

Journal of Innovation Economics

Call for papers

Topic:

Dynamics of innovation and new forms of organisation and governance of the firm

The innovation process is complex, combining scientific and technical potential enriched constantly with high-skilled human resources and also with technological, organisational, financial, relational and commercial competencies. As a consequence, the launching and the diffusion of new goods, services and technologies require a crucial coordination effort. The efficiency of coordination depends on the norms, rules and procedures the enterprise accepts and implements. These enable the enterprise to manage the activities associated with innovation, to exploit advantages, and to regulate related risks and costs.

Coordination is a fundamental part of all innovative firms, whatever may be the size, location, or specialisation. However, coordination is of particular concern to large companies. Indeed, in spite of the increasing importance of the “start-up” phenomenon with its extension of R & D activities across many actors and territories, today more than ever the big company is the main nerve centre from which innovative goods and services are developed and diffused. This is also true when dealing with innovations developed by (or with) young innovative firms or with other actors (universities, research centres, etc.). Within an historical perspective, particularly, one observes that after the concentration of production means, the definition and the division of production tasks and the constitution of in-house communities of work, the contemporary organisation and management of productive resources within large firms typically proceeds through coordinated, decentralised networks.

Innovations are the result of a dual process of decentralisation and appropriation. Controversies pertaining to the organisation of networked enterprises, then, focus as much on firm flexibility (in the creation or destruction of production capacities according to the economic context including the evolution of market context) as on the capacity of the firm to appropriate resources, knowledge and competencies, even without investing in production, per se. This explains the renewal of the entrepreneur’s function (notably “intra-preneurship,” spin-offs, and outsourcing, etc.), the invention of new organisation modes (alliances, partnerships, networks, clusters) and the governance of production and innovation activities.

This issue of the Journal of Innovation Economics will gather papers whose main analyses pertains to:

- New organisational schemes implemented by firms to boost their innovation capacity (with particular attention to the development and the management of cognitive, technical, productive, commercial and financial relations undergirding the firm’s innovation potential);
- New modes of governance of innovation ensuing from the implementation of new organisational schemes (with particular attention to the collaborative tools of coordination, control and evaluation);
- Relations between the firm and its scientific and technical environment which enrich its innovation potential (notably analyses of the role of the contract as a mechanism for sourcing “knowledge capital” acquired by the firm).

General presentation of the Journal of Innovation Economics on:

http://rrien.univ-littoral.fr/?page_id=10

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Editors of the Special Issue “Dynamics of innovation and new forms of organisation and governance of the firm”:

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Deadlines:

- Proposal of paper (One or two pages abstract): June, 1, 2008-03-08
- Acceptation of abstract: June 15, 2008
- Full paper: September 1, 2008
- Reviewing process and final decisions on the publication of papers: October 15, 2008

Redaction, Scientific and Editorial Committees:

The redaction and scientific and editorial committees of the *Journal of Innovation Economics* are the same as for the Journal *Innovations, Cahiers d'Economie de l'Innovation*:

http://rrien.univ-littoral.fr/?page_id=39&page=2

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