

## **Dr Klaus-Dieter Langfinger – patent law practitioner**

Dr Langfinger has many years' experience as a European and German patent attorney.

He studied chemistry in Karlsruhe, then gained a PhD from the then Max Planck Institute for Radiation Chemistry in Mülheim an der Ruhr. After that he specialised in patent law and became a European (1989) and German (1999) patent attorney.

For over 20 years, he worked in the BASF's Patents, Trademarks and Licences Department. From 2001 to 2007, he was Senior Vice President Global Intellectual Property and head of the BASF competence centre with global responsibility for all the group's IP issues.

Until 2007, Dr Langfinger also chaired the intellectual property committees of the German Chemical Industry Federation (VCI) and the Federation of German Industries (BDI), as well as the patents working group of UNICE (the European industry association).

Today, he is a partner in Fitzner & Partner, a law firm which specialises in patents and utility models, president of the German section (the second largest) of Licensing Executives Society International (LESI) and board member of VPP, the largest association of patent specialists in Germany.

Dr Langfinger is also in great demand as a speaker and symposia panellist on IP matters.