

KT Client Success

Seeking New Patents

The COVID-19 pandemic caused many disruptions, including forcing a pause on team sports. Kilpatrick Townsend client [Monarc](#) has the perfect product for this moment because it allows athletes to train solo, without a team. Monarc's innovative automated football launcher (also known as a robotic quarterback), called [the Seeker](#), has seen a big spike in interest from football players who must keep in shape but cannot rely on teammates to get their reps in.

Kilpatrick Townsend attorneys **Eben Allen** and **Roger Wylie** protect Monarc's intellectual property and have been busy filing and getting allowances on one patent application after another—the first two patents have been issued and the third application has been filed. One could say that they're pumping out patents almost as fast as the Seeker is pumping out footballs.

What makes the Seeker unique compared to pitching machines is its ability to be controlled remotely, thereby allowing individual players to practice on their own. A player wears a pulse tag that transmits location information to the Seeker, which then knows exactly where to throw the ball.

In addition, the Seeker has a variety of customizations that help athletes pick up their overall game or work on a particular skillset. When set on random, the Seeker makes it impossible to go through the motions and mentally check out because you don't know what throw is coming next. But if you want to get better at catching over-the-shoulder passes, the Seeker can be programmed to specifically practice that skill. This is why it has "caught on" (pun intended) with college programs, including Oklahoma, LSU, SMU, Virginia, and Iowa.

NFL players are also impressed. Among the NFL stars with their own Seekers are George Kittle of the San Francisco 49ers, Detroit Lions tight end TJ Hockenson, New England Patriots wide receiver Mohamed Sanu, and Pittsburgh Steelers tight end Eric Ebron. A number of other NFL stars are currently in discussions about purchasing Seekers as well.

Despite this acclaim, Monarc isn't resting on its laurels and continues to innovate. And Kilpatrick Townsend's team will continue to partner with Monarc to ensure its intellectual property is secure.

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