We defend your and your clients' right to stay authentic and original.

core principles of our work

Confidentiality

We acknowledge the sensitive nature of our work and respect confidentiality requirements of our clients. Safeguarding your personal information is our priority.

Transparency

Our work is built on trust. All our clients have access to every piece of the data collected during an investigation we have conducted upon their request.

Flexibility

We offer guidance for businesses all over the world. You decide on the extent of our involvement and determine the terms of our working arrangement.

Professionalism

Our expertise in psychology, business, law, international relations and security as well as our intimate knowledge of current global market makes us the best ally for you.

Expertize

Our multidisciplinary team has been successfully serving a global clientele of major businesses and corporations as well as individuals for over 20 years.

Responsibility

Once you have made the decision to employ any of our services, we'll guide you every step of the way. Your responsibilities are our responsibilities.

WE ARE CREATING A WORLD FREE OF COUNTERFEIT IN REAL TIME

company history

SLA International has been one of the industry pioneers, well known for its innovative steps. Our team has received a very hi publicity in Russia for most of its raids conducted in years 2000-2017. Here are a few examples of the work carried out in the past.

1991-2000 / Hard times in Russia

Deep crisis in Russia, change of governmental system, high level of criminal activity and lawlessness. The undeveloped legislation, lack of law enforcement practice in civil, criminal and administrative proceedings.

1994 / Pioneering the practice

We were the first in Russia to start working on protection of Intellectual Property rights. There was no legislation or case law on IP yet.

1995 / First clients

Our first client was Reebok International Limited.
We started working with one of the best US companies in the area of IP investigations, Colt Investigations. We also partnered with rapid- growing British corporation, CDR International.

1995-2000 / Gaining momentum

We worked for a well-known sports shoes brand, not only in Russia but South Korea and Indonesia. As a result of our investigations, production of counterfeit sports shoes was almost stopped in South Korea.
Several major tobacco companies became our clients. The production of fake cigarettes on the Russian factories was ended.
Regular raids and seizures of containers with counterfeit cigarettes were conducted in the port's warehouses in the Middl East, Eastern Europe, and Baltics.

2000 / Incorporating the company

IPR Consulting Ltd was incorporated in Moscow, Russia.

1999-2001 / Expanding international operations

We determined the places of sale of counterfeit clothes and accessories of luxury brands. We organized police raids and identified locations of manufacturers of counterfeit goods. We worked in Russia, China, Indonesia, and the Middle East.

2000-2006 / Getting Noticed

We worked on the case of production of over run sports shoes for extreme sports. We gathered evidence of the breach of contract with the brand owner. We worked in USA, Japan, South Korea.
As a result, the brand owner stopped ordering production of goods on a particular factory. Over-run producers paid damages for breach of contract.
We started providing service to major manufacturers of home appliances. We confiscated dangerous counterfeit heating devices.
Confiscation and search of factories producing counterfeit shoe polish, shave razors and batteries. We worked in Russia, China, Baltics.

2006-2010 / Solid Achievements

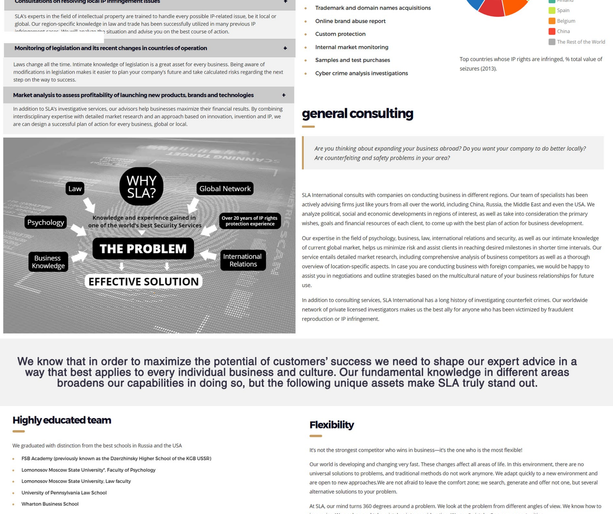
Work for the owner of a brand of clothes for extreme sports in Russia, China, US, South America, Middle East, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan.
Cross-border information supply of counterfeit goods to North and South America were stopped.
In Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan we determined a supplier of the counterfeit clothes to the stores located at US military bases and certified. As a result, AAFES suspended the license and liquidated the stores.
During a dispute, major liquor brand owners vs. Russian Federation on ownership of several well-known trademarks, we determined export of liquors for subsequent arrest in the US, North and South America, Russia, Belorussia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Netherlands, and Baltics.

