

Innovation without R&D: heterogeneous innovation patterns of non-R&D-performing firms in the German manufacturing industry

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Abstrak

[Firms without research and development (R&D) have frequently been neglected by mainstream innovation research. The small number of existing studies provides only fragmented and sometimes even contradictory findings, because they assume that non-R&D-performing firms show a “typical”, homogeneous innovation pattern. Oliver Som challenges this assumption. Based on current firm-level data of the German industry, he provides pioneer quantitative evidence of five heterogeneous innovation patterns of non-R&D-performers. The findings impressively underline the need for future innovation research, management and policy to extend their view on innovation beyond the scope of R&D., Firms without research and development (R&D) have frequently been neglected by mainstream innovation research. The small number of existing studies provides only fragmented and sometimes even contradictory findings, because they assume that non-R&D-performing firms show a “typical”, homogeneous innovation pattern. Oliver Som challenges this assumption. Based on current firm-level data of the German industry, he provides pioneer quantitative evidence of five heterogeneous innovation patterns of non-R&D-performers. The findings impressively underline the need for future innovation research, management and policy to extend their view on innovation beyond the scope of R&D.]