

Case study | Expert patentability search

Helping a small company make a more informed patentability decision

A small company in Germany approached the Clarivate™ patent search team with a request to perform a patentability search for a non-obvious improvement to an inventive concept popular in Germany.

More specifically, the inventive concept related to an automotive seat cover that provides a functional ergonomic design, coupled with additional padding positioned to provide extra support. The seat cover is a third-party accessory add-on and is not offered by the automotive manufacturer. To the client's knowledge, this type of seat cover was only found in Germany and not available in any other markets.

A multi-pronged approach led by German-speaking search expert with deep domain expertise

The Clarivate team of search professionals proposed a search strategy focused on identifying relevant prior art in both patents and non-patent literature (NPL). Since the inventive concept was popular in Germany, the Clarivate team made sure that the search was focused on patents and NPL

sources from Germany and surrounding areas. A native German speaker with a background in mechanical engineering was assigned to lead the search.

The Clarivate team also included an English language global patent and NPL search component to avoid missing any highly relevant prior art not identified with the German language search.

The right insights to make an informed decision

The client also informed the Clarivate team that they had identified a YouTube video that taught many elements of his inventive concept.

As a result, the search strategy placed an emphasis on atypical prior art references, such as online videos, conference proceedings and manufacturers' technical manuals.

With this robust search strategy, the Clarivate team was able to help the client make a high-confidence decision to proceed with a patent application.



Industry:

Automotive Accessories

Challenge:

Evaluating patentability of a new invention

Clarivate solution:

Expert Patentability Search

Identify references that disclose the same or similar inventions with a thorough search of global patent publications and non-patent literature.

Intelligence that powers innovation

Go to market faster. Protect and manage intellectual property. Free up your team to focus on strategic outcomes.

Clarivate provides the tools and services you need to make informed decisions with speed and precision.

Contact our experts today:

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