2010-2017 / Recognition

We provided services to a well-known brand in the beauty industry (China).
Work for major brands of perfumery and accessories.
Unauthorized distribution of liquors using large European warehouses was deterred.
Brands of casual clothes became our clients. We conducted raids in Russia, Turkey, Middle East and China.

2017 / Head office in New York

We expanded our business. SLA International Inc., as a head office was established in New York.
During a dispute, major liquor brand owners vs. Russian federation on ownership of several well-known trademarks, we determined export of liquors for subsequent arrest in the US, North and South America, Russia, Belorussia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Netherlands, and Baltics.



CONSULTING YOU SINCE 1991

OUR SERVICES

ip consulting

Our intellectual property consulting service, or IP consulting for short, helps businesses worldwide protect their authenticity. Intellectual property theft, be it counterfeit or piracy, has the power to fatally damage brand identity and lead to serious financial losses.
In order to guard your company against such a scenario and tackle any issues related to IP in an effective and timely manner, we offer a variety of protective and investigative actions.

Development of global strategies on protection of IP rights +

IP infringement is one of the most common crimes today. In their lifetime, almost all major as well as most less well known companies fall victim to counterfeiting or piracy. We firmly believe that prevention is the way to change those statistics. That's why we offer to develop a cohesive IP strategy based on thorough research of your market and tailored to meet the specific needs of your business.

Monitoring and market research of counterfeit goods in the US and abroad +

We are passionate about protecting your company's interests and guiding you on your way to success. Our research team consists of professionals with a wide range of knowledge who help businesses like yours stay authentic. We analyze the market and assess the risks in real time, helping you make informed decisions. Our consultants will analyze the market for counterfeit goods upon your request.

Research and disclosure of persons and companies infringing IP rights +

SLA International has been investigating IP infringement crimes as well as successfully organizing and conducting dozens of criminal and civil raids all over the world for more than 20 years. We view every counterfeit case as unique. Deep fundamental knowledge in the field of law, psychology, international relations and global trade as well as our commitment to being innovative, lets us find new and efficient solutions to our client's problems.

Coordination of actions between investigators and lawyers +

The global network is one of our critical assets. Having highly experienced employees from various backgrounds and connections around the world make us better at what we do and increases our customers' success rate.

Consultations on resolving local IP infringement issues +

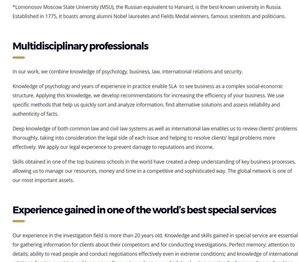
SLA's experts in the field of intellectual property are trained to handle every possible IP-related issue, be it local or global. Our region-specific knowledge in law and trade has been successfully utilized in many previous IP infringement cases. We will analyze the situation and advise you on the best course of action.

Monitoring of legislation and its recent changes in countries of operation +

Laws change all the time. Intimate knowledge of legislation is a great asset for every business. Being aware of modifications in legislation makes it easier to plan your company's future and take calculated risks regarding the next step on the way to success.

Market analysis to assess profitability of launching new products, brands and technologies +

In addition to SLA's investigative services, our advisors help businesses maximize their financial results. By combining interdisciplinary expertise with detailed market research and an approach based on innovation, invention and IP, we are can design a successful plan of action for every business, global or local.



global investigations

Counterfeiting is an ancient crime. Today's technological advancements have made it even easier than before for almost any goods, currency or invention to falsified. The consequences can be damaging to your brand identity, resulting in losses of significant sums.

At SLA International, we are passionate about defending your right to be authentic.
We provide investigation services that focus on uncovering fraudulent reproduction and counterfeiting. Our experienced team will consult with you anytime, anywhere in the world to help protect your business image from financial, cyber or human risks.

Our company has been a part of the worldwide anti-counterfeit fight for more than two decades. During this time we have successfully led investigations to uncover fake goods in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and even the USA, exposed illegal vendors and organized a dozen criminal and civil raids. Thanks to the skills gained while working for one of the world's best special services, as well as all-around knowledge in international relations and foreign policies and languages, our investigative team is more than capable of gathering information even under extreme conditions.

Our investigation services entail:

- Anti-counterfeiting investigations
- Market surveys and market intelligence
- Undercover operations and investigations
- Conducting/Organizing criminal and civil raid
- Gathering vendor information
- Trademark infringement investigation
- Copyright violation issues
- Parallel trade investigations
- Grey market investigations
- Trademark and domain names acquisitions
- Online brand abuse report
- Custom protection
- Internal market monitoring
- Samples and test purchases
- Cyber crime analysis investigations

Countries hit hardest by trade in fake goods

Top countries whose IP rights are infringed, % total value of seizures (2013).

general consulting

Are you thinking about expanding your business abroad? Do you want your company to do better locally? Are counterfeiting and safety problems in your area?

