How the Ehrlich Group delivers excellence with Derwent Innovation

Increasing efficiency by bringing patent search in-house

The Ehrlich Group is a prominent intellectual property (IP) firm serving clients internationally. Operating as a patent and trademark law firm, IP litigation firm and an IP monetization platform, the Israel-based group has garnered multiple awards for global excellence.

When the firm sought to enhance its patent research capabilities, it turned to Derwent Innovation for artificial intelligence (AI)-enabled patent search and Innography, for patent analytics.

Ehrlich Group

- Intellectual property law firm based in Israel
- 160 employees
- · Founded 1995
- Specialists in IP for biotech and pharma, medical devices, software and high technology







Enhancing control without compromising quality

For years, the Medical Devices team relied on outsourced patent search services to support client work. While this approach saved time, it didn't always deliver the quality or relevance that Dr. Ilan Riess, Patent Attorney, expected.

"Sometimes I'd find better results myself using Google Patents," Riess recalls. "So I thought — if I can do that with a free tool, imagine what I could do with something truly powerful." The firm needed a solution that would allow them to bring patent search in-house — not just to improve quality, but to gain flexibility, control and speed. Riess wanted a tool that could empower both expert and non-expert users, deliver high-quality results fast and be intuitive enough to support real-time client conversations.

"We weren't just looking for a search tool. We were looking for a better way to work — something that could help us continue to deliver our best-in-class service to clients, faster and with more confidence."





Bringing patent search and IP intelligence in-house

When evaluating patent search platforms, Riess took nothing for granted. He trialed multiple tools, ran side-by-side comparisons and pushed each system to its limits. In the end, Derwent Innovation stood out — not just for its capabilities, but for its usability and comprehensive patent data.

"You can feel the difference in the data," Riess says. "It's clean, it's complete, and it gives you confidence. When I'm preparing for a client meeting, I don't want to second-guess the results — and with Derwent. I don't have to."

One standout feature for Riess was the ability to toggle between Al-enabled search and traditional Boolean keyword search, giving him the flexibility to approach each query in the way that best suits their needs.

"I tell my team: AI Search gives you fast, highly relevant results, and you can layer Boolean on top to refine even further. It's not about choosing one over the other; it's about combining strengths. Derwent gives us that flexibility, so every search can be tailored to the task; whether it's exploring new ground or drilling into specifics."

But it was the package, Derwent Innovation with Innography, that really tipped the scales: intuitive search, Al-powered insights and strategic analytics — all at a price point that made sense for the firm.

"The potential of using both tools together was huge.
I knew what we could achieve."

Powered by the Derwent World Patents Index (DWPI), Derwent Innovation offers human-authored invention summaries, normalized assignee data and integrated global litigation records from over 140+ jurisdictions.

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Dr. Ilan Riess, Patent Attorney

Speed and quality without compromise

Bringing patent search in-house with Derwent Innovation has already begun to shift how the Ehrlich Group operates. As anticipated, Riess has observed significant improvements in the quality and control of patent results through the use of Derwent Innovation and Innography. He and his team also recognize a clear advantage in the speed of insights compared to outsourcing patent searches to external firms, and they expect the return on investment to grow as more team members adopt the platform.

"Eventually, we'll be doing searches faster, cheaper, and with better quality than outsourcing. That's the goal — and we're on our way."

One immediate benefit is the ability to meet client expectations around confidentiality. Some clients prefer that patent information not be shared externally. With Derwent, Riess can confidently assure them that all searches are performed securely in-house.

"It gives clients peace of mind. They know we're using a trusted platform, and that their data stays within the firm."

Derwent Innovation also supports deeper strategic work, from patentability and freedom-to-operate (FTO) searches to competitive analysis. Riess uses the Al search to uncover related art and identify emerging competitors, often surfacing insights clients hadn't considered.

"I can drop in my client's patent and instantly see the closest related art — including competitors they didn't know existed."

For Riess, the platform isn't just about searching. It's about delivering the expected level of service, faster—and enabling his team to do more in less time, for more clients.

"Everything in IP comes down to time, quality and money. Derwent helps us balance all three."



Conclusion

A trusted sidekick for confident IP decisions

For Riess, Derwent Innovation isn't just a patent search tool —it's a trusted partner that helps him and his team uphold the firm's reputation for excellence.

"It's my Sancho Panza," he jokes. "I'm Don Quixote tilting at windmills, and Derwent gives me the tools to do it better." As Riess trains his colleagues and expands adoption across departments, he's confident that Derwent Innovation will continue to support the group's mission: delivering thoughtful, high-quality IP guidance with speed, precision and professionalism.

"We're not reinventing how we work. We're reinforcing it with tools that help us do more, in less time, for more clients."

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