

Conversation with a Certified Licensing Professional (CLP) – Lalit Ambastha, CLP, Patentwire Consultants Pvt. Ltd.



Mr. Lalit Ambastha is an intellectual property (IP) Attorney with more than 16 years of experience in the field of IP and Founder of Patentwire Consultants Pvt. Ltd. Lalit serves as speaker and faculty with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Size Enterprises and with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Govt. of India, for IP Awareness Programs. Lalit is ranked as top 40 IP Professionals in India by IAM 1000.

Lalit has rich experience in IP prosecution, licensing, valuation, and technology transfer. He has dealt with patents and technologies across all major fields of invention for Indian and overseas clients. He has serviced applicants like Delhi Metro, Honda, IITs, Novartis, Viber, Olympic Association, Indian Railways, Georgia Tech, IKEA and others with specialized focus on general utility, chemical, medical, immunological, biochemical, herbal, agricultural, biotechnological, pharmaceuticals, mechanicals, information technology, and electronics patents.

In addition to Patentwire, Lalit is also co-founder of IPBazaar, a Technology Transfer company, InkPat, a patent illustration wing, and RIPA, a not-for-profit organization in the domain of Intellectual Property. He earned the Certified Licensing Professional (CLP) credential in 2020.

Lalit's career journey followed a winding path. In 2003, he was running a cybercafé in his hometown when he began a PhD program in science. He made the decision to leave that program to pursue a career in IP and completed his LL.B. degree. This journey from science to IT, IT to science, and finally to techno-legal changed his perspective and vision about his career path and job profile.

What motivated your decision to pursue CLP certification?

In India, technology transfer, licensing, and commercialization professions are less common than in other parts of the world. Throughout my career, I have aspired to the highest professional standards with a 360° approach in IP services, including all phases of innovation, i.e., generation, protection, enforcement and monetization, and I have had practical experiences in each segment. While I do believe that practical knowledge within the field is critically important, professionals also need confidence in their knowledge and understanding towards the approach. To demonstrate my knowledge in the licensing and commercialization domain, I searched for certifications in the field. When I discovered the CLP certification program in 2019 and reviewed its requirements and guidelines, I was impressed and motivated to pursue the credential. I have written

many white papers and executed many tech transfer projects but earning the CLP certification gives me the objective evidence I was seeking to validate my IP knowledge.

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What value do you see in maintaining the CLP credential?

I am one of the few IP Attorneys from India currently holding the CLP credential. Practicing licensing and commercialization in the current Indian ecosystem is very challenging, but I do believe serving others while maintaining the CLP credential helps me better convey my knowledge of IP to all colleagues.

What role does professional certification play in the field based on your experiences?

I have no doubt professional certification plays a very important role in establishing and maintaining credibility of one's professional credibility. Professional certification, coupled with practical experience, demonstrates the knowledge and understanding experts have in their field of practice as well as encourages their ongoing professional development and learning.

What is your advice for other individuals who are considering pursuing specialty certification, specifically CLP certification?

If a professional has great interest in innovation and technology and its role in a competitive business environment, pursuing professional certification in licensing is key. The well-structured reference materials help enhance the individual's knowledge.