SLA International consults with companies on conducting business in different regions. Our team of specialists has been actively advising firms just like yours from all over the world, including China, Russia, the Middle East and even the USA. We analyze political, social and economic developments in regions of interest, as well as take into consideration the primary wishes, goals and financial resources of each client, to come up with the best plan of action for business development.

Our expertise in the field of psychology, business, law, international relations and security, as well as our intimate knowledge of current global market, helps us minimize risk and assist clients in reaching desired milestones in shorter time intervals. Our service entails detailed market research, including comprehensive analysis of business competitors as well as a thorough overview of location-specific aspects. In case you are conducting business with foreign companies, we would be happy to assist you in negotiations and outline strategies based on the multicultural nature of your business relationships for future use.

In addition to consulting services, SLA International has a long history of investigating counterfeit crimes. Our worldwide network of private licensed investigators makes us the best ally for anyone who has been victimized by fraudulent reproduction or IP infringement.

We know that in order to maximize the potential of customers' success we need to shape our expert advice in a way that best applies to every individual business and culture. Our fundamental knowledge in different areas broadens our capabilities in doing so, but the following unique assets make SLA truly stand out.

Highly educated team

We graduated with distinction from the best schools in Russia and the USA

- FSB Academy (previously known as the Dzerzhinsky Higher School of the KGB USSR)
- Lomonosov Moscow State University*, Faculty of Psychology
- Lomonosov Moscow State University*, Law faculty
- University of Pennsylvania Law School
- Wharton Business School

*Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU), the Russian equivalent to Harvard, is the best-known university in Russia. Established in 1775, it boasts among alumni Nobel laureates and Fields Medal winners, famous scientists and politicians.

Multidisciplinary professionals

In our work, we combine knowledge of psychology, business, law, international relations and security.

Knowledge of psychology and years of experience in practice enable SLA to see business as a complex social-economic structure. Applying this knowledge, we develop recommendations for increasing the efficiency of your business. We use specific methods that help us quickly sort and analyze information, find alternative solutions and assess reliability and authenticity of facts.

Deep knowledge of both common law and civil law systems as well as international law enables us to review clients' problems thoroughly, taking into consideration the legal side of each issue and helping to resolve clients' legal problems more effectively. We apply our legal experience to prevent damage to reputations and income.

Skills obtained in one of the top business schools in the world have created a deep understanding of key business processes, allowing us to manage our resources, money and time in a competitive and sophisticated way. The global network is one of our most important assets.

Experience gained in one of the world's best special services

Our experience in the investigation field is more than 20 years old. Knowledge and skills gained in special service are essential for gathering information for clients about their competitors and for conducting investigations. Perfect memory, attention to details, ability to read people and conduct negotiations effectively even in extreme conditions; and knowledge of international relations, foreign countries and languages allow us to work on a very high level, using nonstandard approaches and making smart decisions.

Flexibility

It's not the strongest competitor who wins in business—it's the one who is the most flexible!

Our world is developing and changing very fast. These changes affect all areas of life. In this environment, there are no universal solutions to problems, and traditional methods do not work anymore. We adapt quickly to a new environment and are open to new approaches.We are not afraid to leave the comfort zone; we search, generate and offer not one, but several alternative solutions to your problem.

At SLA, our mind turns 360 degrees around a problem. We look at the problem from different angles of view. We know how to improvise. We analyze and take mistakes into consideration. We see "mistakes" as new opportunities.

Our way of thinking is nonstandard. We add 2 and 2 and get not 4, but 1,000,000.

We save our clients' money in two ways

- Our work is cost effective
- We clean the market from counterfeit goods and as a result our client's profit increases

A unique approach to each case

We take into consideration the wishes, goals and financial resources of each client. Before starting work with a particular client, we research that client's area of practice and determine the distinguishing characteristics of that area. We do not use general methodology or a "cookie-cutter" approach for clients. SLA gains positive outcomes through the use of creative and innovative strategies. We do our best to make each client happy with the result and with our work.

Multicultural knowledge, experience, and skills

We understand the mentality of people of different cultures. Our diverse staff, skilled in psychology, understands how people think and what their values are. Our multicultural experience enables us to correctly assess and predict ways of behavior of people from different countries, which significantly increases the efficiency of gathering information and taking action.

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