

Q Can I patent my invention in foreign countries?

A Yes. Most foreign countries have patent systems that allow international applicants to obtain patents. One option is to file individual patent applications in each foreign jurisdiction of interest, according to each jurisdiction's particular rules. Another common approach is to file a single application using the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT), which is an International treaty to which 146 countries subscribe. After filing a PCT application, you can then decide whether to pursue the application in any member country up to about 30 months later. This approach allows you to delay the decision on where to seek protection and also delays costs. An experienced patent attorney can provide further information tailored to your situation.

Sandon M. Duncan.
Klarquist Sparkman LLP
Sandon.Duncan@klarquist.com
503.595.5300 | klarquist.com

