

**From:** BusinessUSA <business@subscriptions.usa.gov>  
**To:** Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
**Date:** 5/27/2015 7:07:16 AM  
**Subject:** BusinessUSA: Help for Inventors and Protecting IP

---

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

5/27/2015

Ever wonder how big an impact Marion Donovan's original waterproof baby diaper has had on modern day parenting? Or how different today's cellphones, cars and speakers would be without Jaap Haartsen's Bluetooth ® technology, and its ability to connect an endless number of wireless devices?

Inventors are continually redefining expectations of what is possible, illustrated by the fourteen new inductees into the [National Inventors Hall of Fame](#). The list includes people like Donovan and Haartsen, as well as those responsible for other advancements from regenerated skin to the graphical calculator.

At [BusinessUSA](#), we are advocates for inventors and the impact their inventions have on

economic growth.

Here are a few tools and programs to help current and future inventors.

---

### Master the Basics of Intellectual Property Law

Many companies fail to do enough to keep competitors or others from appropriating their ideas and inventions, logo, business name or other copyrighted materials. When intellectual property (IP) is stolen or compromised, businesses have to spend time and money fending off challenges or recovering assets in court.

Learn the basics of [intellectual property law](#) and check out the [U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's resources for inventors and entrepreneurs](#) to learn more about what you can do to protect your business. Also, read more about [what you can do if your copyrighted material gets stolen](#).

---

### IP Tools

The new and improved [Understanding Intellectual Property tool](#) developed by BusinessUSA in coordination with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) will easily guide you through the steps of understanding and protecting your invention or other intellectual property.

Be sure to also check out the USPTO's [IP Awareness Assessment tool](#), which determines how much you know about various IP issues, and recommends materials and resources based on what you know. Areas covered include:

- IP Strategies & Best Practices
- International IP Rights
- IP Asset Tracking
- Licensing Technology to Others
- Copyrights
- Design Patents
- Trademarks
- Trade Secrets

---

### Help with the Patent Process

Do you have an invention you want to patent? The USPTO [Inventor's Assistance Program \(IAP\)](#) helps inventors navigate the patent process to ensure their inventions are legally protected. Get in touch with them to find out more about how they can help.

---

### The Future of Urban Innovation

The upcoming Future of Urban Innovation: Startups conference will be held on June 9 in New York City. The one-day event, sponsored by the Department of Commerce, will explore ways entrepreneurs, government agencies, industry and academia can work together to spur innovation.

Inventors will be especially interested in the session on intellectual property. The session will include best practices and common pitfalls relating to start-up patent strategies, tips for working with attorneys, insights into the role of IP for emerging companies, and an examination of the possible impact of pending patent reform efforts being considered in Washington.

Read more about the [Future of Urban Innovation conference and register here](#).

BUSINESS.USA.GOV IS AN OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

---

Stay Connected:

Unsubscribe, update your subscriptions, or modify your password or email address at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please contact [subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com](#).

This service is provided to you at no charge by [Business.USA.gov](#).

---

This email was sent to kester@aging.sc.gov from: BusinessUSA • 1401 Constitution Ave NW • Washington DC 20230 •