

Ownership of Patent Rights

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Under United States law, barring an agreement to the contrary, it is the inventors listed on a patent who own the patent and its rights. In the case of multiple inventors, each co-inventor is considered a joint owner of the patent. Any of these joint owners may make, use, offer to sell, or sell the patented invention within the United States, or import the patented invention into the United States - without the consent of and without accounting to the other owners.

Like other forms of property, a patent or patent application may be assigned. The assignment must be in writing. Assignments should be filed in the patent office within three months of their execution to properly protect the assignee (buyer).

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