



Focus on the Future

Guest Predictions: Thaddius J. Carvis

Guest Predictions is a regular feature in which we ask leaders in a number of professions questions that affect us all.

*Thaddius J. Carvis (Ted), U.S. and International Patent & Trademark Attorney
The Law Offices of Thaddius J. Carvis was established in 2003 in Leesburg, Virginia, a suburb of Washington, D.C., near the high technology corridor surrounding Dulles International Airport.*

Ted has over 40 years of experience in intellectual property law and began his career in the United States Patent & Trademark Office after graduating from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

Mr. Carvis was an examiner in chemical technologies in the U.S. Patent Office and served there as a law clerk to the Board of Appeals while attending law school in the evenings and graduating high in his class. He is a member of the Virginia and Connecticut Bars.

While in Connecticut, he was president of the Connecticut Patent Law Association and worked with leading lawyers for over ten years putting together a popular and widely attended Joint Seminar produced by Connecticut and the New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia Intellectual Property Law Associations. He is currently vice president of the Northern Virginia Patent Lawyers Club.

Q: What do you see as the key emerging uses of the internet for an Attorney?

A: Wider use of video conferencing and document sharing. There remains a wide gap between a face-to-face meeting and one done by telephone. Bigger screens and better software will be available to facilitate joint viewing and mark up of documents as we do in face-to-face meetings.

Q: What surprising applications of the Internet have you found in your field as an Attorney?

A: I am not usually surprised, but I have definitely been pleased to see long-time professionals adopt the technology so that they are not in a class that needs special care. I am also pleased that the government agencies I deal with provide in-depth access to files.

Q: What have been the “Best Uses” of the Internet for you?

A: Quickly coming up with good answers to questions. We can easily find opinions and data to support them on most subjects. Removing the barrier that foreign languages imposed is invaluable.

Q: What should be avoided when dealing with the Internet?

A: Giving in to the temptation to quickly give an opinion that wouldn't have been possible in days when you had to write it out and review the typed version. Reflection remains an important part of good communication.

Q: Which next steps might you recommend for all of us to take?

A: First, check out what is available to help you with your needs. It is easy to write a real language question for a search engine. Almost every question has been asked and answered by several people. Then, when you read about new technology and think of how it may apply to your work, follow up on the detail.