

# The Patent Searchers' Dilemma:

- Where is the value?
  - How to manage costs conducting patent searches for competitive intelligence
    - Ron Simmer, PATSCAN
    - Service of PATEX Research and Consulting Ltd
    - [www.patex.ca](http://www.patex.ca).



PATSCAN was established in 1986 to assist Tech Transfer Process by providing access to patents at the University of BC

Since UBC terminated their patent services in 2003, the PATSCAN Trademark was purchased by Patex Research and Consulting Ltd. operated and owned by Ron Simmer

PATSCAN provides professional patent and trademark research services to the private sector in Canada and the USA

[ron@patex.ca](mailto:ron@patex.ca)

# **IP Data is Special**

## **3 Functions in a Corporation**

1. Corporate asset protecting price & market share.
2. Insurance against legal action.
3. Poker chips in strategic alliance game.

# Why do your own patent searching?

- **Amazing competitive intelligence opportunities in patent data.**

**Besides the information you know you don't know there is always the information you don't know you don't know.**

- **Aside from free Internet databases there are modestly priced but powerful patent Databases subscription services: Delphion, Micropatent and Lexis Nexis.**

# Competitive Intelligence For R&D Decisions

- Analyzing the technology component of:
  - Mergers & Acquisitions
  - Bids and Proposals
  - Lawsuits & Infringement proceedings
  - Marketing Plans
  - Entry Strategies

# CI Examples using patent data

- Statistical analysis of industry sectors
- Patent portfolio analysis
- Human capital studies
- Analysis of patent quality

# Statistical Analysis Using Patent Data

Manipulate any patent data fields to extract trends:

- Rank assignees or inventors to identify trends
- Compare trends in patent filings over time
- Map density/activity of filing for competitors
- Chart a patent portfolio by classification
- View industry technological trends internationally
- Examine history of technology by citation analysis

