

PROFILE REPORT

U.S. (FEDERAL) GOVERNMENT PATENTING

1/1977 - 12/2011



March 2012
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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A PATENT TECHNOLOGY MONITORING TEAM REPORT

U.S. (Federal) Government Patenting Report
1/1977 - 12/2011
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, 2011** 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 1998**" column correspond to the period **prior to 1998**.

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 **34** 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 1998**" column correspond to the period **prior to 1998**.

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 that 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 2011, patent grant data, as distributed by year of application are approximately 90% complete for utility patent applications filed in 2003, 82% complete for applications filed in 2004, 72% complete for applications filed in 2005, 61% complete for applications filed in 2006, 49% complete for applications filed in 2007, 34% complete for applications filed in 2008, and 17% complete for applications filed in 2009; data are essentially complete for applications filed prior to 2003. Currently, completion percentages restricted to Federal Government patents are not available.

Part A1

Patent Grants as Distributed By Year of Patent Grant

Part A2

Patent Grants as Distributed By Year of Patent Application

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, 2011) ---- Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

	Pre																
	1998	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	TOTAL	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, NAVY																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	6475	346	360	366	326	388	366	322	262	284	273	229	236	307	321	10861	
Patents By Year of Application:	7347	363	292	343	367	351	352	325	278	234	267	180	136	23	3	10861	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ARMY																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	4384	167	143	147	165	150	131	135	127	181	144	130	118	158	131	6411	
Patents By Year of Application:	4729	158	155	165	146	162	167	191	179	138	86	69	45	21	0	6411	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	4297	63	53	57	69	45	43	40	22	22	23	17	23	38	27	4839	
Patents By Year of Application:	4439	55	48	58	43	43	32	19	19	23	27	21	8	4	0	4839	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AIR FORCE																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	2895	84	91	84	106	76	68	55	55	49	43	46	51	46	46	3795	
Patents By Year of Application:	3095	93	85	78	76	74	56	51	69	38	34	27	16	3	0	3795	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	2438	95	93	97	92	85	80	102	87	62	70	66	86	101	107	3661	
Patents By Year of Application:	2650	102	72	104	94	115	95	85	87	91	79	53	28	6	0	3661	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	1120	174	142	97	103	92	87	118	81	122	100	110	110	136	152	2744	
Patents By Year of Application:	1596	80	110	137	166	145	123	85	93	71	61	39	26	11	1	2744	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	1019	75	71	55	67	51	63	41	29	39	26	31	27	41	56	1691	
Patents By Year of Application:	1196	52	52	60	72	47	42	33	34	23	31	34	11	4	0	1691	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	437	3	5	7	5	12	7	11	9	1	7	1	5	3	1	514	
Patents By Year of Application:	444	10	7	8	17	5	8	3	3	2	5	2	0	0	0	514	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	266	15	21	21	21	20	12	9	4	5	3	5	4	10	15	431	
Patents By Year of Application:	309	24	16	19	14	12	2	3	8	4	6	11	3	0	0	431	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DIRECTOR NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	56	8	7	17	11	10	15	10	9	17	12	19	12	27	11	241	
Patents By Year of Application:	80	11	15	17	12	16	4	18	23	15	12	8	9	1	0	241	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY																	
Patents By Year of Grant:	94	3	4	9	12	6	8	8	6	12	10	9	9	11	17	218	
Patents By Year of Application:	107	2	10	8	11	7	17	10	15	12	7	8	4	0	0	218	

---- Organizational Patenting (Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2011) ---- Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

Pre

1998 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 TOTAL

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, POSTAL SERVICE

Patents By Year of Grant: 9 0 0 0 2 1 4 2 13 14 19 20 12 42 25 163

Patents By Year of Application: 9 0 2 9 25 24 17 25 16 18 9 7 0 2 0 163

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY

Patents By Year of Grant: 139 3 7 2 2 1 1 2 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 160

Patents By Year of Application: 147 4 2 2 0 2 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 160

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Patents By Year of Grant: 10 0 0 0 1 2 4 1 7 3 5 7 13 8 14 75

Patents By Year of Application: 11 0 1 4 8 5 9 9 7 7 4 6 2 1 1 75

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Patents By Year of Grant: 60 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 64

Patents By Year of Application: 62 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 64

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Patents By Year of Grant: 34 3 2 1 0 6 0 2 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 50

Patents By Year of Application: 41 2 0 4 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 50

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Patents By Year of Grant: 15 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 17

Patents By Year of Application: 16 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 17

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Patents By Year of Grant: 9 0 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 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 6

Patents By Year of Application: 3 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 6

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ATLANTA

Patents By Year of Grant: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 2 2 1 6

Patents By Year of Application: 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 2 2 0 0 0 0 0 6

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Patents By Year of Grant: 4 0 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, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Patents By Year of Grant: 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 1 4

Patents By Year of Application: 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 0 4

---- Organizational Patenting (Granted: Jan 01, 1977 - Dec 31, 2011) ---- Ranked List of Organizations with 1 or More Patents ----

	Pre 1998	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	TOTAL
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF STATE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Patents By Year of Application:	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
The White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF BOSTON																
Patents By Year of Grant:	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CHICAGO																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CLEVELAND																
Patents By Year of Grant:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Patents By Year of Application:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

