

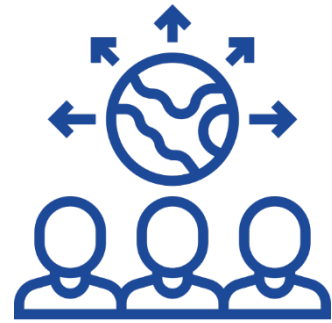
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# RESEARCHER'S GUIDE TO TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

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**Barcelona  
Supercomputing  
Center**  
Centro Nacional de Supercomputación



## **Protecting BSC's research and bringing it to society**

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The Barcelona Supercomputing Center is a powerhouse of innovation and growth. In order to leverage the cutting-edge research done here, BSC's Technology Transfer Office (TTO) helps to ensure that disclosed research results with transformative potential are adequately managed, protected and taken to the market.



# Technology Transfer Overview

## What is technology transfer?

Technology transfer is the mechanism by which the accumulated knowledge developed by a specific entity is transferred wholly or partially to another one to allow the receiver to benefit from such knowledge (UNIDO, 2004). At BSC this usually translates into the process through which the centre's new research results are protected with intellectual property mechanisms and licensed in order to be exploited. Exploitation of results often occurs through license agreements or through spin-off creation.

## The Technology Transfer Office (TTO)

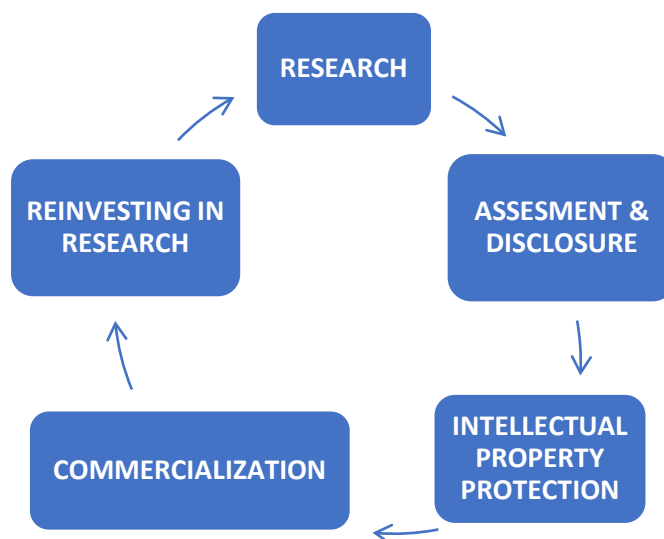
The Technology Transfer Office is responsible for coordinating BSC's IP Management and knowledge transfer tasks. This includes maintaining BSC's IP portfolio and ensuring updated record keeping, which facilitates cooperation with other research institutions and industry partners and encourages the disclosure and commercialisation of research results. BSC TTO also processes and reviews any IP clauses contained in collaboration agreements, with both academic and industry partners. Finally, the TTO also undertakes the task of advising researchers and processing all the documentation required for Spin-Off creation, transfer and license agreements.

How can BSC TTO help you?

- We support your applications for funding on tech transfer projects to enable further development and proof of concept of the research. Additionally, we coordinate with researchers for the execution of market studies, business plans and creation of spin-offs.
- We partner with you to build relationships with industry, seeking feedback on how to improve the commercial prospects of your project.
- We negotiate license deals and spin-off creation, protecting your interests and fostering new relationships and industrial links for the research group.
- We advise on patenting strategy to make sure it fits with your career ambitions and publication plans.
- We work with patent agents and manage payment for patent applications and legal advice.

# The cycle of innovation and Frequently Asked Questions

The typical steps in the technology transfer process reflect the steps in what is known as the cycle of innovation.



## 1. Research

### May I use research results developed by others in my research?

Yes – but you must be diligent about recording its use, as well as any licensing conditions attached to it. Research staff will be responsible for diligently managing the use of third party IP and ensuring that they have the rights to such use.

### What rights does an industry sponsor have to any results associated with my research?

When working with a corporate sponsor, be diligent about IP. If there is a research agreement, look for IP clauses that determine ownership and commercialization of any IP rights and discuss them with the TTO and your project manager.

## 2. Assessment & Disclosure

### Why is Disclosure important?

Disclosure (via Invention Disclosure or Software Disclosure Form) is needed to assess whether IP protection for the research result is worth pursuing. Additionally, it represents the first inventors' agreement on contribution percentages and allows TTO to analyse whether there is commercialization potential

### When should I disclose this research result to the TTO?

When you feel you have discovered something unique with possible commercial value or when the terms of your sponsored or project agreement require disclosure of inventions.

## 3. Intellectual Property Protection

### How do I choose the right type of IP protection?

There are many factors to consider. A few are: The nature of your research result, your career aspirations, your desire to publish the work, the commercial potential of your research result and/or finding a way to finance the formalities required to pursue IP protection. BSC TTO can help you to make the right choice

### **Is IP protection for my research result really important?**

The short answer is yes, particularly if you're looking to commercialize your invention. IP Protection provides a layer of safety for potential investors, who are looking for a guarantee that the research result will have an advantageous position in the market by securing a monopoly (patent) or a stream of revenue (license royalties).

## **4. Commercialization**

### **What can I do to gain insight into potential markets?**

The TTO can help connect you to consulting firms who can develop market studies taking into account the needs your research result or product is seeking to meet. Because details about your research result are often needed in order for the consulting firm to adequately perform their services, the TTO recommends that you sign an NDA before you begin sharing information.

### **What royalties are generated if the research result is successful?**

If licensed products or services derived from a research result are eventually developed and sold (at BSC, this is usually achieved through the creation of a Spin-Off) earned royalties can generate revenue. These payments are based on product or service sales and can vary considerably.

### **What is my role during commercialization?**

Your role can vary depending on your interest and involvement. You could create your own company (Spin-Off) and bring individuals together with different know-how in order to bring your invention to the market successfully. The other route is licensing your invention to an already established company. Your active involvement and enthusiasm can dramatically improve your chances of successful commercialization. Your own research and consulting relationships are helpful in identifying market needs or potential licensees.

## **5. Reinvesting in research**

### **How does BSC reinvest in research?**

BSC shares royalties it generates with BSC researchers, even after they leave the institution, and the BSC research department that generated the result. Relationships developed with academic and industry partners that are developed during the technology transfer process are also invaluable to the continued evolution of BSC, the center where your research result was developed.

***Still have questions? Email [techtransferoffice@bsc.es](mailto:techtransferoffice@bsc.es) and set up a meeting with us. We're here to help you!***