Sectors & Industries

Life Sciences

Schellenberg Wittmer

Schellenberg Wittmer's Life Sciences Group is a leading industry practice for dispute resolution, transactional work and regulatory matters in the field of life sciences. We advise and represent companies from a variety of sectors, including pharmaceuticals, biotechnological products, medical devices and equipment, diagnostics and personalized medicine, cosmetics, and food processing and beverages, including novel food.

Expertise

Schellenberg Wittmer's Life Sciences Group has broad expertise in representing life sciences clients in complex international disputes and in advising on commercial and contractual matters, such as complex licensing deals, cooperation and research agreements, distribution and supply chain matters, joint ventures, and M&A transactions. Additionally, we provide guidance in regulatory and advertising matters and advise on processing and use of data, data protection, compliance and investigations, e-health, software and mobile medical applications, and competition law.

Litigation/Arbitration

We represent clients in administrative, litigation, arbitration and mediation proceedings over a broad range of issues, including:

- Enforcement, entitlement, validity and infringement of patents, SPCs, know-how, trade secrets, data and databases and other proprietary rights
- Disputes arising from licensing, supply and manufacturing, distribution, non-disclosure, R&D and cooperation agreements, technology transfers, and clinical trials
- Product liability defense and product recall matters

Corporate and Commercial

- R&D, licensing, manufacturing, supply and distribution agreements
- Joint ventures, spin-offs, IPOs
- M&A transactions
- Financing of business activities and research projects
- Venture capital and private equity
- Tax structuring and advice
- Public procurement

Advice and Regulatory

- Regulatory legal due diligence and audits
- Clinical trials and pre-market activities
- Licensing permits, import and export regulations
- Marketing authorization matters
- Labelling and advertising of regulated products
- Interactions with HCPs and collaborations with service providers
- Compliance and investigations
- Data protection, e-health and medical software
- Vigilance and post-market surveillance
- Pricing and discounting of medicinal products and medical devices
- Antitrust and competition law
- Advice on cannabis products, including medical cannabis

Deals and Cases

- Representation of a US pharmaceutical company in a USD 210 million arbitration against a German pharmaceutical company concerning non-compliance with GMPs, supply of deficient drug product and product recalls
- Counsel to Santhera Pharmaceuticals on various complex, multi-jurisdictional development, licensing and asset sale deals
- Counsel to Shire in the closing in Switzerland of the global sale of its oncology business to Servier SAS
- Counsel to PM Equity Partner LLC, the corporate venture fund of Philip Morris International, in its acquisition of a minority shareholding in Biovotion AG
- Swiss counsel to Cardinal Health, a leading manufacturer of medical and surgical products, in its acquisition of Medtronic's Patient Recovery business for USD 6.1 billion
- Representation of various pharmaceutical companies in notification procedures following data breaches
- Swiss counsel to Panasonic Healthcare in its acquisition of the Diabetes Care business from Bayer (total transaction value approx. EUR 1 billion)
- Representation of a medical device company in the Swiss part of global product liability litigation
- Representation of a major cosmetics retailer before regulatory authorities and in several product recall cases
- Swiss counsel to Cardinal Health in the acquisition of Johnson & Johnson's Cordis business, a global leader in cardiology and endovascular devices
- Representation of a major Swiss medical device manufacturer in patent litigation before the Swiss Federal Patent Court
- Representation of a Swiss pharma and biotech company in an investigation by the Swiss competition authority over an alleged abuse of dominant position based on licensing agreements

Recognitions

The group and leading practitioners are well recognised among leading law firms across international directories and publications:

- Chambers Europe in Life Sciences
- Legal 500 in Life Sciences and Healthcare
- Who's Who Legal in Life Sciences, Product Liability Defense, Healthcare, Data
- The World's Leading Patent Professionals
- The World's Leading Trademark Professionals
- Expert Guide Women
- WIPR Leaders, Patent, Technology and Pharmaceutical
- Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars

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Schellenberg Wittmer Ltd is your leading Swiss business law firm with more than 150 lawyers in Zurich and Geneva, and an office in Singapore. We take care of all your legal needs – transactions, advisory, disputes.

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