GPS is trusted by the United States Patent & Trademark Office, having conducted high-quality prior art searches and delivered expert written opinions for more than 60,000 PCT-international patent applications.
- We search across U.S. patents and published applications, foreign patents, foreign publications, PCT/WO records, nonpatent literature and prosecution histories when appropriate.

- We use seasoned, domain-specific analysts and a proven methodology refined over 20+ years and thousands of searches.
- We support IPRs and district court cases where counsel needs to show that a “skilled searcher conducting a diligent search” would or would not have found a reference.

The goal is simple: you can explain and defend *how* the search was done and *why* the art found (or not found) is credible and complete.

Q4. How does GPS help me as outside counsel manage risk?

Poor-quality or incomplete searching shows up later as:

- Weak claims and expensive prosecution histories.
- Missed prior art that surfaces in litigation or IPR.
- Client questions about whether you did enough diligence.

GPS is the insurance policy on those risks. For a fraction of the cost of a single office action round or IPR, you get a documented, professional search that helps you draft around the rocks, not onto them, and reduces the chances of a \$2.8M litigation bill or a patent collapsing/invalidated at the worst time.

Q5. How is GPS different from SaaS/data-only tools or offshore search vendors?

- We are a partner, not a platform. We’re an expert-led research company, not a DIY search UI. You work with real analysts who understand both the technology and the context of your matter.
- We are staffed with 100% U.S.-based analysts. That helps with confidentiality, data security and understanding of U.S. case law and prosecution practice.
- We are trusted by the USPTO and Am Law 100. GPS is one of a small number of providers that has done work for the U.S. patent office itself and has supported 100+ Am Law firms.
- We provide custom, court-focused work product. We customize search scope, depth and reporting to the specific dispute, transaction or prosecution strategy instead of forcing everything into one rigid product set.

In short: you’re not handing your matter to a black box or a low-cost offshore shop and hoping for the best. You’re partnering with a team built to help you win and reduce risk.

Q6. How quickly can you turn around a search?

With over 100 research analysts, GPS has one of the largest search teams in the entire industry. What does that mean for you? Turnaround that fits your needs! We work closely with you on each project to ensure we can turn work around when you need it. Most projects are completed before the agreed-upon date, and with such a large team we regularly accommodate rush or fast turnaround searches. GPS has analysts standing ready because we know deadlines are real, whether office actions, filing dates, hearing schedules or transaction timelines.

For urgent matters, we'll scope a timeline on the initial call and tell you honestly what can be done without sacrificing quality.

Q7. How do you protect confidentiality and align with our ethical obligations?

- All GPS analysts are U.S.-based and work within a secure, NIST/FedRAMP-aligned environment as used by government agencies.
- We've built and maintained processes strict enough to meet USPTO and government standards for conflict of interest (COI).
- We understand duty of candor, privilege and conflict concerns and will work with you on NDAs, matter scoping and conflict checks as needed.

For many firms, hiring a professional, vetted research company is part of demonstrating diligence and meeting ethical and professional responsibility standards.

Q8. Can you tailor the scope and budget to the specific matter?

Yes. GPS offers targeted, staged and deep-dive search options:

- Bull's-eye or targeted invalidity searches to quickly see if a deeper search is warranted
- Full novelty, FTO or deep-dive invalidity searches when the matter demands exhaustive work
- Updates and alerts when a matter spans months or years

We'll discuss your budget range up front and recommend a path that fits both the legal stakes and your client's cost expectations.

Q9. Where in the patent life cycle should I bring in GPS?

Law firms bring us in at multiple points:

- Before filing, to shape specifications and claims and avoid known art
- Before big portfolio filing strategies, to prioritize and kill low-value application filings before they are drafted
- Before or during litigation, to uncover invalidating art or understand the strength of a patent
- Prior to licensing, sale or M&A, to support valuation and negotiation

You don't have to guess: we're happy to have a short consultation to recommend what level of search makes sense based on where a particular case is in the life cycle.

Q10. How do we start a project with GPS?

Most law firms start with one of three entry points:

1. A specific matter: an email or call with the case, deadlines and objectives
2. A test project: a single novelty or invalidity search to benchmark quality vs. your current options
3. A portfolio or program: recurring invention disclosure review, kill-rate program or litigation support arrangement

From there, we develop a simple scope of work and timing, then get your matter into our analysts' queue.

To start a search request, you can follow one of the following options:

- Email us at sales@globalpatentsolutions.com.
 - Call us at 1-877-758-8634.
 - Submit an online request using our [Request Form](#).
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