

KOLBEV

E-MOBILITY IP CASE STUDY

PatentPC keeps mobile-charging innovators one step ahead—turning every power-flow breakthrough into protected market power.

INTRODUCTION

Kolbev decouples the charger from the parking space. Instead of trenching a car park and wiring a bay that then sits idle most of the day, the Zurich company sends a robot. A driver parks anywhere, requests a charge in the app, and an autonomous mobile charger with its own energy storage locates the vehicle, drives underneath it, and delivers renewable energy without occupying an additional square metre. Installation cost is zero, installation time is zero, and the operator escapes the eight to twenty-four month construction cycle that fixed infrastructure demands.

Founded in August 2020 by Dr. Jakub Kwapisz and registered at Reinhardstrasse 19 in Zurich, Kolbev is a deep-tech team of roughly five people building an extra-flat, self-propelled 2,500 kilogram robot that services six to eight electric vehicles between its own recharges, traverses car park ramps on its own wheels, and reuses lithium-ion cells as part of a circular battery strategy. The company has been backed and recognised by Innosuisse, Google for Startups, the Circular Economy Incubator, Synerleap, SEIF, Impact Hub, and the ETH Entrepreneur Club, and it pitched at TechCrunch Startup Battlefield.

BACKGROUND

Kolbev is not a company that neglected its intellectual property. It is a company that did the hard part early and then kept inventing faster than it filed.

On 7 October 2018, before the GmbH even existed, Jakub Kwapisz filed the priority application that became international application PCT/IB2019/001080, entered the United States as application 17/283,148, published as US 2022/0118878 A1, and issued on 11 March 2025 as United States Patent 12,246,614, assigned to Kolbev GmbH with an adjusted term running to 2042. For a five-person seed-stage company to hold a granted United States patent on its core concept is genuinely unusual, and it is the reason the MassChallenge Switzerland judges handed Kolbev the strategic IP award in November 2025.

“Our intellectual property is our fortress. The question is whether the walls still stand where the building actually is.”

DR. JAKUB KWAPISZ, CO-FOUNDER & CEO, KOLBEV GMBH

LEADERSHIP



DR. JAKUB KWAPISZ

Co-founder & Chief Executive Officer, Kolbev GmbH

Jakub Kwapisz holds a doctorate in systems engineering from the MIT Portugal programme at Instituto Superior Técnico in Lisbon, following engineering studies at Warsaw University of Technology. He came to Kolbev from the automotive and embedded industries, with product lifecycle management roles at Toradex and engineering work at Autoneum.

He registered Kolbev GmbH in Zurich in August 2020 and is the named inventor on the company's granted United States patent. Under his leadership Kolbev has won at the MassChallenge Switzerland 2025 finale — including the strategic intellectual property award — and reached the robotics pitching final at START Summit 2026.

SOLUTION

PatentPC works with Kolbev by embedding itself directly into Kolbev's fast-moving engineering and product-deployment cycles, ensuring every patentable feature is captured at the moment of invention rather than months later. Kolbev's mobile-charging and power-management innovations evolve quickly, and PatentPC structures an intake workflow that keeps inventors engaged without slowing them down. Short, targeted disclosure sessions, AI-assisted drafting, and rapid claim-framing allow PatentPC to turn Kolbev's technical breakthroughs into patent-ready assets within days—not quarters. This timeliness is critical in a competitive charging ecosystem where early filings often determine market leadership.

Equally important, PatentPC maintains a communication rhythm that keeps inventors informed, aligned, and confident throughout prosecution. Instead of long gaps or opaque legal updates, PatentPC provides clear, engineering-friendly explanations of claim strategy, prior-art positioning, and USPTO responses. Kolbev's inventors know exactly how their contributions are being protected and why certain claim structures matter. This transparency builds trust and ensures inventors continue contributing high-quality disclosures that strengthen the portfolio.

PatentPC also tailors its drafting style to Kolbev's system-level architecture. Mobile charging isn't just about power delivery—it involves routing logic, safety protocols, thermal management, user-interaction flows, and backend optimization. PatentPC captures these interactions holistically, producing patents that protect the entire charging ecosystem rather than isolated components. This prevents competitors from bypassing Kolbev's innovations with minor tweaks and ensures the company owns the full value chain of its technology.

Finally, PatentPC manages Kolbev's portfolio with disciplined coordination across deadlines, continuations, international filings, and strategic expansions. Inventors receive timely reminders, structured feedback loops, and clear next steps, eliminating administrative friction. The result is a patent program that feels lightweight for Kolbev's teams but produces heavyweight protection—fast, organized, and deeply aligned with Kolbev's mission to power mobility with intelligence and reliability.

RESULTS

The practical effect of a deliberate filing programme is that the gap between the granted claims and the demonstrated machine closes. Continuations reach the product as built rather than the concept as first imagined. Public pitching stops being a disclosure risk and becomes a marketing calendar the filings are timed around. International spend is directed at the jurisdictions where deployments will happen. And when a parking operator, an energy utility, or an automotive partner asks what Kolbev owns, the answer is a family rather than a single certificate.

Kolbev saved in two directions at once. First, by working with experienced attorneys backed by a technology stack, it avoided paying outside counsel to learn autonomous robotics and power transfer, and received applications with more technical depth on a far shorter cycle. Second, by making the change, Kolbev now pays less while receiving more accurate and more efficient patent services — with claim drafting and strategic advice still owned by its patent attorneys.

"PatentPC has proven to us that it is indeed possible to receive a higher level of service at a lower cost. We're thrilled to have them on our side."

DR. JAKUB KWAPISZ, CO-FOUNDER & CEO, KOLBEV GMBH

A granted patent is the start of the portfolio, not the end.

PatentPC pairs experienced patent attorneys with practice automation across robotics, power electronics, and control software — including continuation strategy and international family management for companies filing from outside the United States. Talk to us about a claim-scope review before your next raise.

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