

## News

---

# Study of scientific research trends

Thomson Scientific has announced it is supplying key journal literature information to The Patent Board(TM) for a study of scientific research trends. The (US) National Science Foundation recently awarded a contract to The Patent Board to develop key science metrics, and The Patent Board is using journal literature information from Thomson Scientific, in the form of Science Citation Index(R) and Social Sciences Citation Index(R), in compiling their study. These two databases form part of ISI Web of Knowledge(SM), the premier research platform for the sciences, social sciences, arts and humanities.

The National Science Foundation contracted The Patent Board to analyze the strength of both US and international science and engineering output. The Patent Board will be analyzing vast amounts of scientific data to develop indicators which measure trends in worldwide scientific research. The results will be published in the NSF's biennial Science and Engineering Indicators, beginning in 2008.

"Thomson Scientific has a long-standing relationship not only with the National Science Foundation and with The Patent Board, but also with the international scientific community, as a unique provider of scientific indicators and other metrics", said Henry Small, director of Research Services at Thomson Scientific. "Our rigorous quality control, and the accuracy of our citation index, enables us to provide either raw data or completed metrics to institutions around the world".

The Patent Board's professional team of analysts and researchers utilize a unique process to classify scientific research, incorporating journals, patents and papers by sector. The metrics developed by The Patent Board will enable the National Science Foundation to measure collaboration patterns, emerging areas of research and the connections between research and practical applications around the world.

([www.thomson.com](http://www.thomson.com))