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Larry Welch is Assistant General Patent Counsel at Eli Lilly and Company, Indianapolis, Indiana, where he serves as director of global patent procurement and IP policy and advocacy. He has been with Lilly since 1998. In his current role he manages the process for the procurement (filing and prosecution of applications) of Lilly's global patent portfolio, including the decisions related thereto. Over the last ten years, he has been involved with a number of contested patent matters in Asia, particularly in China. Prior to joining Lilly, he was with Pharmacia & Upjohn (P&U), and its predecessor, The Upjohn Company, for 19 years. His last position at P&U was Managing Patent Counsel and Director, Worldwide Patents. Larry has worked in all phases of patent practice, particularly pharmaceutical patent practice, both in the US and internationally. He has been active in professional and trade groups, including Intellectual Property Owners (IPO), American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA), ABA, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association (PhRMA), and Pacific Intellectual Property Association (PIPA), and has held various leadership roles, including President of the American Group of PIPA. He is currently chair of the Patent Law and Practice (International) Committee of Intellectual Property Owners (IPO). He has had several legal articles published, and has served as a faculty member of the Patent Resources Group, teaching courses on the PCT, along with personnel from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). Larry has a bachelor's degree in chemistry and a law degree, both from University of Detroit.