

## **Appendix B:** the Mannheim Innovation Panel in the service sector

The Centre for European Economic Research (Zentrum für Europäische Wirtschaftsforschung, ZEW) has been conducting surveys on innovative activity in the German service sector. The MIP-S is representative for the German service sector and carried out in collaboration with infas, Institute for Applied Social Studies. The project is based upon methodological and technical expertise gathered in a similar survey in manufacturing and mining (MIP), which has been carried out by the ZEW since 1993. Approximately 2,200 service sector firms take part in the survey annually. The firms belong to the sectors trade and transport (distributive services), banking and insurance as well as ‘business related services’ — such as software and telecommunication services, technical consulting and management consulting. The data is constructed as a panel data set, each firms are repeatedly asked to fill out the questionnaire. Every second year, newly founded firms are added to the survey population to ensure representativeness. Every even year, a short questionnaire on core variables of innovation behavior (innovation activity, innovation expenditure and innovation success) is mailed to the firms in the sample. Every odd year, the questionnaire is enhanced by questions on special topics of innovative behavior (e.g. obstacles to innovation, innovation co-operations, targets and effects of innovation) and aspects of current policy relevance (e.g. shortage of skilled personnel).

In 1997 and 2001, the survey constituted the German contribution to the community innovation surveys (CIS) of the European Commission.

The data is available in an anonymized version (scientific use file) to external users for non-commercial basic research. Data requests may be sent the ZEW (info@zew.de).

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