

MEET A NAPP MEMBER

JACK STUART

First-and-foremost, I like the sheer volume of practitioner “wisdom” extant in the NAPP community. You’re not going to get that anywhere else. Period. I say “wisdom” because it is this experience-gained, applied knowledge you can’t find anywhere else - believe me, I’ve looked. Hard. Book-knowledge is one thing: here, you get wisdom.

Second, I like the ability to ask questions on topics I want to know about without being judged for merely asking what might seem like a stupid question to a “high-falutin lawyer” in a big firm. The openness of the forum permits the free-flow of communication I need to actually learn about basic block-&-tackle-patent-practitioner topics I might otherwise be reluctant to ask about at my firm. As a result, I’ve found my knowledge on a range of topics eclipses those of my peers, all because I’m willing to learn and the NAPP community is willing to teach - we all teach each other, in fact.

Finally, I like the fact I don’t feel like I’m having to compete with fellow NAPP members to “one-up” anyone - we’re all on the forum to benefit from our collective interactions, without having to “put on airs” or puff ourselves up relative to one another. We are there to talk about the geeky things patent practitioners talk about in quasi-social, quasi-professional fora, without all the hary-eyeball judging that might otherwise accompany such discussions.

I am captain on a major airline. From what I can tell from my research. I’m the only person on the planet who flies for a major airline who is also a patent attorney. Essentially, I have two “day” jobs, and I compartmentalize priorities based on the job I’m doing. When I go on a trip, I make sure I’ve covered any docket items pending during or shortly after the trip, and I make sure my clients can get in touch with me when I’m on a layover or otherwise free. If my workload looks like too much before starting a trip, I ensure one of my fellow partners at our firm can cover any gaps.



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