

DLA Piper – Driving Innovation in IP Management with Anaqua

Meet Kevin Malesic, Intellectual Property Manager at [DLA Piper](#), one of the world's largest global law firm offering client services across corporate law, litigation, regulatory, IP, and many other areas of law. Kevin is a business operations and legal support lead within DLA Piper's Intellectual Property practice (specifically in the Patent Development & Strategy group). He oversees a team of non-attorney professionals and paralegals who support the firm's IP attorneys — helping manage workflows, coordinate patent and trade-secret work, and support strategic IP counseling and litigation work.



Tell us about your role and your team at DLA Piper.

Kevin Malesic: I manage a team of IP professionals in our patent prosecution group, working closely with four partners. My role spans staffing, performance management, training, workflow development and design, financial analysis, and more. I also oversee our IP software tools like Anaqua's PATTSY WAVE® to ensure they function optimally.

What industry trends are shaping your IP practice today?

KM: The biggest trend is artificial intelligence. We're exploring how AI can improve efficiency and quality – from drafting patent applications and responding to office actions to automating routine tasks like client reporting. AI will impact every stage of prosecution in the next few years.

What stands out about Anaqua's PATTSY WAVE solution?

KM: PATTSY WAVE is intuitive and highly customizable. You can generate reports with any data you need and automate workflows, like sending attorneys their docket reports daily in their preferred format. The automation is a huge time saver and helps us maintain accuracy. Docketing in Anaqua's PATTSY WAVE is largely rules-based, which also saves our team time and improves data accuracy.

How do Anaqua's other solutions support your practice?

KM: Integration with Anaqua's annuity and renewal services keeps our data quality high and simplifies global renewals. Anaqua's Global IP Estimator is invaluable for providing accurate cost estimates for national phase filings and European validations. It saves us hours compared to manually checking fee schedules and helps clients make informed decisions about where to file.

Looking ahead, how will you leverage Anaqua to drive innovation?

KM: We're excited about upcoming integrations and AI-powered features in PATTSY WAVE. As Anaqua continues to enhance this platform with more automation and artificial intelligence, we'll adopt those capabilities to further streamline workflows and deliver even greater value to clients.

What makes working with Anaqua unique?

KM: It feels like a partnership. The team is responsive, listens to feedback, and even incorporates feature requests into their roadmap. Plus, they truly understand IP, not just the software we use, which makes a huge difference.

How has Anaqua helped unify your IP processes?

KM: The integration between PATTSY WAVE and Anaqua's annuity and renewal services is a game-changer. We can toggle between action items and annuity deadlines in one platform, making it easier to verify data and instruct payments without switching systems. It keeps our data quality high and simplifies global renewals.

What business outcomes have you achieved?

KM: Efficiency is the biggest win. Anaqua's PATTSY WAVE platform automation reduces administrative burden, freeing our team to focus on higher-value work. In IP law, time is everything. Any time saved directly impacts profitability.

Final Thoughts

"Working with Anaqua feels like a partnership. They listen and really understand IP, which is critical. Many other vendors in the industry don't have the same level of IP expertise."

Kevin Malesic

Intellectual Property Manager
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