Intellectual Property

## Consultation Period for Rules of Procedure for the Unified Patent Court (UPC)

On 25 June, 2013, the Preparatory Committee for the EU Unitary Patent System published its draft Rules of Procedure for the Unified Patent Court. U.S. and international companies can now comment on the rules. Read the alert to find out how.

The Committee is now soliciting public comment through 1 October, 2013. Comments should be submitted to the following address: <a href="mailto:secretariat@unified-patent-court.org">secretariat@unified-patent-court.org</a>.

As we have discussed <u>previously</u>, the new Unitary Patent Court and its <u>Rules of Procedure</u> will substantially influence European patent litigation strategies for plaintiffs and defendants. Certain rules will be particularly important to U.S. and international companies. These include rules related to bifurcation, stay and injunctions, opting out of UPC jurisdiction, interplay between EPO oppositions and UPC revocation, and costs of proceedings and damages.

For questions about how the new EU System and its Rules of Procedure will impact your business or how to present comments to the Committee, please contact your usual Ropes & Gray attorney or one of the following Ropes & Gray attorneys: <u>Anita Varma</u>, <u>Richard McCaulley</u>, <u>Christopher Harnett</u>, <u>Edward Kelly</u>, <u>Charles Larsen</u>, and <u>Christopher Carroll</u>.