

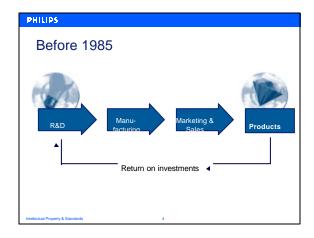
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Patent Boom

What is the reason for this explosion in patents?

- More innovation?
- Changes in patent laws?
- Convergence of technologies?
 Patents have become a strategic weapon in competition

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Global changes in the last 20 years

- Globalization in marketing and manufacturing:
 - More companies
 - More competition, lower margins
 - Shorter product life cycles
 - Increased price erosion
 - Cost of R&D increases
- Return on your R&D investment more difficult

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Global changes in the last 20 years

- · Originally manufacturing created competitive edge
 - mass production
 - miniaturization
- Now manufacturing has become a commodity
 - outsourcing
 - low wage countries
- Competitive edge of companies shifts from production-based to knowledge-based

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