



Akihito ("Aki") Nakamachi

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Mr. Nakamachi is a fully bilingual and bicultural attorney, fully admitted to practice in Japan, New York and California. He has the rare distinction among Japanese lawyers of having served as a partner both in the United States and in Japan, and possesses over 30 years of solid experience as a practicing lawyer. He has special expertise in intellectual property/technology transactions for technology-driven clients, ranging from young start-ups to fully-matured global enterprises. Aki represents clients operating in a wide range of industries, including software, Internet, e-commerce, computer gaming, computer equipment, telecommunications, automobile, semiconductor, pharmaceuticals, biotech and medical devices. With over 10 years of work experience at first-tier national U.S. law firms across the United States, Aki has acquired exceptionally deep and practical knowledge of not only the laws but also the "business culture" of both the United States and Japan, and utilizes his expertise to assist clients in achieving successful outcomes in cross-border commercial transactions and dispute resolution matters.

Practice Areas

Corporate

M&A

Intellectual Property/Life Sciences/TMT

Establishing a Business Presence in

Corporate and Commercial Transactions Japan

Venture Private

M&A/Business Restructuring Capital Equity/Funds

Copyright and

IP Licensing and Transactions Entertainment

Health Care, Pharmaceutical and Life IT and Telecommunications law and

Science Regulation

Competition/Antitrust	Distribution and Other Competition Law Matters	Interplay of IP and Competition Law
Energy and Natural Resources		
Dispute Resolution	General Commercial Litigation	International Litigation and Cross-Border Disputes
		Estate and Business Succession Dispute
International Trade	Alternative Dispute Resolution	IP Disputes Resolution
International Practice	United States	Other Jurisdictions

## Topics

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Achievements

Jan 13, 2022

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2022

Achievements

Oct 9, 2021

Who's Who Legal: Japan 2021

Achievements

Apr 15, 2021

Best Lawyers 2022

## Practice Groups

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Life Sciences and Health Care Practice Group

## Background

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Mar 1991	Kyoto University (LL.B., A.B.)
Apr 1993	The Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court of Japan, Associated with Mori Hamada
May 1997	New York University School of Law (LL.M.)
1998	California Bar Association/New York Bar Association
Sep 1997 - Aug 1998	Morrison & Foerster LLP
Oct 1998 - Sep 1999	Kirkland & Ellis LLP (Chicago office)
Oct 1999 - Sep 2003	Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati P.C.
Oct 2003 - Jun 2009	Kirkland & Ellis LLP (San Francisco, Palo Alto and Los Angeles offices)
Jan 2005	Partner, Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Jul 2009 -	Partner, Anderson Mori & Tomotsune
Apr 2016 - Mar 2021	Professor, Kobe University Graduate School of Science, Technology and Innovation

## Publications

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Legal Matters regarding Life Sciences and Health Care - Navigation regarding Regulations, Intellectual Properties and Corporate Matters (Second Edition)	Shojihomu Co., Ltd.	Oct 2020
Legal Matters regarding Life Sciences and Health Care - Navigation regarding Regulations, Intellectual Properties and Corporate Matters	Shojihomu Co., Ltd.	Sep 2018
Keys to Successful Cross-Border Intellectual Property-Related Transactions	The Lawyers	Nov 2010
Lessons From Strategic Use of NDAs by Advanced Foreign Companies	Business Law Journal	Jun 2010
Practical Checklist for Dealing with Warning Letters – When You Are Sending One or Receiving One	The Lawyers	Dec 2007
Intellectual Property Strategy for Technology Start-ups” (Series of monthly articles) “Important Intellectual Property Issues to be Addressed Prior to Spinning Off to Start Up a New Business, (1) - (3); “Practical Strategy for Building High-Quality Patent Portfolio and its Effective Exploitation, (1) - (3); “Practical Strategy for Effective Protection and Exploitation of Trade Secrets, (1) - (2); “Trade Secrets and NDAs – Risks and Effective Use of NDAs, (1) - (2); “Employee Inventions – Difference Between U.S. and Japanese Laws and Practices and Ideas for Japan’s Own Model, (1) - (2)”	Technology Business Magazine “LOOP” (Diamond Publishing	Apr 2003