**g03b/ic and digital:(3n)camera:**

**\*SEARCHING..**

**OCCURS TERM**

**76336 G03B/IC**

**205841 DIGITAL:**

**94835 CAMERA:**

**SS 2 RESULT (416)**

**SS 37**

**get rank pa top 15**

**\*PROCESSING....**

**THERE ARE 160 UNIQUE VALUES.**

**OCCURRENCES PERCENT TERM**

**64 15.38% CANON KK**

**26 6.25% MINOLTA CAMERA KK**

**24 5.76% RICOH KK**

**21 5.04% SANYO ELECTRIC CO LTD**

**18 4.32% FUJI PHOTO FILM CO LTD**

**16 3.84% ASAHI OPTICAL CO LTD**

**15 3.60% EASTMAN KODAK CO**

**15 3.60% KONICA CORP**

**14 3.36% ASAHI KOGAKU KOGYO KK**

**12 2.88% CASIO COMPUTER CO LTD**

**11 2.64% NIKON CORP**

**8 1.92% SONY CORP**

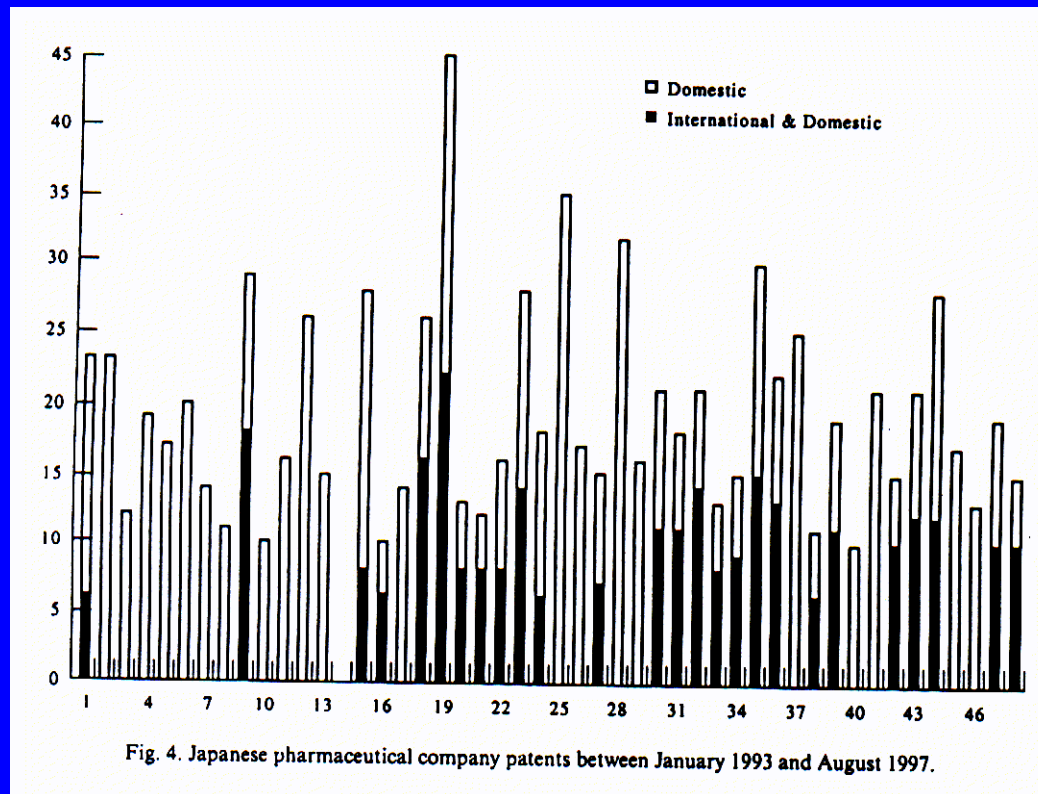
**8 1.92% VEB PENTACON DRESDEN KAMERA**

**7 1.68% KYOCERA CORP**

**6 1.44% HITACHI LTD**

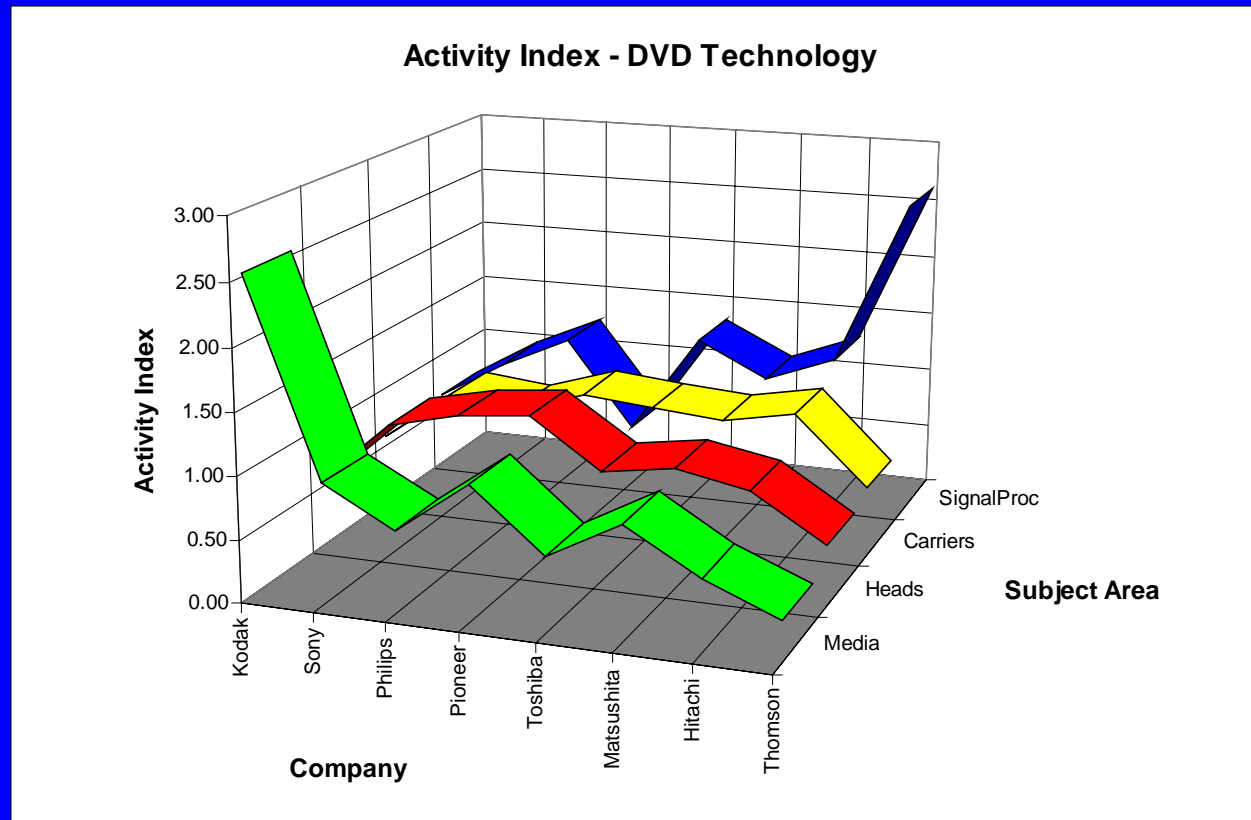


# Japanese Pharmaceutical Patent Portfolio International vs. Domestic Filings

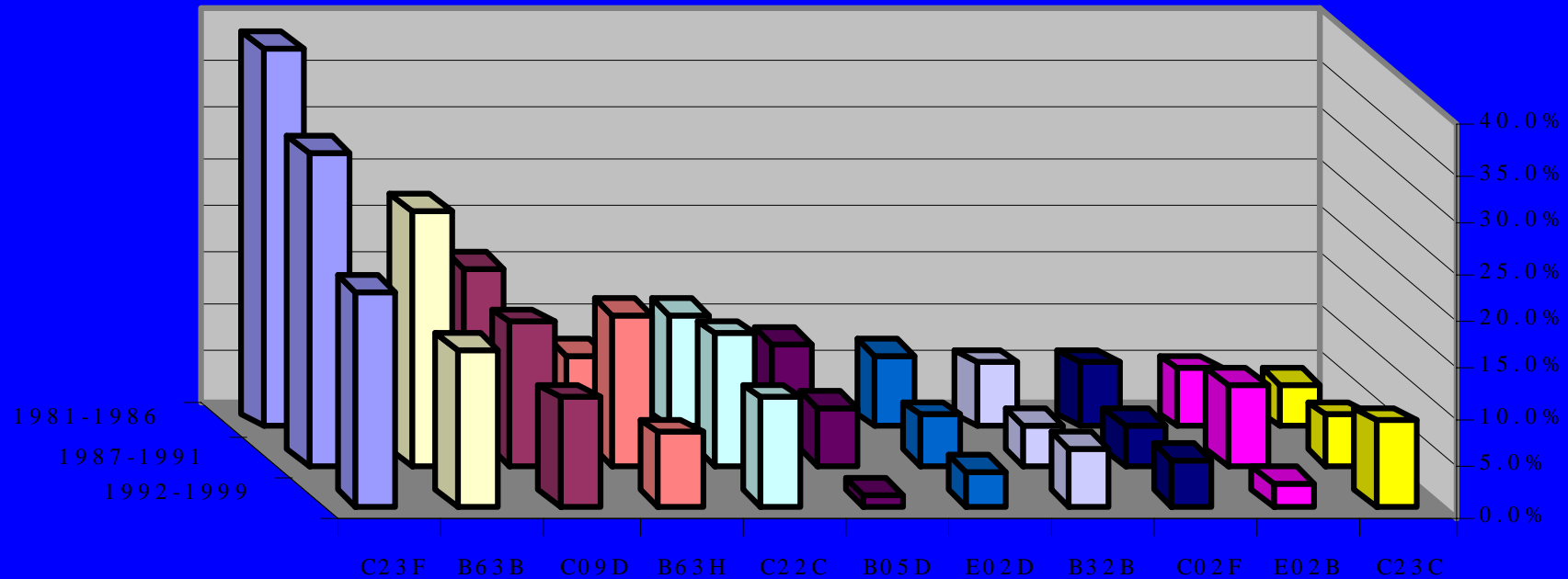


# Activity Index Plot for 8 companies and 4 technologies

DVD Technology Study - PAY: 1985 Thru 1995



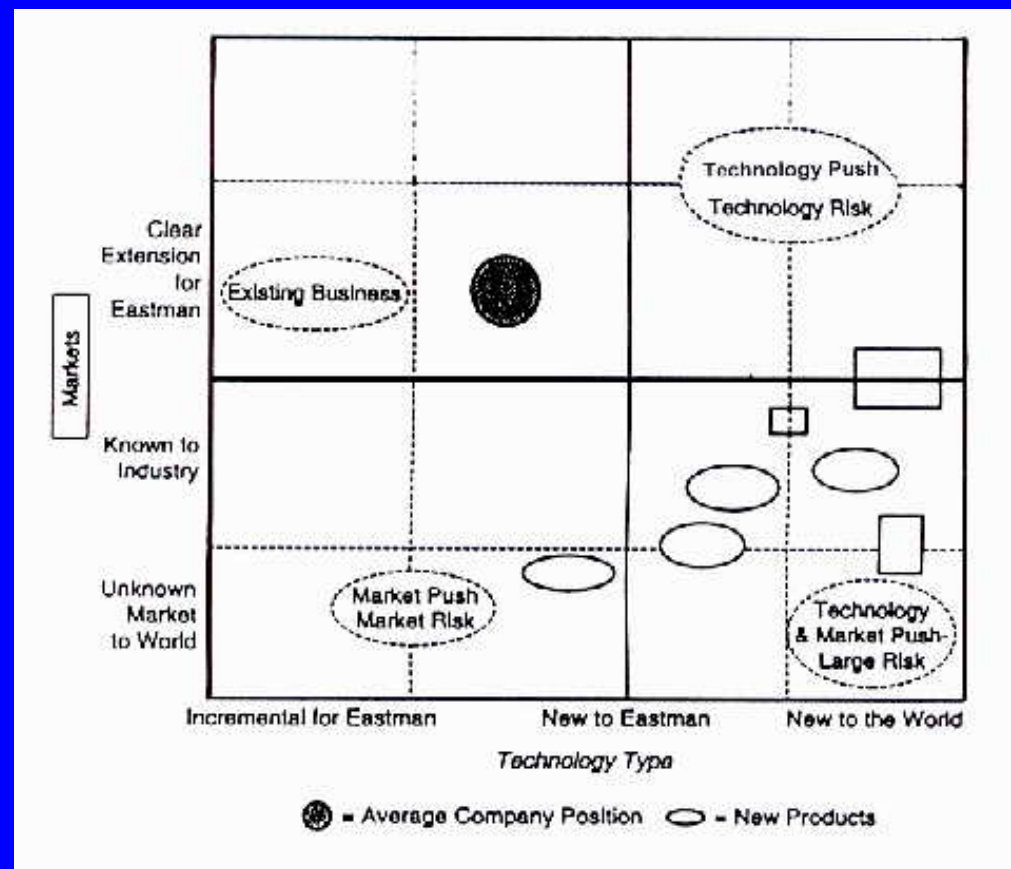
