

May Section Meeting: Intellectual Property, Patents and Trade Secrets

So you have an invention you think could be valuable. Can the invention be protected and if so, how? Will practicing the invention infringe the rights of others? What can you do to capitalize on the invention? What can be done if someone steals your invention? What will happen if your invention infringes the rights of another?

These are some of the issues patent attorney Tom Bratschun will address in his presentation. The format will model an initial client consultation and is intended to give a basic background on intellectual property law, primarily patent law, and answer question you, the “clients” might have about obtaining, avoiding and exploiting patents.

Tom Bratschun is one of the founding partners of Swanson & Bratschun. Since its founding by Tom and Barry Swanson 16 years ago, Swanson & Bratschun has grown from 4 to 12 attorneys and one patent agent. The firm has obtained over 600 US patents for its clients and is currently prosecuting hundreds of US applications. The firm has also over seen the issuance of well over 1000 foreign patents. The firm has expertise in a wide range of technologies including organic chemistry, molecular biology, pharmaceuticals, computers, computer software, electronics, nanotechnology, photonics, solar energy, telecommunications, medical devices and a host of mechanical devices. Many of our attorneys have advanced degrees, including six PhD’s.

(continued on page 2)

May Section Meeting

Topic: Intellectual Property, Patents and Trade Secrets

Speakers: Tom Bratschun, founding partner of Swanson & Bratschun

Matthew Ringer, Nat’l Renewable Energy Labs Commercialization and Technology Transfer Center

Date: Tuesday, May 18th

Time: 6:00 Cash Bar
6:30-7:30 Dinner
7:30 Presentation and Q&A

Location: Hotel VQ
1975 Mile High Stadium Circle
(303) 433-8331

Menu: Mexican Fiesta including fresh green salad, Southwestern corn salad, Chili con Queso and salsa, beef and chicken fajita strips, refried beans & spanish rice. Sopapillas with honey for dessert.

Cost: Members: \$20
(w/RSVP)* Non-Members: \$25
Students & Unemployed: \$10

Please RSVP by NOON on Friday, May 14th
(early RSVPs are greatly appreciated!) indicating your name, phone number, and number of attendees. Please RSVP to Martin Vorum by phone at 303-384-7414 or email at rockyaiche@yahoo.com.

(continued from page 1)

Tom's patent prosecution practice spans technology from civil and environmental engineering to photonics, computer software, and medical devices, emphasizing portfolio development, licensing and counseling. Tom has also litigated trademark and patent disputes as well as all manner of administrative proceedings in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Tom graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Illinois Law School. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering, with Special Honors, from the University of Colorado.

During the question and answer period, we will also have insights from Matt Ringer, who manages the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) Commercialization and Technology Transfer Office. NREL, in Golden Colorado, is the only federal laboratory dedicated to research, development, commercialization and deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. As with other national laboratories, NREL creates intellectual property, and then looks to license the patents and copyrights to outside entities. The laboratory handles more than 75 records of invention each year, and the Commercialization and Technology Transfer Office determines the commercial potential of these technologies before deciding whether to prepare patent applications. Matt oversees NREL's investment of the Technology Commercialization and Deployment Fund, a DOE-sponsored seed investment fund to help enhance deal flow within the laboratory. Matt also evaluates opportunities across the clean technology space that utilize NREL-developed intellectual property.

Matt Ringer has worked at NREL since 2001. Before managing NREL's innovation management process and technology commercialization programs, Matt was a senior chemical engineer in both the Biomass and Hydrogen programs at NREL.

Prior to NREL, Matt worked at Membrane Technology and Research in Menlo Park, Calif. This startup company developed membrane systems to separate and recover valuable components of off-gas and process streams in the petrochemical,

refining, and natural gas industries. Matt's responsibilities included research on novel natural gas-related products, process simulation, and sales engineering and support.

Matt has a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from the University of California at San Diego and an MBA from the University of Denver's Daniels College of Business.

NEW MEXICO CORNER

If you'd like to volunteer to speak at a future meeting or if you have any meeting/activity ideas, please let me know!

Patrick Burton, New Mexico Liaison
pburton@unm.edu

STUDENT NEWS.....

