Panel-dependency, formalism, indeterminacy, and the over- or under-enforcement of certain doctrines are common complaints about the Federal Circuit. The academic literature offers a variety of proposals for remedying or compensating for the Federal Circuit’s perceived shortcomings, such as having specialized patent trial judges, expanding the number of circuit courts that hear patent appeals, and modifying the Federal Circuit’s jurisdiction.

Less attention has been paid to the feedback loop between the appellate and trial levels for correcting Federal Circuit precedents. The complaints about the Federal Circuit strongly suggest that the feedback loop is currently too weak. Drawing on lessons from engineering, cognitive psychology, and management science, this Article develops a novel analytical framework for exploring why the Federal Circuit, in its current form, has difficulty correcting its precedents, and proposes strengthening the error-correction feedback loop by staffing the Federal Circuit with only district judges who serve staggered terms of limited duration.