# Saltwater Corrosion Active Areas (by IPC Codes)



# Measuring the Portfolio Against the Competition

- New technologies being substituted?
- Citation searching reveal competitors  
“Patenting Around”?
- Is IP protection a major factor in the market?

# Portfolio analyzed into 4 technology risk quadrants



# Analyzing the Strength of an IP Portfolio

1. Geographic coverage indicates market strategies
2. Review size & assess trends - age, filing frequency, product life cycles
3. Kinds of Patents and degree of protection for core technologies
4. Technology licensed or assigned in/out
5. Aggressive filing - provisionals

# Assessing the Human Capital Factor in Corporate IP

1. Stable R & D team with low turnover?
2. Inventors with high industry reputation?
3. University/Gov't research links?
4. Reputable literature published and cited?

## Inventors on Richardson Vicks Patents

SS 5?

get in

THERE ARE 125 UNIQUE VALUES.

OCCURRENCES PERCENT TERM

|    |        |                |
|----|--------|----------------|
| 19 | 15.32% | DECKNER GE/IN  |
| 14 | 11.29% | SHAH NB/IN     |
| 11 | 8.87%  | DHABHAR DJ/IN  |
| 10 | 8.06%  | SCHMIDT NF/IN  |
| 7  | 5.64%  | LASKA EM/IN    |
