



## PHARMACEUTICALS EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL

(Set up by Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India)

COPY

Date : 11-06-2010

News / Story reproduced with thanks:- : **Pharmajobs**

### Study finds US supports innovation better than EU

Direct link to the News/Story:-

<http://www.pharmajobs.co.uk/blog/index.php/2010/06/study-finds-us-supports-innovation-better-than-eu/>

The US's intellectual property system is more supportive of innovation than the EU system, according to the views of the majority of pharma industry executives.

This concern over the European market is due to recent changes in the EU's patent application process and the European Commission's probe into anti-competitive practises within the sector.

According to the latest annual life sciences research from international intellectual property group Marks & Clerk over 80% of industry executives surveyed believe that recent changes to Europe's patent application process will place a significant burden on smaller companies.

Meanwhile, 89% believe lasting capital will be attracted back to the US market, as optimism emerges over Obama's healthcare reform.

Almost two-thirds of survey respondents feel that European policymakers are "essentially hostile" towards secondary patents for follow-on drugs, while 78% argue that sufficient recognition is not given to the role incremental innovation plays in advancing medicine.

The research finds that 76% of industry participants believe the Commission's continuing probe into patent settlements to be "concerning" for drugmakers. The Commission claims that innovator companies are deliberately seeking to delay market entry, but 89% of those surveyed believe it is legitimate commercial practice to take full advantage of the patent system.

Dr Paul Chapman, Partner at Marks & Clerk, said: "Not only does the US provide greater scope for patent extensions, but further reform is soon to be enacted which will improve patent quality and limit damages. "Europe appears to be in danger of moving in the wrong direction. There is a clear fear that the gap in securing and exploiting innovation between the US and Europe may grow, and that the future innovations in medicine needed to promote health may be compromised."