



# Trade Secret IP Protection & Litigation BOSTON

SEPTEMBER 19-20  
2023



## Michael Stimson

*General Counsel and VP  
of Intellectual Property*



**VIEW  
AGENDA**

*Michael Stimson is the current General Counsel & Vice President of Intellectual Property Officer at Sun World International, a fruit variety development and licensing company. He has spent the last decade in-house in three agriculture companies, all of which consider their “germplasm” (i.e., the plants and animals they develop by selective breeding) trade secrets until deliberately commercialized.*

*He spent the previous decade in private practice focusing on litigating trade secret, patent and trademark disputes and doing some patent prosecution on the side.*

### **What is the most exciting area of trade secrets you are currently working on?**

I constantly focus on all aspects of in-house trade secret protection: physical and data security, incoming and outgoing personnel, whether and how to document trade secrets, whether to patent or keep trade secret, how to handle trade secrets in licensing, how to maintain trade secrets while doing business in other countries, and other areas as well, I'm sure.

### **What have been the most notable trade secret case or trends in the past year?**

I look forward to the opportunity to keep current on trade secret issues by learning the answers from those more knowledgeable in this area during this conference.

### **Where should businesses be focusing their trade secret protection in light of these priorities?**

Data protection seems pretty important these days. Doing business in China without giving the business away is another area of interest.



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**Can you give us a brief overview of what you will be covering at the Trade Secret IP Protection & Litigation: Boston? And why it is important to the audience?**

I'll be discussing two trade secret cases I've previously handled, one ending up with an appeal to the state Supreme Court and an \$800 million damages award, and the other ending with a sentence of three years of federal incarceration. The lessons will be the value of ethical integrity in counsel and witnesses, and the potential value of encouraging government authorities to bring criminal charges for trade secret theft.

**What are you most excited about this upcoming event?**

I look forward to learning how others view trade secrets and their approaches on the issues I mentioned above in question 2 and 4.

*If you'd like to hear more from Jennifer, you can join her at Trade Secret IP Protection & Litigation: Boston (September 19-20). [Click here to find out more.](#)*

## Trade Secret Litigation Strategy: Prosecute a Trade Secret Claim & Defend Against Allegations of Misappropriation



Michael Stimson  
*General Counsel & VP of  
Intellectual Property*  
**Sun World International**



Jennifer Burdman  
VP, Chief IP Officer &  
Deputy General Counsel  
**Valo Health**



James Pooley  
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**James Pooley PLC**



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