| 7  | 5.64%  | SIEGEL CE/IN   |
| 7  | 5.64%  | SUNSHINE A/IN  |
| 6  | 4.83%  | KELLEHER WJ/IN |
| 5  | 4.03%  | DECKNER G/IN   |

## Patent Assignees on G. E. Deckner's Patents

SS 5?

Deckner GE/IN

SS 5 RESULT (40)

SS 6?

get pa

THERE ARE 7 UNIQUE VALUES.

OCCURRENCES PERCENT TERM

|    |        |                      |
|----|--------|----------------------|
| 19 | 47.50% | RICHARDSON VICKS INC |
| 13 | 32.50% | CHARLES OF THE RITZ  |
| 9  | 22.50% | PROCTER & GAMBLE CO  |
| 3  | 7.50%  | DECKNER G E          |
| 1  | 2.50%  | CIOTTI S L           |
| 1  | 2.50%  | THAMAN L A           |
| 1  | 2.50%  | WOODIN F W           |



# Analyzing Patent Quality at a Glance

1. Reputable corporate or institutional source?
2. Several Inventors?
3. Prosecuted by solid law firm?
4. How much prior art cited?  
Any literature cited?
5. Patent Co-operation Treaty Filing?

# **Patent Quality Deeper Analysis Using Patent Databases**

1. How many recent patents cite patents in question?
2. How many foreign equivalents/counterparts?
3. Speedy prosecution?
4. Claims valid, supported and broad?
5. Infringement suits, Re-examinations?

