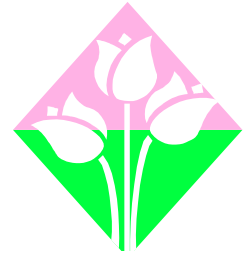




*Happy Spring!*

## Mesmer & Deleault, PLLC

41 Brook Street, Manchester, NH 03104  
Seacoast Office: One New Hampshire Ave., Suite 125  
Portsmouth, NH 03801



# “Tip of the Month”

## Achieve Lower Patent Application Costs While Getting a Better Patent

All inventors want to lower their patent application costs while maintaining high quality patent protection. To achieve lower patent application costs, inventors can do the following:

**1. Provide the patent attorney with the best, most complete write up you can up front.**

Also include engineering drawings, graphs, process flow charts, white papers, R&D proposals, and experimental data when available. Process flow charts should be provided for all process and method inventions. Hand written material is fine. More is better at this stage. It is more *efficient* for the attorney to organize and edit your information than to draft it from scratch. It is more *costly* if the inventor continues to add material while the attorney is drafting the application.

**2. Try to do as much of the work yourself.** For example, if you have computer-aided design (“CAD”) capability, the attorney can mark up your sketches to put them into proper patent format and give them back to you for producing the final drawings or you can provide your drawings in electronic format such as DXF or DWG formats for modification by the attorney. You could also describe the two or three closest things in the prior art, explaining any of their shortcomings and how your invention is better and overcomes those shortcomings. In addition, it is helpful if the inventor can draft a detailed description of every important feature of the invention in words and in the drawings.

**3. Provide a nearly completed version of the invention.** Completely describe at least one working version, including any components that are necessary to make the invention operate. Also describe the “best mode” for carrying out the invention. Writing a detailed description of a working version may inspire the inventor to think of equivalent alternative design elements that should also be described in the application.

**4. Answer any attorney questions provided in a draft clearly and completely.** Among other things, the attorney provides a second pair of eyes to identify gaps in the description that must be filled or explained. The attorney can also point out opportunities to add patentable material and to bolster the claims. The inventor should use that opportunity to make the application complete and accurate.

The attorneys at Mesmer & Deleault are in the business of helping their clients be successful. Success includes using your legal budget as efficiently as possible.

If you are interested in hearing more ideas on how to be more efficient, please give us a call at 668-1971, or contact us by email at [mailbox@biz-patlaw.com](mailto:mailbox@biz-patlaw.com).

Frank B. Mesmer, Jr., Esq.  
Robert R. Deleault, Esq.  
Phillip E. Decker, Esq.

(603) 668-1971

Fax (603) 622-1445

E-mail: [mailbox@biz-patlaw.com](mailto:mailbox@biz-patlaw.com)

Visit our web site at: [www.biz-patlaw.com](http://www.biz-patlaw.com)