



## R. KENT ROBERTS

Partner

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Kent's practice straddles the complex interplay of technology and commerce. He regularly advises technology companies on the protection and commercialization of intellectual property, particularly related to electrical, software, and mechanical technology. His work includes patent, trademark, and copyright prosecution, negotiation of software licenses and IP license agreements, infringement analysis related to patents, trademarks and copyrights, and providing advice regarding trade secrets. Companies in the medical, biometric, software, electrical, mechanical, electro-mechanical, and communications industries, among others, seek out Kent's advice and guidance on critical business decisions.

Before focusing on intellectual property law, Kent's practice was grounded in M&A, tax, trade secret protection, and employment agreements. Kent's clients benefit from this business law experience as well as his unique engineering education (separate degrees in mechanical engineering and electrical engineering) and experience. He spent years in industry as a process engineer and designs engineer providing analysis and technical support to optimize various oil refinery facilities.

### Honors

- Tau Beta Pi National Engineering Honor Society
- Pi Tau Sigma International Mechanical Engineering Honor Society

### Experience

Hodgson Russ closed a merger transaction on behalf of a long-time, NASDAQ-listed defense and aerospace products manufacturing client. As a result of the merger, the client became a wholly owned subsidiary in a deal valued at approximately \$275 million. The closing completed a four-month project in which attorneys from many of our practices contributed in significant ways under intense time pressures and opposite some of the largest firms in the country. Our work included advising our client's board in connection with its fiduciary duties; negotiating the merger

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Suite 100  
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### Practices & Industries

Canada-U.S. Cross-Border  
Cybersecurity & Privacy  
Design Protection & Design Patents  
Freedom-to-Operate Analyses  
Intellectual Property & Technology  
Intellectual Property Litigation  
Intellectual Property Portfolio Management  
Patent Prosecution  
Technology Licensing & Agreements  
Trade Secrets & Non-Disclosure Agreements  
Trademark & Domain Name Registration  
Trademark Oppositions and Cancellations  
Website Agreements, Cloud Computing & Social Media

### Admissions

Connecticut  
New York

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agreement; preparing a proxy statement for the special meeting of shareholders and dealings with the SEC and FINRA; defending the company and the board in two shareholder lawsuits alleging, among other things, breach of fiduciary duty by the board; appearing in federal and state court and ultimately settling the lawsuits; advising management on directors and officers insurance matters; advising the board and management on certain options and other benefit matters; handling HSR filings; and assisting on financing related to the transaction.

Hodgson Russ cultivated and prosecuted the intellectual property portfolio of a Western New York-based high-tech startup, which was later acquired by a Fortune 100 company.

### **In the News**

Thought Leaders: Employees can help protect a company's intellectual property  
*Buffalo Business First*, May 9, 2022

Hodgson Russ Announces New Partners  
February 10, 2005

### **Publications**

Supreme Court Resolves Split Among The Circuits: No Time Limits on Monetary Recovery for any Timely Copyright Infringement Claim  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert*, May 15, 2024

The Battle After *Warhol*: Tattoos as Artwork or Infringement?  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert*, April 24, 2024

AI Lawsuit May Eclipse Claims of Fair Use  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert*, April 5, 2024

Music Copyrights on a Roll – Read and Listen to Hear the Latest  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert*, October 6, 2023

Federal Circuit Set to Rehear Case En Banc Impacting the Longstanding Test for Design Patent Obviousness  
*Hodgson Russ Design Protection & Design Patents Alert*, August 9, 2023

Taco Bell Throws Its Hat in the Ring to Free “Taco Tuesday” from Trademark Protection  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert*, May 30, 2023

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

### **Education**

University of Washington, B.S.M.E.,  
cum laude

University at Buffalo, B.S.E.E.,  
magna cum laude

Cornell Law School, J.D.

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Copyright Claims of Cosmetic Company Continue to Trial  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert*, March 23, 2023

Luxury Fashion Designer Earns Its Stripes In Trademark Victory Against adidas  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert*, January 27, 2023

Court Ruling Simplifies Service Upon Foreign Trademark Infringers  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert*, December 20, 2022

Fortnite Crushes Choreographer's Copyright Claims  
*Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Alert*, November 28, 2022

## **Presentations & Events**

Trade Accelerator Program: Helping Companies Across Canada Take Their Business Global  
World Trade Center Buffalo Niagara, Best Western St. Catharines Hotel & Conference Center, December 1, 2019

Cross-Border Trade: A Mid-Year Review  
Hamilton, ON, June 5, 2013

## **Blog Posts**

- Partner Objects to Volkswagen Class Action Settlement in Letter  
*Noonan's Notes Blog*, May 16, 2017

## **Professional Affiliations**

- Board member and past president, Cornell Club of Buffalo
- Senior past chairperson, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (Buffalo section)

## **Community & Pro Bono**

- Former Executive board member, Boy Scouts of America Greater Niagara Frontier Council