# Free Internet Intellectual Property Databases:

- 
- What are they good for?
- **Sampling data, answers to easy questions,**
- **state of the art searches.**
- **Verifying results from other databases.**
- **Free patent copies.**
- 
- What are their limits?
- **Assignee and status info unreliable.**
- **Slow and ineffective search tools.**
- **Poor titles, abstracts, indexing.**
- 
- How reliable is the data?
- **May be incomplete, dated and inaccurate.**

# Best Free Internet Sites for Patent Searching

- Espacnet – 30 million docs, many in PDF
- Depatis.net International coverage in English
- USPTO Site - full text searchable
- SurfIP – Asian dbases from Singapore
- WIPO database of PCT applications
- CIPO site on Strategis

# **Patent Classification – The Classical Tools are Free!**

International Patent Classification

- Application Oriented - Wide use

European Classification (ECLA) valuable  
extension of IPC

US Patent Office Classification

- Continuous updates with finer detail than IPC -
- Function Oriented

# Commercial Sources of Patent Data

## The Usual Big Vendors

- Dialog
- STN (Chem Abs.)
- Questel-Orbit
- Lexis Nexis
- Derwent

## Second Tier Database Providers

- Delphion
- Micropatent
- ICO Patent Search
- Minesoft

# **Patent Data Issues - inconsistent language, spelling, classification**

## **Quality**

How good is title and abstract information?

Eg Derwent has enhanced titles and abstracts.

## **Reliability**

Error checking by Vendor?

Missing data?

Classification revisions?

## **Currency**

How Frequent and thorough are updates?

# Subscription Patent Databases

**What is the range of costs for patent searching?**

**From US\$95 a month (Delphion) to hundreds of dollars an hour (Derwent, Chem. Abs.)**

**How is the data better? The assignee, patent family and status data is more likely to be current.**

**When do they need to be used?**

**– When critical questions need answering.**



# The Value Tradeoffs

- Time is Money \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Subscription databases have  
tools to greatly speed up search process

- Snapshots on Delphion

- Keyword in Context on Lexis Nexis

Several vendors offer flat monthly rates for  
unlimited use

Find appropriate sources for your technology

# The Value Triage Exercise

1. Use free databases for quick answers and to verify results from other sources.
2. Use mid-range fixed subscription databases. for general high volume searching.
3. For critical project verify and check results on best possible sources and bear the costs.

# Patent Family Query Comparison

- INPADOC philosophy includes all patents related to a common priority filing date. (\$)
- Derwent practice is more inclusive, pulling in more related patents.(\$\$\$\$)
  - Assignee data by country.
- Both systems victims of national patent office data distribution.
- CIPPO a problem. Significant missing CA docs

# Patent status query comparison

INPADOC database provides reliable  
status data for only 42 of 69 jurisdictions

- Little Canadian status included.

Derwent patent status not reliable

IFI and Lexis Nexis provide excellent

USPTO legal status data.

CIPO status service poor.

# **A Competitive Intelligence Example using IP**

**Perform a 10 minute CI search on a  
product known as “The Club” to find:**

- 1. Who owns it?**
- 2. How many US patents cover it?**
- 3. Are there Canadian counterpart patents**
- 4. How aggressive are they in defending  
their IP?**

# **“The Club” May be a Registered Trademark**

- Search it on the best available trademark database on the Internet
- Access to Canadian marks offered by CIPPO on Strategis
- In theory the Company owning the Trademark will own the patent

## Canadian Trade-marks Database

### [Important Notices](#)

The database was last updated on: **2004-06-08**

Enter words/numbers in the text box and select field from the drop down menu. There are five searches you can enter criteria for. Click here for [Help on Search](#), [Help on Fields](#), or [Help on Operators](#)

#### Search 1

Enter search text:

Select search field:

#### Search 2

Select an operator:

Enter search text:

Select search field:

#### Search 3

Select an operator:

Enter search text:

Select search field:

#### Search 4

Select an operator:

Enter search text:

OTTAWA  
ONTARIO K1P 1C3

**TRADE-MARK:****THE CLUB****INDEX HEADINGS:**

CLUB, THE

**WARES:**

(1) Anti-theft locks for use on automobile steering wheels.

**CLAIMS:**

Used in CANADA since at least as early as February 08, 1991.