Chemical Engineering graduates in the Rocky Mountain area that are interested in a Fellows mentoring program, please contact Cory

Just For Fun

This is the grammar portion of the eighth-grade final exam from the 1895 Salina, Kansas schools. Could any of us have passed the 8th grade in 1895?

Grammar (Time: 1 hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of Capital Letters.
2. Name the Parts of Speech and define those that have no modifications.
3. Define Verse, Stanza and Paragraph.
4. What are the Principal Parts of a verb? Give Principal Parts of do, lie, lay and run.
5. Define Case. Illustrate each Case.
6. What is Punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of Punctuation.
7. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

Photo to the Right:
2010 Colorado
Science &
Engineering Fair
Winners:
Tyler Morely,
David Wise,
Jaehee Park &
Leonard Brasuel



Photo Below: Robin L. Newmark, Director
of the Strategic Energy Analysis Center at
the National Renewable Energy Laboratory
(NREL) gives her presentation on "Water
Implications of Advanced Energy Choices"
to over 40 section members on April 20,
2010

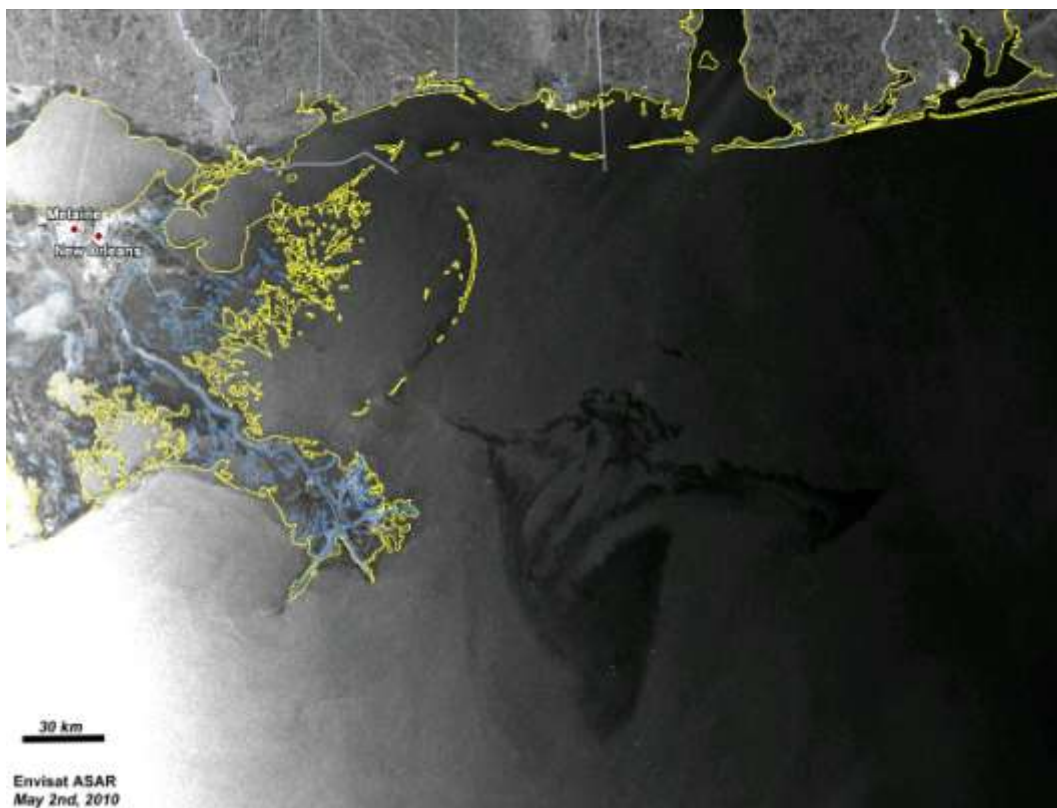


Photo to the Left:
Oil spill in the Gulf
of Mexico taken
May 2nd , 2010

AIChE Meetings

2010

- June 4-6 Leadership Development Conference
Kingsport, TN
- June 27-30 AIChE's 2010 Process Develop, Symposium: Energy Challenges for Process Developmt.
Lake Ozark, MO
- Aug 1-4 5th Int'l Conference on Bioengineering and Nanotechnology
Biopolis, Singapore
- Oct 17-22 Annual Meeting
Salt Lake City, UT

For further information, contact National AIChE.

