

# Practitioners Series Session 4: IP Management – funding, tax, protection

**17 November 2021** 

# Agenda

- 1 Innovation Supports at Enterprise Ireland Joe Madden (Enterprise Ireland)
- 2 R&D Tax Credits / KDB James McMahon (Director, Tax, Grant Thornton)
- (3) IP protection David Brophy (FR Kelly Patent Lawyers)





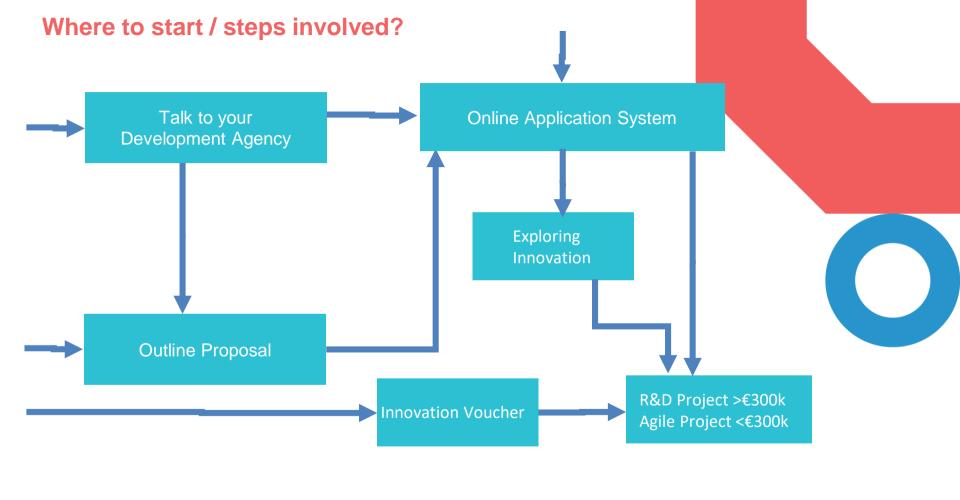


Joe Madden









# **Outline Proposal**

Download and fill in an Expression of interest



> Email to <a href="mailto:RandDOutlineProposals@enterprise-ireland.com">RandDOutlineProposals@enterprise-ireland.com</a>

Description
Objective
2,,5500
Start Date
Technical challenges
Indicative Costs
Personnel costs
Overheads (30% Personnel)
Consultancy
Travel
Materials
Total Project Costs

roject Impact	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Sales					
Exports					
Employment					
Profits					

Where will the project be carried out (%)

In House	In Ireland
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Sales	Exports	Profits	R&D Expenditure	EBITDA	Employment
(€,000)	(€,000)	(€,000)	(€,000)	(€,000)	

# Financial supports

- ➤ Exploring Innovation Offer
  - > 50% Grant
  - > €70K Project
- ➤ Agile Innovation Fund and R&D

Company size	Small	Medium	Large
Grant rate	45%	35%	25%

- ➤IP Strategy Support
  - ➤ IP Start 80% grant on €2.7k
  - ➤ IP Plus 50% grant on €70k
- ►Innovation Voucher €5k paid to HEI on Client's behalf



# Process Development Financial supports

- ➤ Digitalisation Voucher €9k paid to independent consultant to advise on Innovation process
- ➤ Agile Innovation Fund –Business Innovation
  50% grant support to SMEs for Process, Service and Business
  Model Development including Digitalisation



# Contact us to discuss further:

- Email: <u>rdcoreunit@enterprise-</u> ireland.com
- R&D Helpline: 01 727 2120
- RD&I website
- Agile Innovation Fund sample application and Project Plan
- Read our client RD&I <u>case</u> <u>studies</u>





# **R&D Tax Credit Regime**

- €25 for every €100 spent on R&D S.766 (2) TCA 1997
- offset against corporation tax S.766 (2) TCA 1997
- available as a cash refund S.766 (4B) (a) TCA 1997
- in addition to trading deduction
- key employee reward mechanism R&D staff effectively receive part of remuneration tax free (certain criteria apply)
- S. 472D TCA 1997



# **5 Key Requirements**

Systematic, investigative or experimental activities

Revenue approved field of science or technology I. Basic research II.Applied research III.Experimental development

Involve the resolution of scientific or technological uncertainty

Seek to achieve scientific or technological advancement



# R&D Tax Credit – Qualifying expenditure

#### Eligible expenditure includes:

- employee costs
- plant & machinery
- buildings
- materials
- overheads
- outsourced R&D

#### incurred wholly and exclusively:

- in the carrying on
- by the company of qualifying R&D activities





# **Case Study**

We provided assistance with the calculation and preparation of an R&D tax credit report for a software company engaged in qualifying R&D activities.

