Software Legal Protection for IP Developers: 1-Week Course

12 – 16 July 2027
Brussels (Belgium)



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Why This Course

In today's digital economy, software is one of the most valuable forms of intellectual property. Developers and technology professionals are expected not only to build innovative products, but also to understand how to protect source code, manage licensing risks, safeguard confidential know-how, and navigate the legal issues that arise during software development and commercialization. A strong understanding of software-related intellectual property law is therefore essential for protecting innovation and supporting long-term business value.

This intensive 1-week course equips software developers with essential legal knowledge to protect their intellectual property. Participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of copyright, patent, trade secret, and licensing laws as they apply to software. Through practical examples and case studies, developers will learn to navigate the complex legal landscape of software development and commercialization.

What You'll Learn and Practice

By joining this program, you will:

- Understand the fundamentals of intellectual property law in software development.
- Learn strategies for protecting source code and software innovations.
- Master the intricacies of software licensing and contract negotiation.
- Develop skills to navigate patent applications and copyright registrations.
- Gain insights into open source compliance and risk management.
- Learn to identify and mitigate potential legal issues in software development.

The Program Flow

Day 1: Foundations of Software IP Law

- Introduction to intellectual property in software.
- Copyright law for software developers.
- Patent law basics and software patentability.
- Trade secret protection for software.



Day 2: Protecting Source Code and Software Innovations

- Strategies for source code protection.
- Software copyright registration process.
- Identifying patentable software innovations.
- Maintaining trade secrets in software development.

Day 3: Software Licensing and Contracts

- Types of software licenses.
- Negotiating and drafting licensing agreements.
- Open source licensing and compliance.
- Software as a Service contracts.

Day 4: Patent and Copyright Strategies for Software

- Software patent application process.
- Defensive patenting strategies.
- Copyright infringement and fair use in software.
- International software IP protection.

Day 5: Legal Risk Management in Software Development

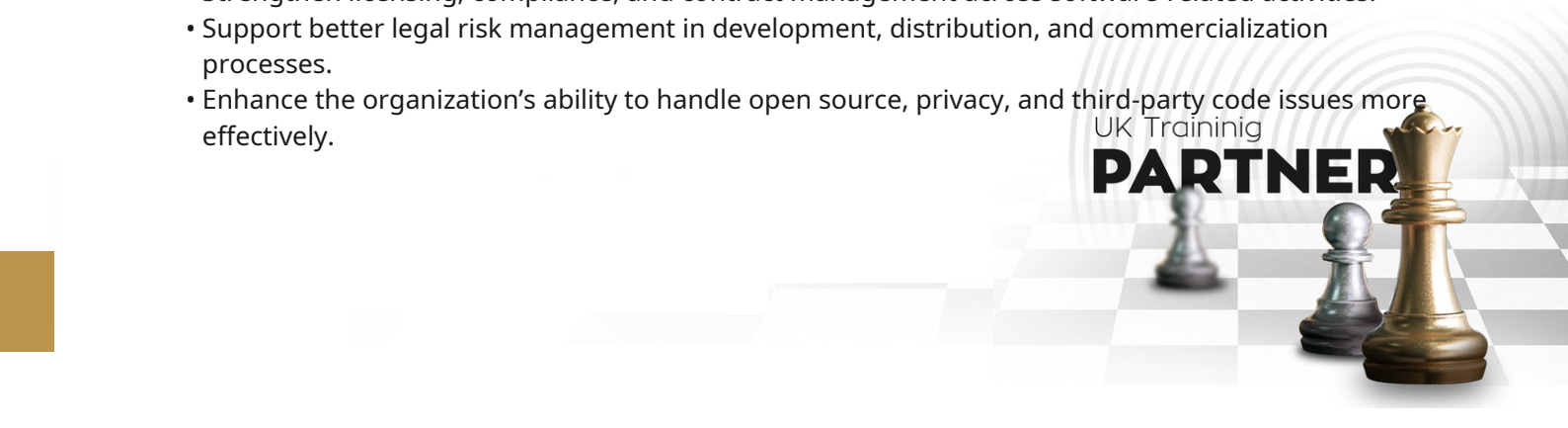
- Identifying potential legal issues in development.
- Compliance with data protection and privacy laws.
- Managing third-party code and libraries.
- Dispute resolution and litigation avoidance.

Individual Impact

- Strengthen your ability to implement effective IP protection strategies for software projects.
- Enhance your skills in negotiating and drafting software licensing agreements.
- Build stronger knowledge of patent and copyright processes for software innovations.
- Gain practical strategies to reduce legal risks in software development and commercialization.

Work Impact

- Improve the protection of software assets, source code, and technical innovation within the organization.
- Strengthen licensing, compliance, and contract management across software-related activities.
- Support better legal risk management in development, distribution, and commercialization processes.
- Enhance the organization’s ability to handle open source, privacy, and third-party code issues more effectively.



Training Methodology

This program integrates legal understanding, software industry context, and practical application to ensure real-world relevance and professional impact. Learning methods include:

- Real-world case studies on software copyright, patents, licensing, and trade secrets.
- Practical exercises in identifying IP risks and protection opportunities in software projects.
- Interactive workshops on software licenses, SaaS agreements, and open source compliance.
- Group discussions on patentability, data protection, and dispute avoidance in software development.
- Frameworks and tools for applying software IP law principles in professional practice.

Beyond the Course

Upon completion, participants will be better equipped to protect software-related intellectual property with greater confidence, legal awareness, and practical understanding. They will return ready to:

- Apply stronger IP protection strategies to software products and code assets.
- Navigate software licensing and contract issues more effectively.
- Reduce legal risks linked to development, commercialization, and third-party code use.
- Support more secure and strategically protected software innovation.

