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Andreas Welch is a European and Swiss patent attorney and has also obtained the European Litigation Diploma (epi/CEIPI). He completed a doctorate in organic chemistry (*summa cum laude*) and has worked for Hepp Wenger Ryffel since 2001. Previously, he had worked for a large pharmaceutical company for a number of years, where, inter alia, he had been involved with managing worldwide patent disputes. His main areas of activity are the management of national and international grant procedures, opposition and appeal proceedings before the European Patent Office and the enforcement of intellectual property rights, in particular in the chemical and pharmaceutical fields. He has extensive experience of analysing questions of the infringement and legal validity of intellectual property rights.

Andreas Welch wrote the chapter on Switzerland in the manual *International Pharmaceutical Law and Practice* (LexisNexis).