**ASSOCIATED MARKS:**

TMA461,188 TMA547,506

**ACTION****DATE****BF****COMMENTS**

Filed

19 July 1993

Created

19 July 1993

Formalized

05 August  
1993

Search  
recorded

24 November  
1993

Correspondence  
created

07 February  
1994

Approved

07 February  
1994

Advertised

30 March  
1994

Vol.41 Issue 2057

Allowed

24 June 1994

Allowance  
notice sent

24 June 1994 24 December  
1994

Registered

02 September  
1994

Change in title

27 October

Assignment



Advertised 30 March 1994 Vol.41 Issue 2057

Allowed 24 June 1994

Allowance 24 June 1994 24 December 1994

notice sent

Registered 02 September 1994

Change in title 27 October 1999 Assignment

Agent name 04 July 2000 changed

Rep for service 04 July 2000 name changed

**FOOTNOTES:**

***CHANGE IN TITLE/CHANGEMENT EN TITRE:***

TYPE OF CHANGE/GENRE DE CHANGEMENT :

Assignment/Cession

DATE REGISTERED/DATE DE L'ENREGISTREMENT :

27 oct/Oct 1999

DATE OF CHANGE/DATE DE CHANGEMENT : 31

août/Aug 1999

COMMENTS/COMMENTAIRES: FROM : JAMES E.

WINNER, JR.,

TO : Winner International Royalty LLC,

(a Delaware Corporation),

Voir Preuve au dossier/See evidence on File No. 645914

Back

Last Modified: February 18, 2003 ▲

[Important Notices](#)

Advanced «  
Derwent Boolean  
Derwent Number  
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on-patent Prior Art  
P Listings  
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Select collection(s):

- ☒ U.S. (Granted)
- ☒ U.S. (Applications)
- ☐ European (Granted)
- ☐ European (Applications)
- ☐ WIPO PCT Publications
- ☐ Abstracts of Japan
- ☐ German (Granted)†
- ☐ German (Applications)†
- ☐ INPADOC

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- ☒ Front pages
- ☐ Full text including claims

For INPADOC:

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To: year month day

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☒ Pub. Date ☐ Filed ☐ Priority Date ☐ IPC Code ☒ Score

Sort by: Score

Items per page: 20

[ [Check all](#) ]

Universal Search Fields

Inventor:

Smith John | Mary V Smith | Smith

Assignee:

winner international  
Sony | Spain | London

Corporate Tree

Title:

canine | road sign | printer OR scanner

Current Results PDF Express Data Extract Snapshot Clustering PatentLab

Result Set for Query: ((winner international) <in> PA) [Save Search/Create Alert](#) [help](#)

winner international) <in> PA)

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Select Pub. Date:

Use Relevancy Score? ☒ Yes ☐ No

☒ Front Pages ☐ Full Text

**To use this tool:**

1. Use text box and selection fields to refine or replace query
2. Use Select, Order, and Add controls to purchase items
3. Use controls at bottom to show or hide fields

Sections searched: US (Granted), US (Applications)

matches found of 3,986,064 patents searched

Displaying results 1 - 20 of 50

<< First Page < Previous Page [Next Page](#) > [Last Page](#) >>

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|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Add <input type="radio"/> selected items to Work File: <input type="button" value="Go"/> |                                 |  |                           |                         |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> all items (up to 20,000)                                |                                 |  |                           |                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | Publication                     | Derwent Title<br><a href="#">Title</a> (To sort a column, click label at top)  | <a href="#">Pub. Date</a> | <a href="#">Score</a> ▼ |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US6734788</a>       | Vehicle anti-theft system with tampering indicator   | 2004-05-11                | 80%                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US20040074268A1</a> | Car steering wheel mounted lock - consists of telescopic bar in longitudinal sleeve, with hooks which engage steering wheel rim <a href="#">[Derwent Record]</a> | 2004-04-22                | 80%                     |
|  |                                 | Steering wheel lock  |                           |                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US6694784</a>       | Car steering wheel mounted lock - consists of telescopic bar in longitudinal sleeve, with hooks which engage steering wheel rim <a href="#">[Derwent Record]</a> | 2004-02-24                | 80%                     |

Current Results PDF Express Data Extract Snapshot Clustering PatentLab

Result Set for Query: ((james and winner) <in> PA) [Save Search/Create Alert](#) [help](#)

ames and winner) <in> PA)

Select collection(s):

Select Pub. Date:

Use Relevancy Score? ☒ Yes ☐ No

☒ Front Pages ☐ Full Text

- To use this tool:**
1. Use text box and selection fields to refine or replace query
  2. Use Select, Order, and Add controls to purchase items
  3. Use controls at bottom to show or hide fields

lections searched: US (Granted), US (Applications)

