



Intellectual
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HALF OF ALL U.S. PATENTS ISSUED IN 2015 TO 300 COMPANIES

Intellectual Property Owners Association reveals the 300 organizations that received the most U.S. utility patents in 2015.

WASHINGTON, D.C., 29 June 2016 – Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO) has published its 2015 Top 300 Patent Owners List. In its 33rd year, the list reports the 300 organizations that received the most utility patents from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in the previous year. IPO's list is unique because in many cases patents granted to a subsidiary organization are attributed to the parent organization. Over 7,500 subsidiaries are factored into the 2015 list.

The total number of patents granted by the USPTO in 2015 was 298,407, a decrease of 0.8 percent from 2014. Of those, 150,173 (50.3%) were issued to the companies on the Top 300 List.

The top three companies on the Top 300 List remained the same. In order, they are: IBM Corp. (7,440 patents), Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. (5,059), and Canon K.K. (4,239). Thirty-five companies received over 1,000 patents in 2015.

To make this year's Top 300 List, an organization had to receive at least 107 patents. In 2014 the threshold was 104, in 2013 it was 95, and in 2012 it was 88.

The number of patents granted is influenced by several factors including the number of applications. Applications usually have increased in recent years, and this was consistent between 2014 and 2015. The number of patents granted does not necessarily indicate the value of a company's technology, the effectiveness of its R&D, or whether it will be profitable. The number of patents per company varies widely from industry to industry and from company to company within an industry.

Intellectual Property Owners Association is an international trade association representing companies and individuals in all industries and fields of technology who own or are interested in intellectual property rights. For more information on the Top 300 Patent Owners List contact Robin Muthig at RMuthig@ipo.org or +1 202-507-4500.

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