

From: Casey [e-mail address redacted]
Sent: Friday, September 16, 2011 3:20 PM
To: aia_implementation
Subject: Patent Patents RE: Trade Secrets

Hello,

I am a small business owner. While I do hold a number of patents, my companies current products rely primarily on Trade Secrets to protect them. Does the new act threaten this position?

It would seem so after reading the headline items indicating that a patent will now be given to the first inventor to submit, independent of the fact that the technology is already in the market but has not been patented.

Can you please clarify a technology owners ability to protect a trade secret, if a subsequent inventor does not need to show that he was the first to implement the technology in order to obtain a patent.

Best Regards, Charles Dowdell