Intellectual Property in Business Transactions

Polsinelli advises companies, investors, in-house counsel and deal teams on intellectual property issues in mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings (IPOs), funding rounds, licensing arrangements and other business transactions where intellectual property is central to valuation, ownership and long-term growth.

Our attorneys translate technical IP issues into practical business insights, helping clients assess risk, preserve leverage and maximize the value of intellectual property assets before, during and after a transaction. We also work with outside transaction counsel when a deal requires focused IP diligence or technical analysis.

Our work frequently includes evaluating intellectual property assets in connection with financing events, public offerings and other business transactions where portfolio strength, ownership, valuation and freedom-to-operate considerations can materially influence transaction outcomes.

Technical IP Diligence for Business-Critical Transactions

When IP is a core deal asset, our technical IP attorneys and professionals help companies, investors and deal teams assess the rights, restrictions and portfolio strength behind the transaction.

We tailor diligence to the transaction, advising on:

- Patent and trademark portfolio strength, with attention to scope, coverage, enforceability and commercial relevance
- Intellectual property valuation considerations and portfolio assessments tied to financing, investment and transaction objectives
- IPO readiness and public offering support, including ownership review and risk evaluation of intellectual property assets
- Intellectual property support for venture capital, private equity and other investors evaluating technology assets and portfolio value
- Ownership, chain of title and inventorship issues
- Licensing, collaboration, research and development, distribution and other strategic commercial agreements involving intellectual property
- Technology licensing and commercialization strategies involving software, data, digital content and other intellectual property assets
- IP asset alignment across key products, platforms and commercial rights
- Copyright, software and trade secret assets
- Freedom-to-operate considerations involving third-party rights and commercialization
- Licensing restrictions and encumbrances
- Design-around risk and competitive positioning
- IP litigation exposure and enforcement strategies
- Portfolio strengthening strategies before closing or after the transaction

Publications

September 11, 2026
Built to be bought? What makes companies acquisition-ready
Quoted, Life Sciences IP Review

August 25, 2026
The buyers' wishlist: What makes a life sciences deal stack up?
Quoted, Life Sciences IP Review