

## **Perceived Efficiency of Strategic Methods of Protection Versus Formal Methods Among Product Innovators in Luxembourg**

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Patent still continue since the work of Griliches (1990) to be used as a proxy for innovation. According to this author, among many others, it should exist a positive relationship between patenting and innovation. The CIS IV survey launched in Luxembourg investigated this issue. The questionnaire asked to firms if they were using or not formal method of protections: patent, registration of design patterns, copyright and copyrights. But it was also investigated if firms were likely to use a strategic behavior: secrecy, complexity of design and technological advance. Besides, whenever they were adopting a specific form of protection firms were questioned on the perceived efficiency of the method (from weak to strong). The preliminary results shows unambiguously that product innovators (new product for the market) do not always use formal methods in Luxembourg they are more likely to favor strategic behavior. This result question the used of patents as a proxy for innovation. Second, Whereas a large strand of the literature investigated the average profile of patenting firms and pin points several characteristics such firm size (Duguet and Kabla (1998) or Baldwin et. al (2002)), surprisingly, using classification trees, no clear pattern emerges in order to distinguish firms that are valorizing formal method of protection rather than strategic behavior in Luxembourg.