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The objectives of AIChE are to advance chemical engineering in theory and practice, to maintain a high professional standard among its members, and to serve society, particularly where chemical, engineering can contribute to the public interest.

Rocky Mountain AIChE News Publication Schedule

September 2010 issue
Articles due Wednesday, September 8th
Publish on Friday, September 10th
Meeting on Tuesday, September 21st

MEETING SCHEDULE

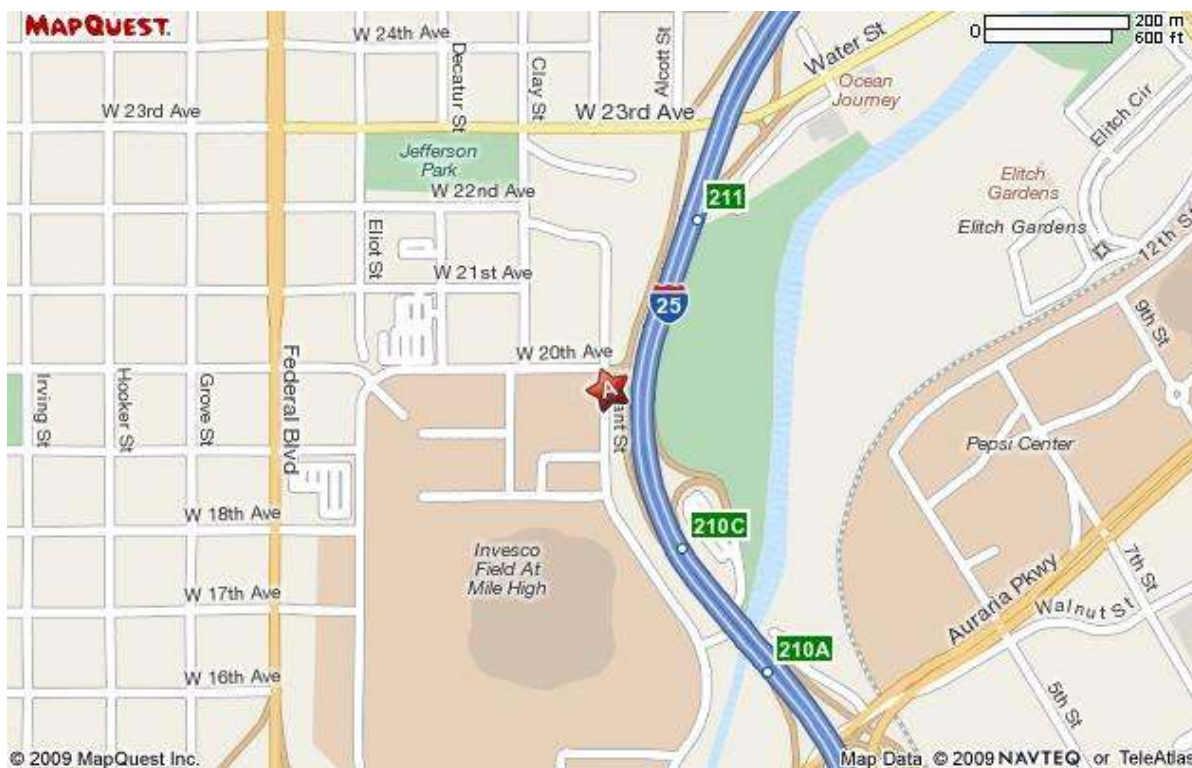
The Rocky Mountain District of AIChE generally meets the third Tuesday of every month, September through November and January through May.

Rocky Mountain AIChE News
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On the Web at:

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Northbound
on I-25, take
exit 210B
toward 17th.
Turn right at
Bryant Street
and look for
destination on
right.

Southbound
on I-25, take
the US85/US6
exit, then a
slight left at
Bryant St. and
look for
destination on
the left.