2015: Trends in patenting

Interest in patent protection in Europe is growing

Almost one in two patent applications comes from Europe

278,867 Patent filings

2015: Trends in patenting

Europe maintains its position among the large innovating regions

160,022 European patent applications at the EPO

EPO member states 47%

United States 27%

Japan 13%

P. R. China 4%

R. Korea 4%

Others 5%

More and more inventors decide to go for a high quality patent delivered by the EPO

Strong growth of applications coming from US and Chinese companies

+22.2%

+16.4%

Almost one in two patent applications comes from Europe

Most active technology fields

1. Medical technology

2. Digital communication

3. Computer technology

4. Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy

5. Transport

Most active patent applicants

1. Philips 2,402

2. Samsung 2,366

3. LG 2,091

4. Huawei 1,953

5. Siemens 1,894

The EPO serves small as well as large applicants

5% Universities and public research

26% SMEs, individual inventors

69% Large enterprises

Source: European Patent Office

www.epo.org/annual-report2015