

Keeping track of global patent data

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Innovation is a global phenomenon. Everywhere you look, great ideas to solve problems, both local and global, are being developed into practical and tangible solutions. This investment in innovation resulting in published patents can be tracked and mined to see what technology is being developed where and who is looking to invest in which region.

Globally, over 6.3 million patent documents representing over 3.5 million new inventions were published last year. Inventions from 50 countries/regions are available within the Derwent World Patent Index (DWPI) as intellectually enhanced English language summaries with detailed classification and indexing. But the world does not stand still. In recent years, countries of the former Soviet Union now known as the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) have become increasingly important not only as origins of innovation, but as important markets for international investment and protection of rights. This in part is due to the Chinese “Belt and Road Initiative” (BRI) which was launched in 2013 and enshrined into the Chinese constitution in October 2017.

BRI is an infrastructure initiative intended to create a network of hard infrastructure such as railways, roads and pipelines and soft connectivity through promotion of trade, financial integration and exchange of policies and culture in over 70 countries representing around 65% of the world’s population. With an investment of USD 900 billion per annum, it is an attempt to have a stronger presence in the global economic order. The initiative aims to spur economic growth of less-developed border regions including the countries of the CIS through new channels of trade and development and to stimulate trade by lowering trade barriers and costs, and by facilitating the flow of information, goods and people.

CIS itself has a rapidly growing economy, with the member countries averaging 3.7% growth in GDP in 2017. This growth is underpinned by the significant investment from China as a result of BRI, along with increasing patenting activity in the region.

Domestically, innovation is focused on diagnosis, surgery, electric power engineering, scientific instrumentation, biotechnology and oil production as shown in Figure 1:

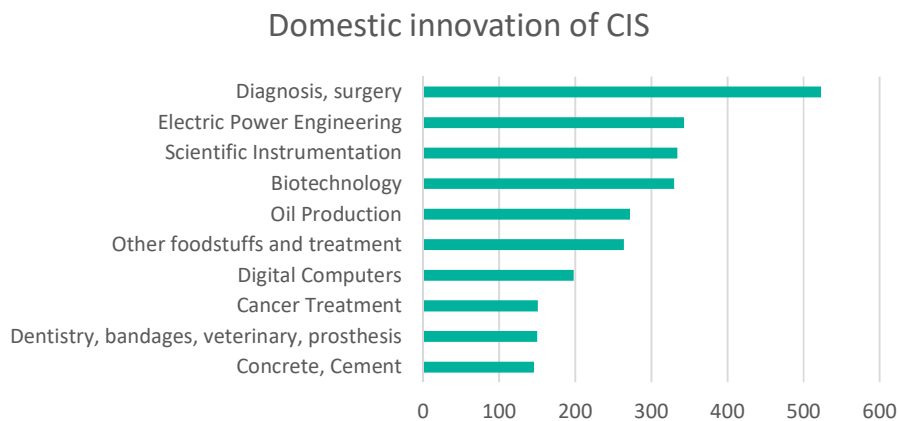


Figure 1: Analysis of 5,029 basic families from CIS in DWPI as of 8th April 2019

Internationally, CIS is important for the pharmaceutical industry as can be seen in Figure 2 which shows the international patent family coverage which is being extended to the CIS region:

