APPENDIX 3
INTERVIEW QUESTIONNAIRES

GENERAL QUESTIONS – CORPORATE LEVEL

Below is a summary of general interview questions addressed to best-practice companies regarding Intellectual Property Management, in order to set the stage for the interview series.

Q1. What strategies and methods in general are now used by your company for the economically successful development and commercialization of new technologies?

Q2. What are your managerial experience and philosophy regarding successful versus failing attempts to commercialize new technologies in your company?

Q3. In your company, what is the role of patenting and intellectual property rights in the development and commercialization of new technologies?

Q4. Which patenting and licensing strategies and tactics have been commercially successful in your company and why?

Q5. How are patenting activities organized and managed throughout your company?

Q6. How is technology scanning organized and managed throughout your company and what is the role of patent information in that connection?

Q7. In your opinion, how could the commercialization of new technologies be further improved in the future?
GENERAL QUESTIONS IN JAPAN – NATIONAL LEVEL

Q1. Which are the broad features of the historic developments of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection by law in Japan?

Q2. Which are the current important issues regarding IPR protection in Japan?

Q3. Which are the main differences between Japan, on the one hand, and Europe and USA, on the other, regarding IPR legislation, especially patent laws, and prospects of harmonization?

Q4. What are the causes and consequences of the current US - Japan relations, termed "patent war" by the press?

Q5. What are the likely future developments regarding broad cross-licensing, patent pooling etc. among large companies?

Q6. What are the likely future developments regarding IPR protection of basic research and science, and university research?

Q7. What is the role of IPR protection for small firms and independent inventors in Japan?

Q8. What are the present legal situation and future development of trade secret protection in Japan?