

Free Innovation

Free Innovation

Eric von Hippel

The MIT Press
Cambridge, Massachusetts
London, England

© 2017 Eric von Hippel

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form by any electronic or mechanical means (including photocopying, recording, or information storage and retrieval) without permission in writing from the publisher.

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0>.

A hardcover edition of this text is available from The MIT Press. Copies may be ordered online at <http://mitpress.mit.edu>.

Set in Stone Sans and Stone Serif by Toppan Best-set Premedia Limited. Printed and bound in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: von Hippel, Eric.

Title: Free innovation / Eric von Hippel.

Description: Cambridge, MA : MIT Press, 2016. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2016009390 | ISBN 9780262035217 (hardcover : alk. paper)

Subjects: LCSH: Technological innovations--Economic aspects. | Inventors. | Innovations.

Classification: LCC HC79.T4 H557 1988 | DDC 338/.064--dc23 LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2016009390>

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Dedicated to the free and user innovation research community.

Contents

Acknowledgments ix

1		Overview of Free Innovation	1
2		Evidence for Free Innovation	19
3		Viability Zones for Free Innovation	37
4		Pioneering by Free Innovators	53
5		Diffusion Shortfall in Free Innovation	65
6		Division of Labor between Free Innovators and Producers	77
7		Tightening the Loop between Free Innovators and Producers	89
8		The Broad Scope of Free Innovation	101
9		Personality Traits of Successful Free Innovators	115
10		Preserving Free Innovators' Legal Rights	127
11		Next Steps for Free Innovation Research and Practice	141

Appendix 1 Household Sector Innovation Questionnaire 155

Appendix 2 Modeling Free Innovation's Impacts on Markets and Welfare 163

References 189

Index 215

This is a section of [doi:10.7551/mitpress/9382.001.0001](https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/9382.001.0001)

Free Innovation

By: Eric von Hippel

Citation:

Free Innovation

By: Eric von Hippel

DOI: 10.7551/mitpress/9382.001.0001

ISBN (electronic): 9780262335461

Publisher: The MIT Press

Published: 2016



The MIT Press

© 2017 Eric von Hippel

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form by any electronic or mechanical means (including photocopying, recording, or information storage and retrieval) without permission in writing from the publisher.

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0>.

A hardcover edition of this text is available from The MIT Press. Copies may be ordered online at <http://mitpress.mit.edu>.

Set in Stone Sans and Stone Serif by Toppan Best-set Premedia Limited. Printed and bound in the United States of America.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: von Hippel, Eric.

Title: Free innovation / Eric von Hippel.

Description: Cambridge, MA : MIT Press, 2016. | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2016009390 | ISBN 9780262035217 (hardcover : alk. paper)

Subjects: LCSH: Technological innovations--Economic aspects. | Inventors. | Innovations.

Classification: LCC HC79.T4 H557 1988 | DDC 338/.064--dc23 LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2016009390>

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1