

Ruediger Schwarz

Head of IP & Licenses, Volkswagen (China) Investment Co., Ltd.



Ruediger Schwarz has more than 25 years' experience in the field of IP from the automotive industry perspective. He was professional engaged in different tasks, including patent prosecution and litigation, the latter with emphasis on the USA. Moreover, he drafted and negotiated contracts in different fields, mainly for licensing but also for purchasing, development and R&D cooperation. Ruediger Schwarz originally obtained an engineering degree (Dipl.-Ing.) in mechanical engineering from the Technische Hochschule Darmstadt, Germany (Darmstadt University of Technology). After some years of practice in patent work he qualified as European Patent Attorney and thereafter as German Patent Attorney.

Since the middle of 2014 he is heading the IP & Licenses team of Volkswagen's China business, dealing with the IP matters originating from Volkswagen's activities in China including R&D as well as for China specific questions originating from the headquarter in Germany.

Volkswagen has been active in China since 1984 and has grown in the meantime to the Volkswagen China Group consisting of 14 representative companies in the country, undertaking parts delivery and service provision for both customers and industry in addition to vehicle production. Volkswagen Group has been increasing its developing facilities in China considerably in recent years, assigning an increasing importance to intellectual property. Volkswagen (China) Investment takes here its role as the intermediary between the mother company and the local companies. Also taking into account the growing need for local expertise in intellectual property, the IP & Licenses team at Volkswagen's R&D center was installed in 2011 in Beijing.