

## **Patent Protection & Registration**

Patents grant property rights on new and useful inventions, allowing the patent holder to prevent others from using, making, or selling that invention without permission for a limited time. U.S. patents are permitted by the U.S. Constitution and are designed to promote scientific progress and invention. By allowing inventors to profit from licensing or selling their patent rights, inventors can recoup their research and development costs and benefit financially from their inventing efforts. There are three main types of patents utility, plant, and design. Utility and plant patents can last up to 20 years, while design patents can last up to 15 years. When a patent expires, the patented material enters the public domain, making it free to use by anyone without a license. U.S. patents are issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

U.S. Patent No. 12,053,946 entitled "Sealant Layer Assembly" issued August 6, 2024 to Bridgestone Europe NV/SA of Zaventem, Belgium. Invented by Giuseppe Pezzullo and Francesco Botti both of Roma, Italy. Abstract: A sealant layer assembly which allows a sealant layer to be applied on a tire outside of tire production plants. The assembly comprises a sealant layer to be applied on the surface of an inner liner layer facing the inner cavity of a tire, a net layer arranged on a first surface of the sealant layer, and at least one non-stick protective layer arranged either on a second surface of the sealant layer opposite the first surface or on the net layer.

U.S. Patent No. 12,054,911 entitled "Protective Canopy, Earth Working Machine and Method for Changing Position of the Protective Canopy" issued August 6, 2024 to Wirtgen GmbH of Windhagen, Germany. Invented by Frank Jung of Konigswinter, Germany. Abstract: A protective canopy includes a canopy body, which is switchable between a first position and a second position, a canopy base, a first linkage and a second linkage for connecting the canopy body to the canopy base, each of the first linkage and the second linkage is pivotally connected to both the canopy body and the canopy base, respectively, and pivot axes formed at the pivoting connection positions between each of the first and second linkage and each of the canopy body and the canopy base are parallel to each other, such that the canopy body is switchable relative to the canopy base between the first position and the second position by manipulating the first and/or second linkages and/or the canopy body. An earth working machine having such protective canopy and a method for changing position of a protective canopy of earth working machine are also disclosed.