

FUTURE INNOVATIONS
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Summary

Collaboration between universities and companies in the Nordic countries

The Nordic countries – member countries of LES Scandinavia - are modern and active in the fields of IPR, innovations and technology. The collaboration between universities and companies in the Nordic countries is at the top in the European Union. Many innovations have reached global success, often based on licensing.

This is one result of active universities, companies, financiers and other parties in the field of innovations and their good private - public cooperation. The management of innovation activities starts from innovation and technology policies in public organizations, universities and in companies. The role of service innovations is growing, where also the strong development in information technology has resulted to advanced solutions.

The management of innovation activities, licensing and other commercialization of IPR and inventions as part of business are the biggest challenges. The large companies have stronger financial and human resources but often university researchers and SME-companies need innovation management skills and resources. Additionally, in the teams or in networking collaboration, there may be first different goals or views of the responsibilities and role of innovations.

The key points in the Nordic experiences and in the management of innovation activities between universities and companies to successful business include following:

- Successful innovations are often based on team work, different skills, public-private collaboration and networking, but for success they need strong management
- Need and number of consumer friendly service innovations are growing
- Nordic experiences show good results in innovation management, collaboration, licensing and business.