

PROFILE REPORT

U.S. (FEDERAL) GOVERNMENT PATENTING

1/1977 - 12/2009



April 2010
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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A PATENT TECHNOLOGY MONITORING TEAM REPORT

U.S. (Federal) Government Patenting Report 1/1977 - 12/2009 Explanation of Data

This Patent Technology Monitoring Team (PTMT) report profiles patent activity for all U.S. patent documents (design, plant, reissue, and utility patents, defensive publications, and statutory invention registrations) granted between January 1, 1977 and **December 31, 2009** for which ownership was assigned to a Federal organization at the time of grant. Most of these patents are utility patents, also known as "patents for inventions". The source of the data used for this report is the TAF database maintained by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Data Distribution By Date of Grant and By Date of Application

Parts A1 and A2

Part A1 distributes patent GRANT data by year of patent grant ("Patents Granted By Date of Patent Grant"). Part A2 distributes grant data by the year in which the patented application was filed ("Patents Granted By Date of Patent Application"). Parts A1 and A2 each provide patent counts (pages A1-1 and A2-1) and percent distributions (pages A1-2 and A2-2). Patent data in the "**Pre 1996**" column correspond to the period **prior to 1996**.

Part B

Part B of this report distributes patent GRANT data for organizations that have received U.S. patents since 1977. Data are presented by the year in which the patent was granted ("Patents By Year of Grant") and the year the patented application was filed ("Patents by Year of Application").

DATA FOR THOSE APPLICATIONS WHICH WERE FILED BUT NEVER ISSUED (ROUGHLY 35% OF TOTAL FILINGS) ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT.

Since the average time period between filing for a patent and the issuing of the patent (i.e., a patent's "pendency") is now about 35 months, the patented application data for the most recent years are incomplete.* This is because the patents included in this report are limited to those **granted** during the specified time period. However, a significant number of the applications filed during the most recent years of this time period were still pending at the end of the period. While many of these applications eventually will be patented, they will not be patented until sometime following the end of the period displayed in this report.

Patented application data are of significant value since the date an application was filed more accurately reflects when the technology was developed. Additionally, fluctuations in data based on application date are much more likely to reflect changes in technological activity, since such fluctuations would for the most part be immune from changes in PTO processing such as occurred in 1986 and 2005 when the PTO issued fewer patents than would normally have been expected

due to administrative reasons. Note that a patent's "pendency" can be quite variable from one patent to another thereby affecting the date of patent grant. Such variation in pendency is determined by many factors, including PTO workload (which varies between technologies), budget and manpower levels, patent printing schedules, etc.

Patent data in the "**Pre 1996**" column correspond to the period **prior to 1996**.

Parts of the Report

Parts A1 and A2 present tables which show, by number and percent, the patent activity. Part A1 presents data by year of patent grant ("Patents Granted by Date of Patent Grant"). Part A2 redistributes grant data by year of patent application ("Patents Granted by Date of Patent Application"). The location of **patent origin is determined by the residence of the first-named inventor at the time of grant**.

Patent ownership reflects ownership at the time of patent grant and does not include subsequent changes in ownership. If more than one assignee was declared at the time of grant, the patent is attributed to the first-named assignee. The U.S. and Foreign Corporation ownership categories count predominantly corporate patents; however, patents assigned to other organizations such as small businesses, nonprofit organizations, universities, etc. are also included in these categories. While U.S. Government patent ownership includes only patents granted to the Federal Government, no similar distinction is made for Foreign Government patents.

Note that for a patent, the country of origin may differ from the country of ownership. Therefore, the **sum of U.S. origin patents does not equal the sum of U.S. ownership category patents**.

Part B is a ranked listing of Federal Government organizations which have received 1 or more U.S. patents since 1977. Information on patent ownership reflects ownership at the time of patent grant (see explanation for Parts A1 and A2, above). Although a substantial effort has been made to combine name variations into a single organizational name, many organizations continue to have patents listed under more than one name.