Having assessed their operations, we determined that there was qualifying expenditure of €400,000, giving rise to an R&D tax credit of €100,000 which the business received by way of a cash payment from Revenue.

R&D	tax	credit	calculatio	n €
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Wages 330,000

Laptop 5,000

Subcontractors 65,000

Qualifying expenditure 400,000

R&D tax credit 100,000

Corporation tax liability Nil

Remaining available as cash refund 100,000





**Knowledge Development Box** 

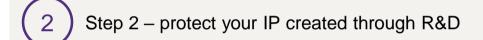
- A Tax Rate of 6.25% will apply to profits arising from certain Intellectual Property assets which are the result of qualifying R&D activity carried out in Ireland
- Qualifying IP assets are patented inventions and copyrighted software
- Encourage companies to develop IP in Ireland that have a high "value add" for the economy





#### How it works





3 Step 3 – generate profits from that IP

4 Step 4 – profits taxed at a rate of 6.25%



# **Example**

- Med Tech Ltd:
- Company A, an Irish Indigenous SME.
- Incurred €500k on its own R&D activity relating to the development of a qualifying asset.
- Net profits of €1m relating to the qualifying asset.
- An extra tax deduction of €500k is therefore available (50% of the qualifying profit).
- Without the KDB, the corporation tax payable would be €125,000 (€1m of net profit x 12.5%).
- With the extra tax deduction, the corporation tax payable is €62,500 (€1m net profit, less €500k additional tax deduction = €500k of taxable income x 12.5%).
- Effective tax rate on qualifying income is 6.25%.





# **THANK YOU**

# **Protecting your Intellectual Property**



**David Brophy - FRKelly** 

# What is Intellectual Property (IP)?

#### **Trade Marks**

• Brands & logos

#### **Patents**

• Technical inventions

# Design Rights

How products look

# Copyright

• Creative works & program code

# Why have IP assets?

Protection Deterrent Licensing Tax relief (KDB) Support R&D claim Asset building attract investment,





Trade Mark

Design

Patent



### 1. Trademarks



EST. 1912

# Different kinds of TM right

Registered TM

- Crystal clear who owns it
- Can be enforced immediately

Unregistered TM

- Uncertain if you have rights
- Infringement less clear
- Especially difficult for young companies

Business name

- Can't prevent use of similar name by another
- Having it does not imply right to use it