International protection of rights in CIS

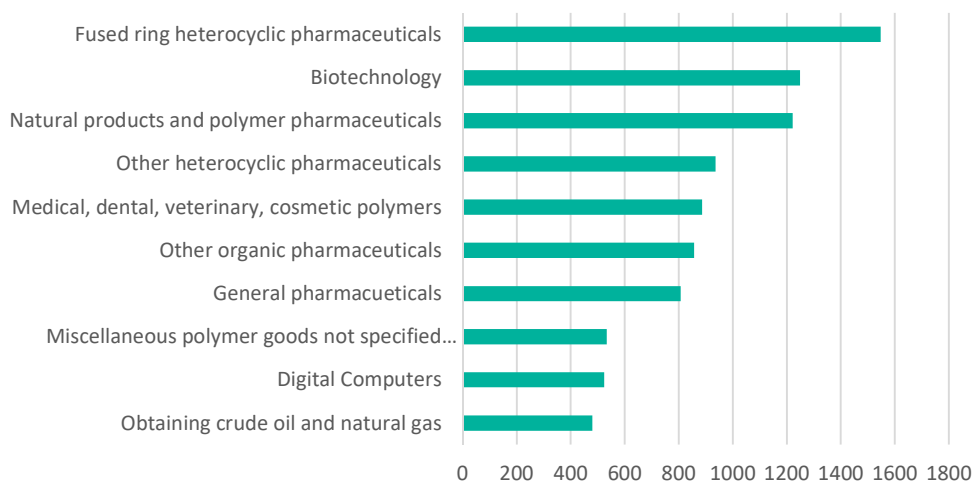


Figure 2: Analysis of 11,440 equivalent families from CIS region as of 8th April 2019

This is also reflected in the list of international companies seeking protection for their innovation in the CIS region as shown in Figure 3. Thirteen of the top 20 companies filing in CIS are from the pharmaceutical sector:

DWPI Assignee	Document Count
UNILEVER NV	306
SAINT-GOBAIN GLASS FRANCE	223
BAYER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GMBH	193
NOVARTIS AG	176
OUTOTEC OYJ	175
BASF SE	170
TOTAL RES & TECHNOLOGY FELUY	145
DSM IP ASSETS BV	134
GLAXOSMITHKLINE LLC	130
BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM INT GMBH	111
SANOFI SA	105
NIPPON STEEL & SUMITOMO METAL CORP	103
BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB CO	102
LILLY & CO ELI	98
TAKEDA PHARM CO LTD	96
HOFFMANN LA ROCHE & CO AG F	93
JANSSEN PHARM INC	92
GILEAD SCI INC	91
SYNGENTA PARTICIPATIONS AG	86
HALLIBURTON ENERGY SERVICES INC	79

Figure 3: Analysis of 11,440 equivalent families from CIS region as of 8th April 2019

In recent years around 34% of patent applications in Georgia and Kazakhstan have been for pharma and biotechnology inventions. In the US and Europe regions it's more typical for this figure to be around 15%. The growth in CIS activity is driven by a desire to prevent generics being made in the country, as much as the local market size, and to prevent having generics shipped into legitimate markets to be sold by licensees. As a result, this will increase the need for novelty and freedom to operate searches that cover the CIS region.

To ensure DWPI continues to cover the expanding global patent market, we are expanding our jurisdictional coverage for CIS (Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan), and patents published via the regional Eurasian Patent Organization (EAPO) starting with current patents being added first followed by addition of backfile data going back to 2002 over the next few months. This enhancement increases the coverage of DWPI to 59 authorities and two defensive publications.

Increasing coverage in DWPI enables the database to provide more efficient technology monitoring, prior art and freedom to operate searching, through comprehensive and authoritative English Language summaries/abstracts, and intellectually applied indexing.

As the economies of other countries and regions continue to evolve, so patent activity and the need to capture that activity grows. The addition of CIS to DWPI is just the first stage of building out our data sets in line with emerging economies and increased commercial filings in those regions. Over the next few months, we will be adding additional curated full text information to our Global Patent Data collection which currently includes access to patent data from 21 authorities.

Global Patent Data coverage will expand throughout the year when we more than triple our jurisdictional coverage by adding full-text data from 75 patent authorities including, Taiwan, Italy, Spain, Portugal, South Africa, Israel, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, and the Gulf Cooperation.

By the end of the year, Global Patent Data will provide simplified access to our full-text data and bibliographic patent information and provide a more complete picture of patent filing activity to support our customers.

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