* For example, in a report profiling utility patents granted through December 2009, patent grant data, as distributed by year of application are approximately 99% complete for utility patent applications filed in 2000, 94% complete for applications filed in 2001, 92% complete for applications filed in 2002, 83% complete for applications filed in 2003, 70% complete for applications filed in 2004, 52% complete for applications filed in 2005, 32% complete for applications filed in 2006 and 15% complete for applications filed in 2007; data are essentially complete for applications filed prior to 2000. Currently, completion percentages restricted to Federal Government patents are not available.

Part A1

Patent Grants as Distributed By Year of Patent Grant

		(Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2009)															
		NUMBER OF PATENTS															
		Pre 1996	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
Total		21834	961	974	1040	1000	960	985	945	891	859	713	815	739	693	710	34119
U.S. Origin		21677	956	963	1031	996	953	975	933	881	855	699	801	728	683	704	33835
Foreign Origin		157	5	11	9	4	7	10	12	10	4	14	14	11	10	6	284
GERMANY		15	3	2	3		1	1	4		2	3	1	2	2		39
UNITED KINGDOM		28			1	1	1	1		1		2	1	1		1	38
CANADA		22				1	1			2	1	1	2	1			31
ISRAEL		17	1	2				1		1		1	1	1	1		26
JAPAN		12		1	2			1		1			1	3	2	2	25
INDIA		19															19
ITALY		2		2	1		1	2	1		1	1	1				12
FRANCE		5					2					1	1	1	1		11
RUSSIAN FEDERATION							1	2	5	1					1	1	11
KOREA, SOUTH						1			1			4	1	1			8
GREECE		7															7
SWITZERLAND		5				1											6
AUSTRALIA		5								1							6
KENYA								1		1					1	2	5
TURKEY		4															4
BRAZIL		1		1	1								1				4
BELGIUM				1						2			1				4
TAIWAN		1		1				1									3
SWEDEN		1												1			2
FINLAND		1			1												2
YUGOSLAVIA / SERBIA-M		1										1					2
CHINA, PEOPLE'S REPUB		2															2
EGYPT		2															2
NORWAY		2															2
SINGAPORE									1						1		2
UKRAINE													1		1		2
NETHERLANDS		1															1
JORDAN				1													1
POLAND		1															1
TANZANIA		1															1
VENEZUELA		1															1
BULGARIA		1															1
AUSTRIA													1				1
THAILAND													1				1
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES			1														1
Ownership:																	
U.S. Corporations																	0
U.S. Government		21834	961	974	1040	1000	960	985	945	891	859	713	815	739	693	710	34119
U.S. Individuals																	0
Foreign Corporations																	0
Foreign Government																	0
Foreign Individuals																	0

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Part A2

Patent Grants as Distributed By Year of Patent Application

----- Patents Granted By Date Of Patent Application (Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2009) -----																
	Pre 1996	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Total
Total	24337	956	988	954	867	1013	1030	977	890	772	679	406	199	47	4	34119
U.S. Origin	24158	946	981	948	858	1000	1017	967	875	764	676	399	195	47	4	33835
Foreign Origin	179	10	7	6	9	13	13	10	15	8	3	7	4			284
GERMANY	20	3	1	1		4	1	2	3	2	1	1				39
UNITED KINGDOM	28	1	1	1	1		1	1	2		1		1			38
CANADA	24			1	2	1	3									31
ISRAEL	19	1		1	1		1	2	1							26
JAPAN	14	1	1			1	1		2	1		2	2			25
INDIA	19															19
ITALY	6		1		1	1	2			1						12
FRANCE	6	1						2	1			1				11
RUSSIAN FEDERATION				1	2	4	1	1				2				11
KOREA, SOUTH			1			2		1	4							8
GREECE	7															7
AUSTRALIA	5						1									6
SWITZERLAND	6															6
KENYA	1				1					1	1	1				5
TURKEY	4															4
BELGIUM	1		1				1	1								4
BRAZIL	2	1			1											4
TAIWAN	2		1													3
FINLAND	1	1														2
SWEDEN	1									1						2
YUGOSLAVIA / SERBIA-M	1								1							2
CHINA, PEOPLE'S REPUB	2															2
EGYPT	2															2
NORWAY	2															2
SINGAPORE				1									1			2
UKRAINE									1	1						2
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	1															1
BULGARIA	1															1
JORDAN		1														1
TANZANIA	1															1
POLAND	1															1
NETHERLANDS	1															1
THAILAND							1									1
VENEZUELA	1															1
AUSTRIA										1						1
Ownership:																
U.S. Corporations																0
U.S. Government	24337	956	988	954	867	1013	1030	977	890	772	679	406	199	47	4	34119
U.S. Individuals																0
Foreign Corporations																0
Foreign Government																0
Foreign Individuals																0

