
PREFACE TO THE SEVENTH EDITION

The changes reflected in the Seventh Edition of *The Law of Patents* have more to do with important post-AIA doctrinal developments than an extensive restructuring of the book. The new principal cases are few, yet important, and relate primarily to Section 102 of the patent code. While these cases add clarity to some of what the AIA introduced, there remains much the courts have to address. We still do not know, for example, exactly what “otherwise available to the public” means, although we have clues. Moreover, the law relating to eligible subject matter continues to perplex patent practitioners and scholars more than offer guidance. We continue to await Supreme Court or Congressional intervention in this regard.

As with the prior six editions, the Seventh Edition of *The Law of Patents* includes detailed Comments, *Comparative, Patent Reform*, and *Policy Perspectives*. And the relevant statutory sections remain in the back of the book.

There is little doubt that each edition has benefitted enormously from my patent law colleagues and students. Therefore, I continue to welcome comments at craig.nard@case.edu.

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April 2025