Patent Search Preparation

1. Describe your invention/technology in one or two sentences. Focus on the part of the invention which you believe is new or your contribution to it.

2. Draw a picture of your invention, showing how it does what it does. Draw boxes around any parts of the invention which are made from purchased or “off the shelf” components.

3. Are there any technologies in the marketplace that do something similar or do a part of what your invention does.

4. Describe what makes your invention different or desirable?
Searching the Patent Databases for Patentability or Infringement

5. In the US Classification System classify the part or parts of your invention in which you will be claiming intellectual property rights. There may be several relevant classes. List them and their titles.
Example: (15/300.1 Vacuum cleaners)

6. As you search, list the databases/places you search, the terms you search and the number hits and numbers of any patents that you have reviewed and found to be relevant or irrelevant. You will need this information later to demonstrate due diligence.

USPTO Granted Patents (Green)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Search</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Patent Numbers</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCL/15/330 and (dry or drying or drier or dryer)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4,706,326</td>
<td>Looks like a knock-out for conversion to blower.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Once you have worked through all of the parts of your invention and all of the potential information sources, determine next steps.

a) If you found nothing related, will you have a World Patent Index search done or will move on to filing a patent, leaving the search to your patent attorney?

b) If you found related patents that are not exact, will you attempt to patent part of your idea? Will you attempt to cross-license with the other patent holders?

c) If you found an exact match in Canada, will you give up?, attempt to re-engineer your product? or go apply for a job with the company?

d) If you found an exact match outside of Canada, will you try to import and sell the product or will you manufacture your/their product in Canada without patent protection?
**Searching the Trademark Databases**

1. Search the Internet first. If someone is already using the name you want to use, do you want to risk being confused with them, even if they are in another part of the world, marketing another product?

2. Search the Trademark Databases for the geographic area where you want to market your product.

   Things to watch for:

   Sounds alike \[ \text{Two for tea} = 24T = 2:40 = \text{TOOFOURTEE} = \text{To for ti} \]

   So close as to be confused in the same market:

   **Red Bull** vs **Blue Bull** in the beverage market