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Part B

Ranked Listing of Organizations with Patent Grants
As Distributed By Year of Patent Grant
and As Distributed By Year of Patent Application

---- Organizational Patenting (Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2009) ---- Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

	Pre															
	1996	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	TOTAL
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, NAVY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	5873	299	303	346	360	366	326	388	366	322	262	284	273	229	236	10233
Patents By Year of Application:	6620	339	378	362	292	343	365	349	346	310	250	159	100	17	3	10233
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ARMY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	4058	156	170	167	143	147	165	150	131	135	127	181	144	130	118	6122
Patents By Year of Application:	4401	180	148	158	154	164	144	159	163	176	153	90	28	4	0	6122
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	4157	71	69	63	53	57	69	45	43	40	22	22	23	17	23	4774
Patents By Year of Application:	4315	68	56	55	48	58	43	43	30	18	17	12	9	2	0	4774
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AIR FORCE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	2697	104	94	84	91	84	106	76	68	55	55	49	43	46	51	3703
Patents By Year of Application:	2912	94	83	92	85	78	76	74	55	48	62	24	14	6	0	3703
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	2237	104	97	95	93	97	92	85	80	102	87	62	70	66	86	3453
Patents By Year of Application:	2456	99	95	102	72	104	94	114	93	72	74	52	19	6	1	3453
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES																
Patents By Year of Grant:	845	123	152	174	142	97	103	92	87	118	81	122	100	110	110	2456
Patents By Year of Application:	1414	73	106	80	109	135	160	130	100	65	45	31	8	0	0	2456
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	929	41	49	75	71	55	67	51	63	41	29	39	26	31	27	1594
Patents By Year of Application:	1057	74	65	52	52	60	72	45	41	27	26	9	7	7	0	1594
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR																
Patents By Year of Grant:	412	17	8	3	5	7	5	12	7	11	9	1	7	1	5	510
Patents By Year of Application:	436	3	5	10	7	8	17	5	8	3	3	1	4	0	0	510
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	224	24	18	15	21	21	21	20	12	9	4	5	3	5	4	406
Patents By Year of Application:	279	12	18	24	16	19	14	12	2	2	6	1	0	1	0	406
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DIRECTOR NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	52	3	1	8	7	17	11	10	15	10	9	17	12	19	12	203
Patents By Year of Application:	63	3	14	11	15	17	12	16	4	18	17	8	2	3	0	203
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	78	9	7	3	4	9	12	6	8	8	6	12	10	9	9	190
Patents By Year of Application:	97	2	8	2	10	8	11	7	17	10	10	4	4	0	0	190

---- Organizational Patenting (Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2009) ---- Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

	Pre 1996	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	TOTAL
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	133	3	3	3	7	2	2	1	1	2	0	1	1	0	1	160
Patents By Year of Application:	138	5	4	4	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	160
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, POSTAL SERVICE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	7	1	1	0	0	0	2	1	4	2	13	14	19	20	12	96
Patents By Year of Application:	8	1	0	0	2	8	13	15	16	16	9	7	1	0	0	96
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA																
Patents By Year of Grant:	60	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	64
Patents By Year of Application:	61	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	64
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS																
Patents By Year of Grant:	10	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	1	7	3	5	7	13	53
Patents By Year of Application:	10	0	1	0	1	4	7	5	8	5	5	3	3	1	0	53
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	30	2	2	3	2	1	0	6	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	49
Patents By Year of Application:	33	3	5	2	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	15	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Patents By Year of Application:	15	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Patents By Year of Application:	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ATTORNEY GENERAL																
Patents By Year of Grant:	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
Patents By Year of Application:	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS																
Patents By Year of Grant:	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Patents By Year of Application:	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF STATE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
Patents By Year of Application:	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	3

Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

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