

Dr Lothar Steiling has a PhD in chemistry and many years' experience as a European and German patent attorney, having worked for nearly 30 years in the patent department of Bayer AG; he is now the firm's Chief Patent Counsel.

After studying chemistry at Braunschweig Technical University, followed by post-doctoral work in Irkutsk (Siberia), he joined Bayer's patent department in 1979.

At Bayer, Steiling specialised in patent law, qualifying as a European and German patent attorney in 1983 and 1989 respectively. In 1997 he took charge of the polymers team, and in 1999 was appointed head of the entire patent department. Following a reorganisation, he now has global responsibility for intellectual property as Bayer's Chief Patent Counsel.

Dr Steiling is President of the VPP (German Association of Intellectual Property Experts) and a member of various national and international organisations in the field of industrial property.