



**Ing. Mgr. Josef Kratochvíl, Ph.D.**

*President*

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**Mr. Josef Kratochvíl** graduated from the **Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the Czech Technical University in Prague** and the **Faculty of Law of Charles University**. In addition, he successfully completed his **doctoral studies at the Metropolitan University of Prague**.

Mr. Josef Kratochvíl has dedicated his entire professional career to the area of industrial property protection. More than 30 years he has been working for the **Industrial Property Office of the Czech Republic (IPO CZ)**. He started as an **examiner**, then gradually became **Head of Unit, Director of Department** and then was appointed **Vice-President** for patent information, international cooperation, and economics. Since May 2009 he has been **the President of the IPO CZ**.

For several years, he served as **Chairman of the Technical and Operational Support Committee (TOSC)** of the **European Patent Organisation (EPO)**, after then became a **Deputy Chairman of the Administrative Council (AC EPO)**. On 12 December 2018, the **AC EPO** elected **Mr. Josef Kratochvíl as its Chairman**.

Mr. Josef Kratochvíl **represents the Czech Republic in the Assemblies of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and in the Administrative Board of the Visegrad Patent Institute (VPI)**. He is a renowned expert in the field of industrial property rights protection.

He has been **involved in the academic world** for many years and has given lectures and published many articles in the Czech Republic and abroad. He actively participates in various initiatives to support raising awareness of the importance of industrial property protection for increasing international competitiveness of the Czech economy.