atches found of 3,986,064 patents searched

Displaying results 1 - 8 of 8

| Order selected items as <input type="text" value="PDF"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/>   |                           |   |            |         |
|--|---------------------------|---|------------|---------|
| Add <input type="radio"/> selected items to Work File: <input type="text" value="Create New Work File"/> <input type="button" value="Go"/> |                           |   |            |         |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> all items (up to 20,000)  |                           |   |            |         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | Publication               | Title (To sort a column, click label at top)        | Pub. Date  | Score ▼ |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US5287006</a> | Self-contained anti-theft device for motor vehicles | 1994-02-15 | 80%     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US5184023</a> | Self-contained anti-theft device for motor vehicles | 1993-02-02 | 80%     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US5132551</a> | Self-contained anti-theft device for motor vehicles | 1992-07-21 | 80%     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US4935047</a> | Steering wheel lock                                 | 1990-06-19 | 80%     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">USD306252</a> | Automobile steering wheel lock arm                  | 1990-02-27 | 80%     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US4856308</a> | Automobile steering lock                            | 1989-08-15 | 80%     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">US4738127</a> | Automobile steering lock                            | 1988-04-19 | 80%     |
| <input type="checkbox"/>   | <a href="#">USD289491</a> | Automobile steering lock                            | 1987-04-28 | 80%     |

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esshttp://v3.espacenet.com/family?DB=EPODOC&IDX=US4738127&OREQ=0&F=8&textdoc=TRUEGoLinks»Norton AntiVirusOpen



European  
Patent Office



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What is a patent family?

What is an INPADOC patent family?

Are all the documents in an INPADOC family equivalents?

Why is the same document published several times in the same country?

☒ Compact | Print

**Family list**  
17 family members for:  
**US4738127**  
Derived from 15 applications.

Back to US4738127

|   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| 1   | <b>LENKRADSCHLOSS FUER KRAFTFAHRZEUGE.</b> | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Publication info: <b>AT58879T T</b> - 1990-12-15    |  |   |
| 2   | <b>STEERING WHEEL LOCK</b>                 | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Publication info: <b>AU561885 B1</b> - 1987-05-21   |  |   |
| 3   | <b>AUTOMOBILE STEERING LOCK</b>            | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Publication info: <b>AU587164 B3</b> - 1989-06-26   |  |   |
| 4   | <b>STEERING WHEEL LOCK BAR</b>             | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Publication info: <b>AU613552 B2</b> - 1991-08-01   |  |   |
| 5   | <b>STEERING WHEEL LOCK BAR</b>             | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Publication info: <b>AU5061690 A</b> - 1990-06-28   |  |   |
| 6   | <b>AUTOMOBILE STEERING LOCK</b>            | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Publication info: <b>AU7724587 A</b> - 1990-10-04   |  |   |
| 7   | <b>AUTOMOBILE STEERING LOCK</b>            | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Publication info: <b>CA1283301 C</b> - 1991-04-23   |  |   |
| 8   | <b>Automobile steering lock.</b>           | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Publication info: <b>DE3676057D D1</b> - 1991-01-17 |  |   |
| 9   | <b>Automobile steering lock.</b>           | in my patents list <input type="checkbox"/> |

▲ top

Internet



1 / 7 OrderPatent



[11] **Patent Number:** 4,738,127  
[45] **Date of Patent:** Apr. 19, 1988

[22] Filed: Feb. 17, 1987

[51] Int. Cl.<sup>4</sup> ..... B60R 25/02  
[52] U.S. Cl. .... 70/209  
[58] Field of Search ..... 70/14, 18, 19, 26, 33,  
70/39, 181, 209, 211, 212, 218, 226, 238, 252,  
253, 295, 386; 292/147

|           |        |                |        |
|-----------|--------|----------------|--------|
| 1,364,539 | 1/1921 | Baker .....    | 70/199 |
| 1,448,658 | 3/1923 | Furber .       |        |
| 3,245,239 | 4/1966 | Zaidener ..... | 70/202 |

*Primary Examiner*—Richard E. Moore  
*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Body, Vickers & Daniels

An antitheft device for attachment to a steering wheel of an automobile comprising an elongated body member having a passage extending along an axis there-through, first hook means secured to the body member for engagement with a portion of the steering wheel wherein the first hook means engage the wheel from the inside thereof with the body member extending outward beyond the periphery of the steering wheel, an elongated rod member adapted to move in telescopic fashion in the passageway of the body member along the axis, second hook means secured to the rod member for engaging the inside portion of the steering wheel

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http://www.delphion.com/cgi-bin/viewpat.cmd/US04738127\_\_?OUT\_FORMAT=pdf&MODE=fstv Links Norton AntiVirus

OrderPatent 1/7

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References Cited

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|           |        |          |        |
|-----------|--------|----------|--------|
| 1,364,539 | 1/1921 | Baker    | 70/199 |
| 1,448,658 | 3/1923 | Furber   |        |
| 3,245,239 | 4/1966 | Zaidener | 70/202 |
| 3,664,164 | 5/1972 | Zaidener | 70/202 |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|         |         |                |  |
|---------|---------|----------------|--|
| 106072  | 12/1966 | Denmark        |  |
| 1127524 | 9/1968  | United Kingdom |  |

