



# Thomson Reuters News & Insight: Robert Lambrechts on Options for Invalidating Patents

May 22, 2012

The Leahy-Smith America Invents Act (hereinafter "AIA") was signed into law and became effective Sept. 16, 2011. AIA modifies, in some instances significantly, the options that are available to third parties for invalidating patents.

The U.S. Patent & Trademark Office issued proposed rules for the implementation of portions of the AIA relating to the post-grant review and *inter partes* review of patents. Comments on the proposed rules for post-grant review and *inter partes* review were due April 10, 2012. If finalized, the proposed rules for post-grant review and *inter partes* review will take effect on September 16, 2012. [Read more ...](#)