



IP Protection Strategies of German Innovators

Knut Blind, Bernd Ebersberger,
bernd.ebersberger@mci.edu

The paper illustrates the use of intellectual property rights and other protections strategies by German companies differentiated by company size and sector and even by time. Based on a set of hypotheses, various regression analyses are performed to identify factors explaining the use and importance of the various protection instruments. In general, larger companies make a more intensive use of all protection strategies, the same is true for companies of higher innovation intensity. However, depending on the collaboration activities companies are very selective regarding the use of very specific protection means. The paper concludes with some challenges for policy makers.

JEL-Code: O34, O32, L60