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

Advertisement from Daily News Classified 6/28/1984,

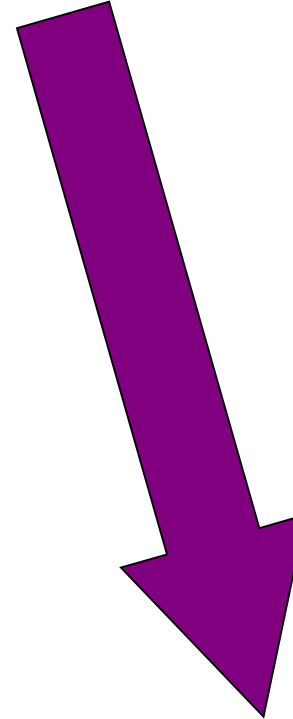
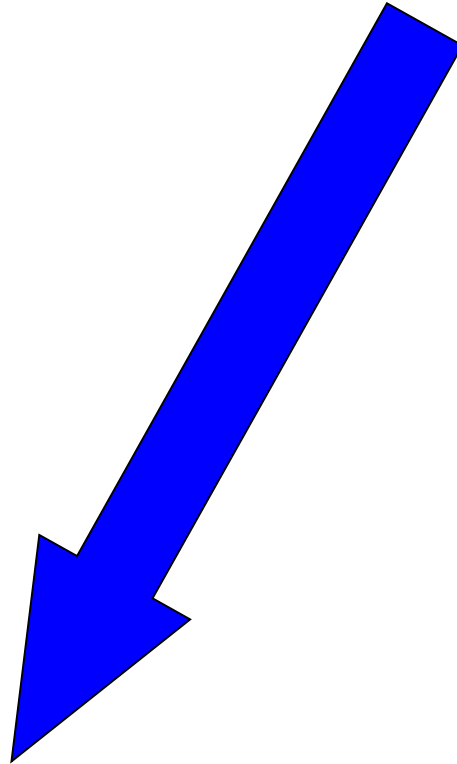
**3 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets**

inside thereof with the body member extending outward beyond the periphery of the steering wheel, an elongated rod member adapted to move in telescopic fashion in the passageway of the body member along the axis, second hook means secured to the rod member for engaging the inside portion of the steering wheel diametrically opposed to the first hook means, and means associated with the body member engaging the rod within the passage for locking the rod member stationary with respect to the body member at any of a plurality of positions.

1 of 1 7.72 x 11.35 in

Internet

4,738,127 4,856,308  
WINNER INTERNATIONAL ROYALTY CORPORATION



4,935,047  
5,222,381  
5,277,042  
5,365,215  
5,412,963  
5,600,979  
5,635,899  
5,673,575  
5,709,113  
5,735,149  
5,755,123

5,022,246  
All Ship Enterprise Co. Ltd

5,040,388

5,042,278

5,107,692

5,138,853

5,284,037

5,005,389  
Cheen lu Industry Co Ltd

5,031,429

5,163,310

5,179,849





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### *Recent news from Winner International*

[Winner International LLC Files Action Against O-Mega and its Owners and Requests Preliminary Injunction \(5/8/00\)](#)

[Winner International Files Lawsuit Against Master Lock and Asks for Preliminary Injunction \(5/00\)](#)

[Winner International Royalty Corporation Wins Appeal In United States Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit \(2/7/00\)](#)

#### **WINNER INTERNATIONAL LLC FILES ACTION AGAINST O-MEGA AND ITS OWNERS AND REQUESTS PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

Phila., PA) - Winner International LLC ("Winner") filed a legal action in U.S. District Court, Southern District of California on April 27, 2000, against O-Mega Innovations, Benito Oneniano, and Lilia Oneniano arising from the unlawful manufacturing, using and selling defendants' vehicle anti-theft device known as the "Clawbar," which

one

Internet

# Some Patent Search URLs

Patent Info Users Group [www.piug.org/](http://www.piug.org/)

European Patent Office [www.european-patent-office.org/index.en.php](http://www.european-patent-office.org/index.en.php)

Mayall's IP Links [www.mayallj.freeseerve.co.uk/](http://www.mayallj.freeseerve.co.uk/)

British Library

[www.bl.uk/collections/patents/search.html](http://www.bl.uk/collections/patents/search.html)

PATSCAN [www.patex.ca](http://www.patex.ca)