# Words, letters & numbers

Google Toyota

Coca-Cola Vodafone

IBM AT&T

XBOX Series X S20 Edge

Big Mac Penguin

HSBC Tetris

Hewlett Packard Apple

# Logos





















# You can't register

#### Generic terms

• "LAPTOP" for computers

#### Descriptive terms

• "APPLE" for jam

### Commonplace images

• Image of a cow for dairy products

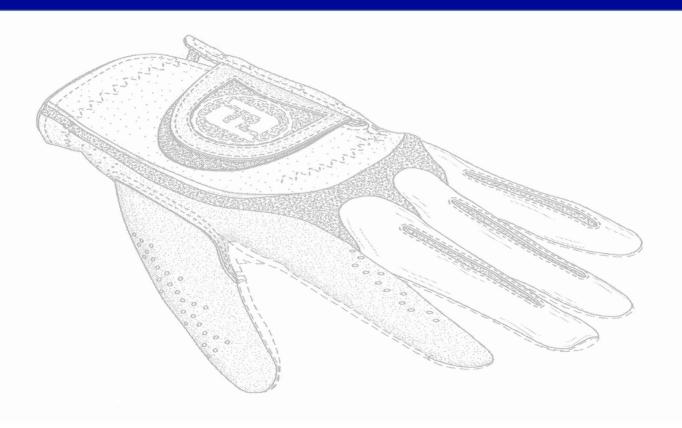
# Descriptive numbers

• "2015" for wines

#### Procedure



# 2. Designs



# Design Rights

#### Protect appearance of products

Product looks different to existing designs

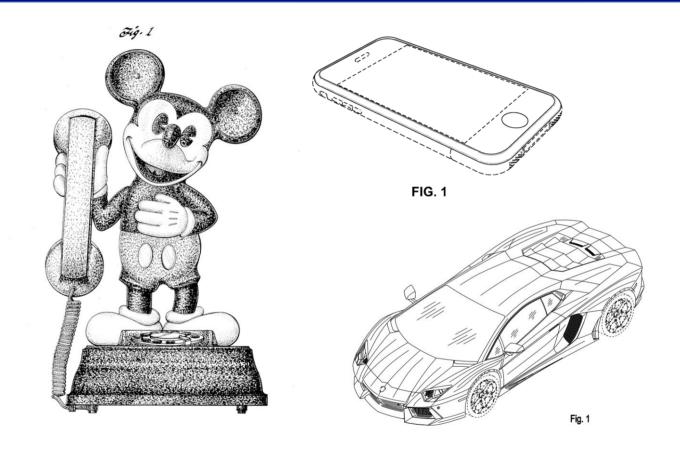
#### Registered & unregistered protection

• 25 years (reg.) vs 3 years (unreg.)

#### Easy to get

Low cost and quick protection

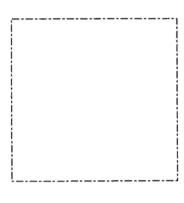
# **Traditional Design Registrations**



# **DIGITAL DESIGNS**



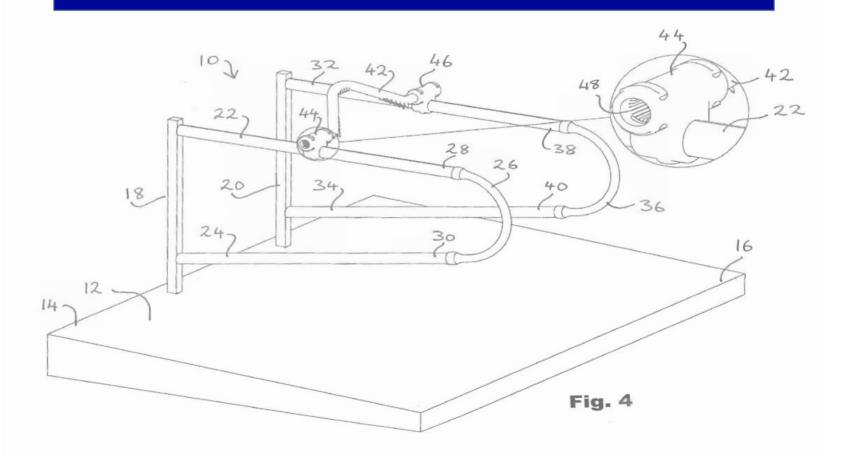




imeilip.ecm



# 3. Patents



#### **Patents**

#### **Inventions**

- Products or processes
- All fields of technology

#### **Technical**

- Not available for business methods
- Not available for abstract ideas

#### Novelty

- Not already known
- You haven't disclosed it yourself

#### Inventive step

- Not obvious
- Solves a technical problem

# Any disclosure or sale before your filing date is fatal



- No sales
- No publications
- No verbal disclosure
- No public use
- No public testing





# Disclosure & novelty

Trials, sales, public uses can all destroy novelty

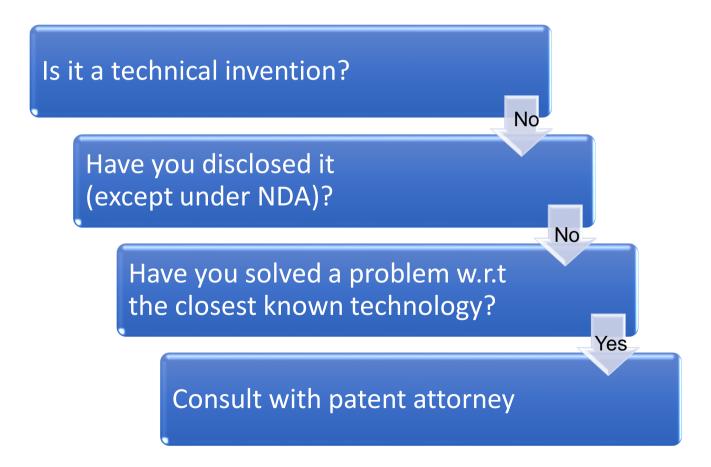
No patent if invention "made available to the public" before you file

Confidential disclosure OK (but can be risky)

Only disclose under NDA

Disclose as little as possible

# Deciding if you can get a patent



# Final thoughts

The most important thing is not to file for IP, but to make a timely decision on filing or not

Consider if you need IP, but also if an investor will expect you to have it

Getting IP protection does not commit you to enforcing it in court

It costs nothing to talk to us ... and we want to talk to you

# Thank you



d.brophy@frkelly.com

# Thank you

Questions



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