Barker Brettell

Intellectual Property

COMPUTING & SOFTWARE





The computing and software industry is driven by a high volume of innovation, which can make identifying technology that merits IP protection challenging. Many applicants think it is not possible to secure protection for software and computer-implemented inventions, but this is not the case.

Barker Brettell has a wealth of experience advising companies on the best ways to protect their ideas, whether developing new technology, devices or software.

Our specialist attorneys combine technical knowledge, industry specific experience and in-depth understanding of IP law, to deliver commercially focused advice and robust IP strategies.

Our clients

Barker Brettell works with a diverse range of clients ranging from entrepreneurs and start-ups, universities, institutes and spinouts, to multinational organisations with global portfolios. We provide strategic guidance to businesses that will save them money and support growth. Our clients include telecommunications companies; multinational companies specialising in e-commerce, retail and internet services; developers of technology for self-driving vehicles; fintech companies, and companies developing artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Our sector experience offers:

- A 15-strong team of highly skilled and experienced attorneys who are practised in understanding the science behind computer and software innovations. Many have research experience beyond a first degree; some are inventors in their own right.
- A proven track record in identifying commercially viable ideas and helping clients turn ideas into revenue.
- Professional experience in holding EPO or UKIPO hearings for software related and computer implemented inventions.
- Expertise in dealing with excluded subject matter objections in the UK, EU and US.
- IP audits, advice on patent prosecution efficiencies and help you access valuable funding through tax saving schemes such as R&D tax credits and Patent Box.

Recognition

Managing IP Awards 2026 EMEA SHORTLISTED

Legal500 TOP TIER FIRM UNITED KINGDOM 2027 Barker Brettell LLP

2026 IP STARS from Managing IP TOP TIER FIRM

2026 IP STARS from Managing IP RECOMMENDED FIRM

10+ YEARS IP STARS from Managing IP RANKED

CITMA The Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys Net Zero pledge signatory

CYBER ESSENTIALS CERTIFIED PLUS

WTR 1000 The World's Leading Trademark Professionals 2026 Barker Brettell LLP Barker Brettell Intellectual Property



TECHNOLOGIES

Computing and software is used in a wide range of fields. Our experience includes:

- Artificial intelligence & machine learning
- Computer/network/distributed systems & control
- Audio & image processing
- Telecommunications
- Navigation and mapping
- Data handling and processes
- GUIs
- Security and encryption
- Business methods and fintech

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Working with a leading telecommunications company within the fields of texture compression, video coding and artificial reality (AR) to draft patent applications relating to texture compression and rich, interactive media content.
- Working with Oxford University Innovations drafting and preparing patent applications in the fields of self driving cars and neural networks for self-driving vehicles.
- Working with a spin-out company to identify and prepare patent applications in the fields of geo-location and tracking technology, machine learning and vision processing.
- Working with a global financial services company to provider patent advice for their contactless payment system as well as patent applications relating to financial trading systems.
- Developing software for New York and London FOREX trading platforms for a leading investment banking company.
- Filing patent applications at the UKIPO relating to methods of controlling access to software installed on a storage device for a multinational consultancy, advisory and insurance company. We worked closely with the team to their UK patents granted so the client could benefit from patent box tax relief and suggested filing strategies in Europe.

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Find out more at
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