



JEAN-CLAUDE COMBALDIEU, ECTA HONORARY MEMBER

Jean-Claude Combaldieu is an engineer from the Central School of Paris and graduated in law at the Paris Faculty. He started his expertise in the intellectual property field in 1962.

He worked in the private sector as an engineer in the patent department of the Saint-Gobain company and as a consulting engineer in an IP firm. In 1968, he started working for the public service in the National Agency for Research Valorization (“Agence nationale de valorisation de la recherché”) as head of the Legal department and subsequently as Director of industrial agreements.

In 1983, Jean-Claude was appointed by the French Government Director General of the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI). As head of the French Delegation of the Board of the European Patent Office, he was elected President of the Committee on Budget and Finance from 1985 to 1988, and Chairman of the Administrative Council from 1990 to 1993.

As head of the French delegation of the Governing Bodies of WIPO, he was elected President of the Assembly of the Paris Union in 1983 (centenary year) and President of the Madrid Union in 1987. In 1993, the General Assembly of WIPO elected him as its President.

After 11 years at the head of the INPI he left in April 1994 to become Inspector General of Trade and Industry.

In June 1994, he was appointed as President of OHIM and started this part of his career in Alicante in September 1994, with Alexander von Mühlendahl and Alberto Casado, until October 2000.