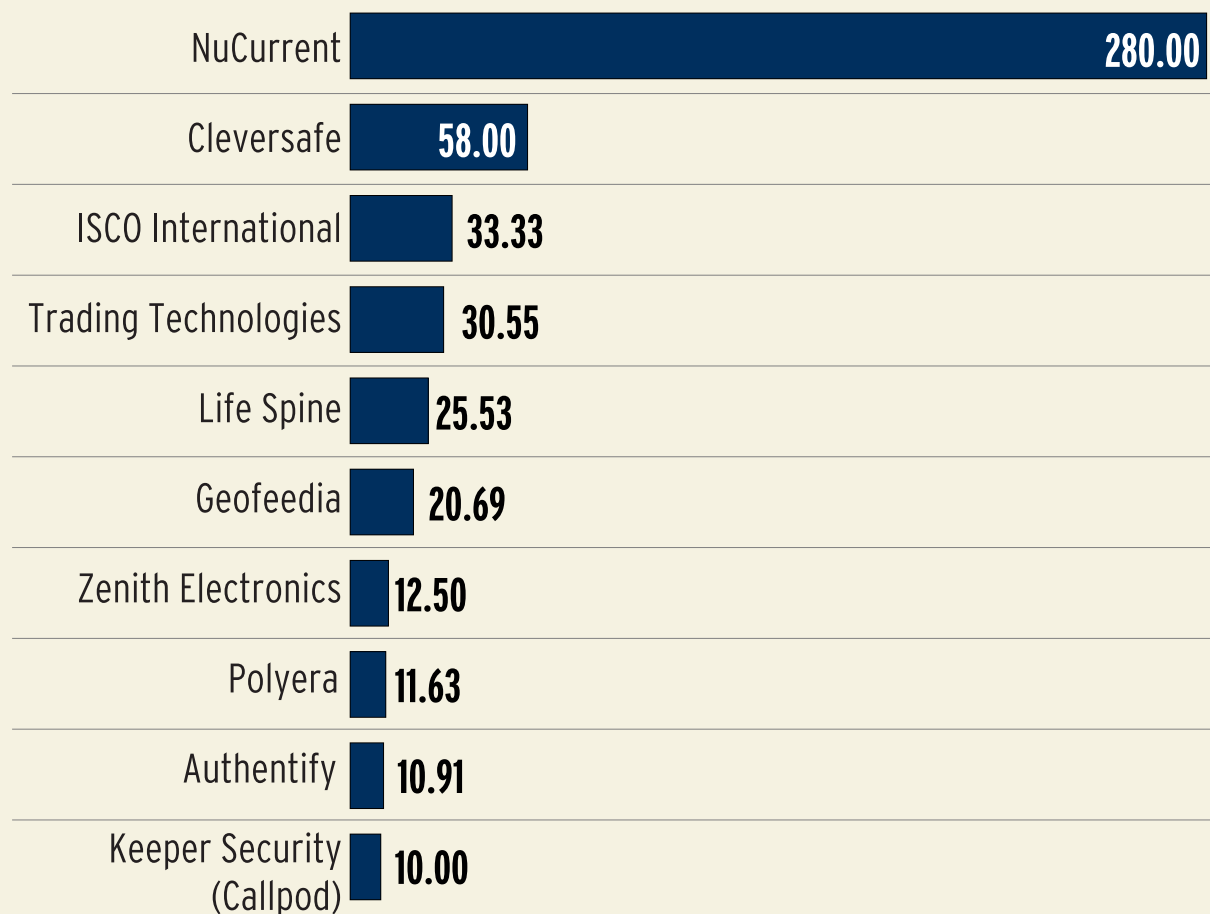


Eureka! The 2015 Innovation Index

By John Pletz March 28, 2015

Here are Chicago's most proficient producers of patents, based on headcount. You can read the stories of some of these dynamos, such as [storage software maker Cleversafe](#) and [wireless technology producer NuCurrent](#), food science innovator [PureCircle](#) and retail display innovator [RTC](#). When you're finished, check out our [database](#) of area companies with the most and most valuable patents last year.

MOST PATENTS PER 100 EMPLOYEES



PATENTS PER CAPITA, THE FULL LIST

Take a look at our database of Chicago-area companies with at least three patents awarded in 2014 that provided Crain's with their headcount data.

Company	Patents/100	Patent count
NuCurrent	280	14
Cleversafe	58	116
ISCO International	33.33	15
Trading Technologies	30.55	84
Life Spine	25.53	12
Geofeedia	20.69	6
Zenith Electronics	12.5	4
Polyera	11.63	5
Authenticate	10.91	6
Keeper Security (Callpod)	10	4
Narrative Science	9.23	6
Radio Flyer	8.93	5
Elevance Renewable Sciences	8.11	12
Sportvision	6.15	4
Ignite USA	5.26	4
Gas Technology Institute	4.58	12
Midtronics	3.76	7
Kolcraft Enterprises	2.4	6
Fellowes	2.08	12
Mattersight	2	4
Methode Electronics	1.94	14
Cummins Allison	1.9	19
Cabot Microelectronics	1.9	20
CME Group	1.89	43
Molex	1.67	67
University of Chicago/Argonne	1.44	39
Videojet Technologies	1.38	12
Nalco (Ecolab)	1.37	46
Motorola Solutions	1.29	194
Flexible Steel Lacing	1.2	6
Flexera Software	1.14	7
MacNeil IP	1	10

Landauer	1	6
Chicago Board Options Exchange	0.96	5
Berlin Packaging	0.89	5
RTC	0.89	8
Caterpillar	0.77	392
Deere	0.75	217
Boeing	0.59	902
Trustwave	0.58	7
Baxter	0.54	114
Zebra Technologies	0.54	21
PureCircle	0.5	5
AbbVie	0.47	123
Brunswick	0.4	49
Stepan	0.4	8
USG	0.38	34
University of Illinois System	0.35	103
Tenneco	0.32	26
Medline	0.21	18
Rexam Beverage Can	0.2	4
Federal Signal	0.19	5
Dover	0.15	29
Acco Brands	0.13	7
Hospira	0.12	23
Navistar	0.11	17
Archer Daniels Midland	0.11	18
Abbott	0.1	77
Groupon (The Point)	0.1	4
Telephone & Data Systems	0.09	5
Woodward MPC	0.08	4
Lifeline Scientific	0.08	6
Rush University Medical Center	0.08	6
Allstate	0.06	24

W.W. Grainger	0.03	5
R.R. Donnelley	0.03	19
Fortune Brands	0.03	5
Ecolab USA	0.03	5
Dow Chemical	0.02	6
Allegiance	0.02	5
Walgreen	0.01	17

Sources: Ocean Tomo, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Crain's reporting