

# MICHAEL VARCO

PRINCIPAL / WASHINGTON, D.C. METRO OFFICE

Mike's practice is focused on preparing and prosecuting domestic and international patent applications in the chemical and electrical arts. A sampling of his experience includes specialized technologies involving semiconductors, nuclear technology and electronic vapor devices, among others. Mike's clients include large domestic and international companies, where he works with in-house counsel, engineers, inventors and foreign attorneys around the globe.

Prior to joining Harness IP, Mike was as a Patent Examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, where he analyzed patent applications related to solar cells and thermoelectric devices. Having previously worked as a Patent Examiner, Mike understands, from personal experience, the procedures examiners follow and how to advocate effectively on behalf of his clients. Mike's personal experience with how other attorneys have approached examiners in the past allows him to incorporate *what has worked* and *avoid what does not work* when prosecuting patents.

## PRACTICE AREAS

Patents

## INDUSTRIES

Chemistry & Materials Science; Semiconductor Processing & Devices

## NEWS/EVENTS

## IN THE NEWS

- Harness IP Attorneys Recognized in Law360, May 7, 2018

## PUBLICATIONS

## ARTICLES

- "How Terminal Disclaimers Present Patent-Licensing Issues," *Law360*, April 11, 2016
- "Ways To Convert A Pre-AIA Patent Into An AIA Patent," *Law360*, January 30, 2015



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## **BLOGS**

- Federal Circuit Clarifies Difference Between Indefinite Hybrid Claims and Definite Apparatus Claims with Permissive Functional Language
- PTAB Provides Another Estoppel Datapoint — No Estoppel for Petitioner Using Its Own Documents
- USPTO Releases Data on Post-Prosecution Pilot Program (P3)

## **BACKGROUND**

Prior to the law, Mike was a Process Engineer for Hyundai Semiconductor and for Intel Corporation, where he was involved with DRAM manufacturing and process development for Flash memory technology. Mike also has previous engineering experience in the mining and oil and gas industries.

## **MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Intellectual Property Law Association

## **EDUCATION**

J.D., University of Colorado, 2008

B.S., Chemical and Petroleum Refining Engineering, Colorado School of Mines, 1999

## **BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS**

Colorado

District of Columbia

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office