

Illinois Tool Works moved to #1 – Strong in all ratings

(Chicago – April 22, 2008) – **Illinois Tool Works** (Glenview, Illinois, USA) moved up one position to lead the Industrial Components & Fixtures industry sector. **ITW** leads this industry in patents issued and showed improvement in all ratings including a 90% improvement in Science Strength™ which indicates how much a company uses science in building its patent portfolio. They also showed a 14% increase in Technology Strength™, a 12% increase in Industry Impact™, a 13% increase in Research Intensity™ and their patenting was up 7% overall. **Illinois Tool Works** makes a range of products used in the automotive, construction, electronics, food and beverage, paper products, and pharmaceuticals industries. Their feature brands are ITW Brands known for tools and fasteners, **ITW ActiveTouch known for Trapped Acoustic Resonance sensors**, and Miller Electric Mfg. Co. who manufactures arc welding and cutting equipment.

Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc. (Little Neck, New York, USA) fell one spot to number 2 in the ranking. They maintain a very high Current Impact™ rating combined with a smaller patent portfolio than the remainder of the Top 10. **Leviton's** patenting is down by 24% with a 3% increase in Industry Impact™ which allowed them to maintain their second place ranking. **Leviton** makes switches, plugs, connectors, and integrated networks designed for home, commercial, and industrial uses. The company's divisions also produce lighting controls and voice and data equipment.

Royal Philips Electronics N.V. (Amsterdam, The Netherlands) showed a 54% increase in Technology Strength™ and jumped up twelve positions from 17th to rank 5th overall. **Philips Electronic** saw a 12% increase in their Industry Impact™, as well as, a 43% increase in patents granted. **Philips Electronics** makes consumer electronics, including TVs, VCRs, DVD players, and fax machines. But it also makes light bulbs, electric shavers and other personal care appliances, picture tubes, medical systems, and silicon systems solutions.

General Electric Company (Fairfield, Connecticut, USA) jumped up six positions from 12th to 6th with an 11% increase in patenting and a 43% increase in Science Strength™. **GE** is found in seven of The Patent Board's industry-specific Patent Scorecards. Only those patents related to industrial products are included in this scorecard.

Rockwell Automation, Inc. (Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA) showed a 15% improvement in Science Strength™ and an 11% increase in Research Intensity™ showing a focus on core research. The increase of one position to rank 4th overall was based in an 8% improvement of Current Impact™ and a small decrease in patents issued. **Rockwell Automation** is one of the world's largest industrial automation companies. Their company's control systems unit makes industrial automation products such as motor starters and contactors, relays, timers, signaling devices, and variable speed drives.

FCI (Versailles Cedex France) had a 12% increase in patenting while maintaining a strong but declining Industry Impact™ of 1.48. Combined these changes caused a move into the Top 10 from 11th to 9th position. **FCI** is a developer of connectors and interconnect systems. Their commitment to innovation results in over 6% of their annual turnover being invested into their Research and Development efforts.

The number of patents issued decreased by 6% over the last period for the Industrial Components & Fixtures industry, which includes 160 companies.

The Patent Scorecard reviews all patent activity in the Industrial Components & Fixtures industry sector and is published in The Wall Street Journal® by The Patent Board, the leading independent provider of indicators, tools and metrics for patent analysis and intellectual property investing. The Patent Scorecard uses The Patent Board's industry-standard data and proprietary analytical tools to assess patent value, and ranks companies worldwide in 17-industry sectors.

The Patent Board Scorecard Ranks Illinois Tool Works as #1 Innovator in Industrial Components & Fixtures Industry

Top 10 Innovators in Industrial Components & Fixtures Patent Scorecard™ | Quarterly snapshot – 13 week averages

Rank	Company	Patent Granted*	Science Strength™	Innovation Cycle Time™	Industry Impact™	Technology Strength™	Research Intensity™
1	Illinois Tool Works	258	12	13.4	0.892	183.64	0.35
2	Leviton Mfg Co Inc	34	0	9.3	5.05	136.51	0
3	Matsushita Electric Industrial	161	10.5	7.8	1.068	136.21	0.7
4	Rockwell Automation Inc	100	125.5	7.9	1.533	121.55	2.4
5	Philips Electronics NV	60	9.5	11.6	2.349	111.6	0.52
6	General Electric Co	122	29.8	10.2	0.992	96.61	1.29
7	Eaton Corp	132	30.3	8.8	0.904	95.31	0.94
8	Schneider SA	93	263.3	9.3	1.269	94.62	2.98
9	FCI	77	8.3	8.5	1.482	91.33	0.18
10	Sumitomo Electric Industries	109	0.8	6.5	1.043	90.84	0.18

*(Industrial Components & Fixtures patents only for the multi-industry companies)

About The Patent Board Indicators

Patents Granted – equals the number of U.S. patents granted in a given year, excluding design and other special-case inventions.

Science Strength™ - ranking measure to indicate how much a company uses science in building its patent portfolio with a combined measure of science and quantity.

Innovation Cycle Time™ - indicates whether a patent or patent portfolio is building off newer or older inventions (art).

Industry Impact™ - indicates the extent to which others are building upon a portfolio of issued US utility patents as compared to the total set of utility patents.

Technology Strength™ - ranking measure to indicate an overall strength of the company's patent portfolio holdings with a combined measure of quality and quantity.

Research Intensity™ – indicates the extent to which a portfolio includes patents with above average Science Linkage as compared to the control group.

About the Industry

The Industrial Components & Fixtures industry contains companies which manufacture and produce electrical and plumbing supplies and fixtures, automation and control systems, welding and cutting equipment as well as lighting fixtures. It also includes various types of equipment and components such as HVAC systems, motors, compressors, generators, pneumatic components and industrial sized tools.

About The Patent Scorecard

The Patent Board quarterly snap-shot is a measure of yearly patent activity averaged over the prior 13-week period. The Industrial Components & Fixtures Patent Scorecard is primarily ranked by Technology Strength™ which is a measure to indicate an overall strength of the company's patent portfolio holdings with a combined measure of quality and quantity. Each company's portfolio is measured on its technical strength, quantity, science and research strength, and the speed at which patents become assets.

Patent Scorecards are published for 17-different industry sectors, and are available at www.patentboard.com. In addition, highlights from each industry-specific Patent Scorecard appear weekly in the Money & Investing section of the Wall Street Journal and within the Markets Data Center and online at www.PatentBoard.com/scorecards providing readers with deeper insight into patent portfolios as measurable financial assets and drivers of the market value.

About The Patent Board

The Patent Board is the world's leading business-based patent advisor to Fortune 500 companies, technology-based start-ups, law firms, investment banks, and governments. With four decades of experience, The Patent Board utilizes proprietary data, tools, and analytics to leverage patent-based IP as an asset class. The Patent Board aligns IP portfolios with business strategy to maximize value.

Founded in 1968 as a research institution, today The Patent Board's legacy in bibliometric and patent analysis equips commercial clients with a deep understanding of the science behind patents, as well as, the business impact of their position. The Patent Board™ tracks and analyzes innovation, movement, and the business impact of patent assets across 17-industries on a global basis. The Patent Board has offices in Chicago and Philadelphia.

For more information about The Patent Board™ please visit www.patentboard.com or call +1.312.205.7037.