

No August Meeting at LIGI

ISSF Meetings

With the exception of August, the ISSF meets at 1:30 pm on the first Saturday of each month at:

Ligi Tool & Engineering, Inc.
3220 SW 15th St.
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442
877-523-6693
www.ligotool.com

From the Florida Turnpike: Exit at Sample Rd, Exit 69; turn right on Sample Rd (East); left on Powerline Rd; and right on SW 15th St (past the first stoplight on Powerline Rd, look for two cement towers and the Enterprise Center sign).

From I-95 Southbound: Exit at SW 10th St, Exit 40; turn right SW 10th St (West); left on Powerline Rd; left on SW 15th St (look for two cement towers and the Enterprise Center sign).

From I-95 Northbound: Exit at Sample Rd; turn left on Sample Rd (West); right on Powerline Rd; and right on SW 15th St (past the first stoplight on Powerline Rd, look for two cement towers and the Enterprise Center sign).

From I-75: Exit at the Sawgrass Expressway (Route 869); go to the end of the expressway and continue east on SW 10th St; turn right on Powerline Rd and left on SW 15th St (look for two cement towers and the Enterprise Center sign).

Contact:
Richard Loughlin at 772-287-2224
loughlinrandm@aol.com



President's Corner

The Board thanks **Jacqueline Tadros** for explaining the benefits of maintaining a paper trail. Ms. Tadros has counseled clients in a wide variety of matters relating to patents, trademarks and copyrights. She has assisted in securing domestic and international intellectual property rights. So, she has experience that will help the inventor protect and promote his or her ideas. What follows is a list of Ms. Tadros' numerous points:

- Diligently pursue your invention until filing a complete patent application (Reduction to Practice).
- Maintain a logbook with entries detailing the progress of the invention. Include dates in you logbook.
- Maintain phone bills, freight bills, invoices, quotations, letters, etc., that support your claim that you were diligently pursuing your invention.
- Develop good record keeping habits.
- Every time you make an entry, sign it and have it witnessed again on the same page you sign it. Fill in blank areas with diagonal lines so that there are no spaces where it can be alleged you made an entry after it was signed.
- If you leave a blank page, write on it "blank page".
- The USA is the only country in the world that has a first to invent rule.
- Remember that if you advertise or offer your product for sale, your one year time clock starts and you must file a patent application to preserve your rights.
- Most foreign countries require that you file before any public disclosure or commercial application.
- There are four basic marketing strategies: manufacture and market it yourself, grant an exclusive license to one party, grant a non-exclusive license to any party, or sell the patent outright.
- You can manufacture and market your idea yourself while the patent is pending.
- Create a clear paper trail of all you contact (each person of every company) that you attempt to license or sell your product. Try to get them to sign a non-disclosure agreement before you divulge information.
- A clear paper trail will make an attorney more willing to accept your case on a contingency basis and will make it more likely that you will win in court or that the other party will settle.
- Reasons you may need to disclose information: manufacturing, service providers, subcontractors, joint business ventures.
- If a party gets another party to disclose your invention in an obscure publication and it is published more than one year before your filing date in the US and in most of the rest of the world, it makes any patent filed after the date of publication invalid.
- Thoroughly research a company before disclosing information to them.
- Establish confidentiality agreements/arrangements with agents.
- Send information by certified mail or better FedEx.
- Create a paper trail and record who information is sent to.
- Send a self-serving confirmation letter or memorandum.
- Document an idea by copyright (design patent) or patent (provisional or non-provisional).
- Register your work the Copyright Office or USPTO.
- Inform in submission that proposal is an offer to make a deal.
- Get an opinion from a patent attorney.

Regards,

Dick Loughlin