

Re: Where would we be without these important patents?

Re: Where would we be without these important patents?

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.econ/2006-03/msg00249.html>

- *From:* royls@xxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* Sun, 19 Mar 2006 18:46:33 GMT
-

On Sun, 19 Mar 2006 14:44:55 -0000, "Andy F." <never.mind@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

<royls@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:441c40b1.20222611@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

In fact, the rate of progress in scientific discoveries that do not qualify for IP monopolies has been even greater than the progress in technology.

Any evidence for that claim?

The ratio of patent filings to published scientific papers.

Which only proves that scientists write a lot of papers.

No, it proves your claims are flat false. Technological progress is driven by scientific progress, which does not get any IP monopoly

Re: Where would we be without these important patents?

Re: Where would we be without these important patents?

privileges. It is not driven by patents, as, for example, the Soviet Union's successful development of space flight technology before the USA in the total absence of patents proves.

Unless you imagine that every academic paper represents an important or useful technical advance, counting the number of papers doesn't really tell you very much.

Same with the number of patents.

The claim that 'technological progress is driven by scientific progress' is dubious.

No, it's self-evident and indisputable.

It's often the other way around. Guns, rockets and clocks were all invented before Newtonian mechanics.

But became far better shortly afterwards.

The steam engine was invented before the laws of thermodynamics.

But greatly improved after they were understood.

'Computer science' wasn't even thought of until after they started making computers.

Which they couldn't have done without advances in physics.

The Russian space program, of course, borrowed extensively from Western technology, including many ideas which were or had been patented.

But would have existed just the same without patents.

And although the Soviets invested considerable resources in science, their system was an abysmal failure in terms of economic innovation.

Re: Where would we be without these important patents?

Re: Where would we be without these important patents?

Irrelevant. The Soviets' early successes in space just flat-out prove you wrong.

-- Roy L

.