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**Cruickshank targets US software developers**

Cruickshank patent and trademark attorneys has launched an ambitious plan to target US software developers. Michael O'Connor, patent attorney at Cruickshank Intellectual Property Attorneys, has told delegates at the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) annual meeting in San Diego that, contrary to popular belief, software is patentable in Europe. During his address, Mr O'Connor told AUTM: "It's a myth that software is not patentable in Europe. In fact, the European Patent Office (EPO) issues software patents regularly. Confusion arises because of differences in the European requirements for software patent applications compared to those in the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)". He went on to say that requirements for European software patents are much more stringent than those applying in the USA.