

Cover Letter

BRDI-1-CL

FROM THE DIRECTOR
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

The U.S. Census Bureau is conducting the 2008 Business R&D and Innovation Survey (BRDIS). It replaces the Survey of Industrial Research and Development (report form RD-1), which has been discontinued. Please complete the enclosed BRDIS report form number BRDI-1 and return it within 60 days. **Federal law (Title 13, Sections 182 and 225) requires your response.** If you do not have book figures for any item, you may provide carefully prepared estimates.

You have the option of completing the BRDIS via the Internet. The website, along with a unique user ID and password for your company, can be found on the front of the report form. The website also provides more information about the survey and how you can access summary data from previous surveys, and has answers to frequently asked questions. Personal assistance is also available by contacting us at (800) 851-2014 (select option 0) between the hours of 8:00 am 5:00 pm (EST) Monday through Friday.

The same law that requires your response to the BRDIS also **requires us to keep your report confidential.** Only persons sworn to protect Title 13 information may see your data, and they face stiff penalties (up to 5 years in prison and \$250,000 fine) for any unauthorized disclosure of your confidential information. Copies of your responses that are retained in your files are immune from legal process.

The information developed from the survey serve a number of useful purposes. For example, the survey provides information that can be used to study the effectiveness of tax credits. The data can also assist public officials in allocating research funding by state, which may benefit companies like yours.

This survey is a joint project between the U.S. Census Bureau and the National Science Foundation (NSF). The enclosed letter from the Director of the NSF encourages your response to the survey.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Steve H. Murdock

Enclosure