



LEGALINK

INTERNATIONAL BUT PERSONAL

IP/IT Interview
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– Cocuzza & Associati Studio Legale

COCUZZA & ASSOCIATI

Studio Legale

Which areas of IP/IT is your firm active in?

Cocuzza & Associati is a full-service firm able to offer assistance to Italian and foreign clients, primarily corporate entities engaged in a great variety of business fields.

The firm is very active across all the areas of IP. Being in Milan, we represent fashion and luxury goods industry clients and common issues are often related to trademarks, license agreements and design, which are of course a substantial part of our daily work.

We also represent companies running business in several other fields and our IP practice involves know-how protection and patents as well.

I am personally a litigator but we also provide full advisory for filing and prosecution as long as patents registration, leveraging on consolidated relationships with patent and trademark agents.

We offer assistance and support on internet-based intellectual property rights, including those related to websites, multi-media products, on-line services, software and copyright digital distribution.

Who in your firm is dedicated to which areas of IP/IT?

We are 16 lawyers and three of us are members of the IP/IT department.

I lead the IP/IT team and I am responsible for all issues related to the department. Quite frequently we work alongside with other partners of the firm who deals with different practice areas as for instance retail, real estate or commercial transactions.

Our firm has also a skilled corporate department, dealing with mergers and acquisitions, and my team is often involved for the IP/IT aspects of such transactions.

Although we have a dedicated team for data protection, which I belong to as well, it happens quite often to work together on cross-border issues.

Which are the recent major IP/IT matters that you and your colleagues have been working on?

We have been working on several interesting cases. We are representing a famous manufacturer and trader of glasses in design related matters.

We have been also assisting a very famous Italian brand for luxury design goods and furniture in a transnational case. Thanks to a well-established international partner's relationship, Cocuzza & Associati offers outstanding expertise on a global scale. We also cooperate with Legalink colleagues in some cross-border matters.

We have been involved in a major case concerning an international patent with the scope of effect in Italy, that belongs to an Indian company. So very different things are going on at this moment.

What are your firm's expectations and plans in the area of IP/IT in the future?

We are expecting a growth of this department of the firm. The firm understands the importance of this area and is going to develop its range, also because of the very specific kind of clients that deal with IP issues in fashion and design field. There is a constant increase of work in this area.

What developments in the IP/IT law are you expecting in your jurisdiction?

Recently the European Parliament and the Council released the so called EU Trademark reform package, aimed at amending the EU trademark previous regulation. Being part of the EU trademark system, Italian brands shall be deeply affected by such changes. In fact, I am going in the near future to speak in a convention attended by some fashion system companies about the relevant changes.

With Brexit, another very important topic concerns the possibility, for the Court of Milan, to become one of the three dedicated Unified Patent Court (UPC) in Europe. Such eventuality would represent a very big opportunity for all the players involved and, of course, a big spotlight for Italy.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I am deeply interested in all aspects of technology development and I like to be up to date on computers related topics.

I also love travelling, reading and share quality time with friends.

Thank you very much!