For us, progress means placing trust in people with a pioneering spirit

For 165 years, we’ve been providing answers to the challenges of our day – in the areas of healthcare, energy, industry and infrastructure. Few companies have more researchers and developers working to create innovative products and solutions worldwide. In a record number of research partnerships, our R&D employees are shaping technological progress more actively and openly than ever before.

Never completely satisfied, always looking for better solutions, taking personal responsibility for progress and blazing new trails in technology – this strategy has made us the powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering that we are today.

The latest figures confirm our power of innovation. Our R&D employees are now reporting more than twice as many inventions per day as in 2001. In fiscal 2012, we filed 8,900 invention reports, some 5% more than a year earlier. During the same period, we increased the number of our patent first filings by about 7% to 4,600, making us once again a leader in the worldwide patent statistics and No. 1 in Europe.

Our innovations impact many areas of life – transportation, industry and healthcare, for instance. Today, people all around the world rely on trains, metros and light-rail systems from Siemens to provide them with safe, eco-friendly transport to and from their homes and places of work. In industry, our product lifecycle management (PLM) software is making it possible to develop, simulate and test products in the virtual world and to model entire production processes before a single screw is manufactured in the real world. In hospitals, our innovative liver fibrosis test is enabling doctors to examine patients suffering from chronic liver disease without having to conduct time-consuming, potentially dangerous biopsies. And last but not least, innovations from Siemens are helping shape the future of energy.

Corporate Technology (CT), our central research department, has overall responsibility for our strategic and cross-unit research activities. More than 7,000 CT experts cooperate across team and national boundaries to ensure that we maintain our technology leadership. Products with major profit potential on the world’s innovation-driven growth markets are developed and then incorporated into our day-to-day business operations. Our key research focuses today include electric mobility, sustainable urban development and next-generation biotechnology.

In fiscal 2012, we invested some €4.2 billion in research and development.

We’ve introduced a policy of open innovation. In more than 1,000 research partnerships, we’re facilitating targeted information exchange and cooperation with leading international universities and research institutes worldwide.

Technology and innovation – for us, that means securing our technological basis, helping shape the future with innovative solutions and strengthening our integrated technology company. The pioneering spirit of our employees is making us strong – every day and all around the world.
Patent applications: In 2011, we were No.1 in patent applications at the European Patent Office and No. 3 at the German Patent and Trade Mark Office – where we were among the most active patent applicants. According to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) statistics, as published by the Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO), we were No. 10 in the U.S. in the number of patents granted.

R&D employees: In fiscal 2012, Siemens had roughly 29,500 R&D employees working at some 188 locations in more than 30 countries worldwide to create and develop new solutions in the areas of energy, industry, infrastructure and healthcare.

Inventions and patents: In fiscal 2012, Siemens reported around 8,900 inventions and submitted about 4,600 patent first filings – an average of some 40 inventions and roughly 21 patents on each of the 220 workdays in the year. These inventions and patents were generated by all our Sectors as well as Corporate Technology, our central research department.

Siemens’ Environmental Portfolio: In fiscal 2012, our Environmental Portfolio, which features a large number of innovations, generated revenue of €33.2 billion and enabled our customers to cut their CO₂ emissions by 332 million tons – an amount equal to about 41% of the CO₂ emissions generated in Germany in 2010.