

# Benoît Battistelli to head the Administrative Council of the European Patent Organisation

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At its 116th meeting, the Administrative Council of the European Patent Organisation (EPO) has decided to appoint Benoît Battistelli as its next Chairman. Mr Battistelli is Director General of France's *Institut national de la propriété industrielle* (INPI), and has served as Deputy Chairman of the EPO's Administrative Council since 2006. His three-year term as Chairman of the Council will run from 5 March 2009 until March 2012, and will not affect his functions as head of INPI and of the French delegation in the Council.

"Securing Europe's capacity to innovate is particularly important in times of economic uncertainty. Patents play a vital role in this respect. The EPO is a guardian of European innovation and competitiveness. I feel honoured to chair this organisation at a time when it has to meet some of its biggest challenges," Mr Battistelli said, addressing the delegates of the EPO.

Mr Battistelli will succeed Roland Grossenbacher, Director of the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property in Bern, who has headed the Administrative Council since 2000.

More information

The **Administrative Council** of the European Patent Organisation

**Institut national de la propriété industrielle**

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