Model job description

# Intellectual Property Manager

## Scope, purpose and nature of role

Intellectual property (IP - knowledge, information *etc*.) can be an extremely valuable asset for its owner, both in its own right and, in some cases, when licensed or sold to third parties. However, it can be difficult to extract or realize the value, determine a fair market value for IP, and achieve compliance with licenses and IP laws (copyright, trademarks, designs and patents). The IP Manager is a specialist in this area, offering advice and guidance to other managers, staff and specialists, and helping to optimize the value to the organization of our own IP (*e.g*. our brands) and IP belonging to third parties (*e.g*. licensed software).

## Distinguishing characteristics of the ideal candidate

The following personal traits and competencies are high on our wish-list:

* **A strategic thinker**, able to look beyond immediate and obvious/narrow issues such as legal compliance to consider longer term organizational objectives (*e.g*. forming collaborative, mutually beneficial relationships with trustworthy third parties through IP);
* **Socially adept and politically savvy**, well-connected within and outside the organization, or eminently capable of forming productive business relationships with a range of people and organizations to explore and resolve IP issues effectively;
* **Strong leadership** toguide and motivate others, building a network of people and organizations who appreciate and support the organization’s objectives in respect of IP;
* **Consultative**, becoming a trusted and well-respected professional advisor to whom others come for guidance.

## Qualifications, skills and experience

The following are relevant and desirable for this role:

* **IP or information management:** at least 5 years work experience in this field, including at least 2 years as a manager, team leader or senior consultant;
* **Legal and compliance expertise:** although we are not looking for a lawyer as such, legal training, qualifications and/or experience would be a plus, especially in relation to IP rights, copyright, patents, trademarks and designs;
* **General business management:** it isimportant that the IP Manager appreciates the value and purpose of both IP and compliance to the business, and the associated information risks.

Candidates must be willing to undergo background checks to verify their identity, character, competence, qualifications, skills and experience.