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***The World's Leading
Patent & Technology
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France

Most patent and technology licensing in France is done in-house and what remains is shared among a large number and wide range of practitioners, including litigation-focused lawyers, technology specialists and patent attorneys. At present, licensing work is mainly generated by the automotive, biotechnology and life sciences industries. There is also activity in the IT sector, with cloud computing and open-source software emerging as key issues. Sources report that licensing continues to grow for a number of reasons: since the financial crash, licensing has become increasingly important in M&A settings; smaller companies are increasingly happy to look for licensing deals rather than manufacture the product themselves; and there has been government impetus to encourage technology transfer offices at French universities to work together. Although no one works exclusively on licensing, there is some sectoral focus among French practitioners, most notably in the IT arena.

Alain Bensoussan Avocats

This IP boutique has been dedicated to serving clients at the cutting edge of new technologies ever since its inception in the late 1970s.

Today, it is a large firm offering a wide range of expertise in all IT-related matters, retaining its position as one of the leading firms in France dealing with technology issues. Name partner **Alain Bensoussan** is “a renowned figure in the licensing world, especially for his IT work”. He heads the firm and is particularly involved in advanced development of the Internet and computers.