

Why Intellectual Property Matters

The coronavirus is placing a huge strain on the U.S. health system and economy. U.S. Chamber member companies continue to work alongside government research labs and universities to find a cure for COVID-19. Strong intellectual property protections are their silent partner in the fight against the pandemic, said Chamber CEO Tom Donohue in an [article published today](#).

“Every researcher, scientist, business owner—you name it—relies on a patent to put a great idea on paper,” Donohue said. “Patents also have many benefits: They prevent good ideas from being stolen; they help formalize developing economies by encouraging cooperation between government and the private sector; they encourage increased investments in biomedical and biopharmaceutical research; and they reward the hard work of inventors and creators everywhere, ensuring not only that better music and movies are on the way, but that better medicines are too.”

Donohue credits a strong patent system for the technology that has made remote work possible during the pandemic. He also says many of the activities that have brought normalcy to this unusual situation—like streaming videos, music, and television shows—wouldn't be possible without intellectual property protections.

“In times like these, IP is more important than ever, and its benefits are even greater,” said Donohue.

Click here to read [the full article](#).

For a closer look at the broader U.S. Chamber's response on the COVID-19 pandemic, in-depth country-by-country data, as well as our recommendations for small businesses and IP industries, please visit www.uschamber.com/coronavirus.