## Lectures

Protecting Your Intellectual Property Against Ambush Marketers, Grey Marketing and Counterfeiting	Mar 3, 2015
China-International IP Forum	Jun 30, 2010
Dealing with Challenging IP Issues in Acquiring Japanese Companies & IP Assets – How to Conduct IP Due Diligence Effectively and Align IP Strategy with Business Strategy	Jun 2010
China-International IP Forum	
Latest Developments in Intellectual Property Law, Litigation and Licensing Practice in China	Anderson Mori & Tomotsune:
International IP Seminar	May 2010
Role of Start-ups in Innovation~Comparative Analysis Between Silicon Valley and Japan~	Licensing Executive Society(LES),
Japan Chapter: Monthly Seminar	Mar 2010
Role of Start-ups in Innovation - Why Japan can not become a Silicon Valley”(Anchor Business Systems	ABS 9th Venture
Workshop	Mar 2010
Dealing with Challenging IP Issues in M&As and Restructurings – How to Conduct IP Due Diligence Effectively and How to Align IP Strategy with Business Strategy	Dec 2009
In-House Congress Tokyo 2009	
Handling Intellectual Property issues for Mergers & Acquisitions and Spinning Off	LES Japan seminar
	Oct 23 - 24, 2009
Drafting Licenses and Product Development Agreements in Light of the Surge in Mergers & Acquisitions” & “In-License Compliance” (joint presentation	Jan 2009
Japan Pharmaceutical Licensing Association (JPLA) : Monthly Seminar	
Keys to Success for International Technology Transfer by Japanese Universities	Hokkaido University: International University
Technology Transfer Seminar	Dec 2008
Recent U.S. Case Law Affecting International Patent License Practice	Licensing Executive Society (LES), Japan Chapter: Monthly Seminar
	May 2008
Incorporating International Business Strategies into Collaboration Agreements ~ Japan-Related Issues & Considerations	Apr 2008
American Conference Institute (ACI): “Advanced Forum on Structuring, Negotiating and Managing Pharma/Biotech Collaboration Agreements” Conference	
Recent Major Developments and Trends in Intellectual Property Law and Corporate Law in Japan	U.C. Hastings College of the Law: Guest lecturer at Prof. Setsuo Miyazawa’s Japanese law seminar
	Mar 2008
Outside Counsel’s Perspective on Current Difference Between U.S. & Japanese University Technology Transfer Practice and Future Trends	Feb 2008
Hokkaido University: International Technology Transfer Seminar	
Global IP Strategy to Win in U.S. and Global Market ~ In Trend Toward ‘Open Innovation’: Typical Issues Suffered by Japanese Corporations and Potential Solutions	Feb 2008
Osaka Chamber of Commerce: Monthly Seminar	

## Achievements

Jan 13, 2022	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2022
Oct 9, 2021	Who’s Who Legal: Japan 2021
Apr 15, 2021	Best Lawyers 2022
Jan 13, 2021	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2021
Sep 1, 2020	Who’s Who Legal: Japan 2020
Apr 9, 2020	Best Lawyers 2021
Jan 20, 2020	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2020
Nov 29, 2019	Who’s Who Legal: Japan 2019
Apr 4, 2019	Best Lawyers 2020
Jan 17, 2019	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2019
Nov 7, 2018	Who’s Who Legal: Japan 2018
Nov 29, 2017	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2018
Nov 2, 2017	Who’s Who Legal: Japan 2017
Nov 10, 2016	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2017
Nov 2, 2016	Who’s Who Legal: Japan 2016
Nov 13, 2015	The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2016
Sep 1, 2015	Who’s Who Legal: Japan 2015
Oct 30, 2014	Who’s Who Legal: Japan 2014
Nov 2, 2012	The International Who’s Who of Internet & e-Commerce Lawyers and Data Protection 2012

## Professional Admissions

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Japan (1993)

California and New York (1998)

## Professional and Academic Associations

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Tokyo Bar Association

California Bar Association

New York Bar Association

## Languages

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Japanese (first  
language)

English