

## PRESS RELEASE

# RTOs' Impact Recognised: 3 EARTO Members in Top 15 Global Innovators - Government

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EARTO would like to congratulate its members [CEA](#), [Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft](#) and [National Research Council Canada](#), recognised among the world's 15 most innovative Research Institutions in Thomson Reuters' newly published ranking [Global Innovators - Government](#).

Such Reuters' ranking identifies and ranks the publicly funded institutions doing the most to advance science and technology. The ranking uses proprietary data and analysis tools to examine patents and research papers from the past eight years to find the publically-funded organisations most likely to change the world.

Three Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs) members of EARTO have been recognised as world's most innovative research institutions, two of which are topping the list:

- **CEA - Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission** from France (1<sup>st</sup> on the list)
- **Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft** from Germany (2<sup>nd</sup> on the list)
- **National Research Council** from Canada (14<sup>th</sup> on the list)

*"RTOs make a major contribution to a competitive economy and high quality of life, delivering innovations supporting our industries and that have a strong value for society. Once again, RTOs are recognised as key players in today's global research and innovation system, yet another demonstration of the global impact they deliver thanks to leveraging their national grant funding with industrial-led contract research."* said Muriel Attané, EARTO Secretary General.

Regarding the [methodology](#), the Thomson Reuters Top 25 Global Innovators - Government analyses patent and citation data across ten criteria. Scores for each of these areas are combined in a composite score which determines the ranking of the organisation according to innovative capacity and achievement. The ten criteria are:

- **Patent volume:** number of basic patents (patent families) filed by the organisation.
- **Patent success:** ratio of patent applications to patent grants over the assessed timeframe.
- **Global reach:** percentage of patents for which coverage was sought with the U.S., European and Japanese patent offices.
- **Patent Citation:** total number of times a patent has been cited by other patents.
- **Patent Citation Impact:** indication of how much impact a patent has had (Patents Citation Index)
- **Percent of Patents Cited:** proportion of patents that have been cited by other patents one or more times (Patents Citation Index).
- **Patent to Article Citation Impact:** average number of times a journal article has been cited by patents.
- **Industry Article Citation Impact:** article-to-article citations from industry (influence and impact on commercial research).
- **Percent of Industry Collaborative Articles:** percentage of all articles of an organisation that contain one or more co-authors from a commercial entity.
- **Total Web of Science Papers:** total number of journal articles (discovery reports and reviews) published by an organisation.

Congratulations to our members for their recognition as key world innovators.



**THOMSON  
REUTERS**

## Notes to Editors

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**Research and Technology Organisations (RTOs)** have a distinct mission and a key role in the knowledge and innovation economy: they produce, integrate and transfer science and technology to help resolve the grand challenges of society and support Europe's industrial competitiveness. RTOs occupy nodal positions within innovation eco-systems, bringing together key players across the whole innovation chain, from fundamental to technological research, from product and process development to prototyping and demonstration, and on to full-scale implementation in the public and private sectors.

**EARTO** is the European trade association of the research and technology organisations (RTOs), a non-profit organisation founded in 1999. EARTO groups over 350 RTOs, with a combined staff of 150,000, an annual turnover of €23 billion, special equipment and facilities to a value of many € billions and more than 100,000 customers from the public and private sectors annually. ([EARTO Corporate Video](#))

**The CEA - Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission** - is a French government-funded research and technology organisation and a prominent player in the European Research Area. The CEA is active in four main areas: low-carbon energies, defence & security, information technologies and health technologies. In each of these fields, the CEA maintains a cross-disciplinary culture of engineers and researchers, building on the synergies between fundamental and technological research.

**The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft** is the leading organisation for applied research in Europe. Its research activities are conducted by 67 Fraunhofer Institutes and research units in over 40 different locations throughout Germany. The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft employs a staff of around 23,000, who work with an annual research budget totalling 2 billion euros. About 70 percent of this sum is generated through contract research on behalf of industry and publicly funded research projects. Branches in the Americas and Asia serve to promote international cooperation.

**National Research Council Canada** is the Government of Canada's premier research and technology organisation (RTO). It provides innovation support, strategic research, and scientific and technical services, and offers access to leading technology equipment, research and training programs. NRC works closely with industry, providing them with the infrastructure, the personnel, the equipment, the experience and the networking capabilities they need, along with a lower-risk way to develop innovative ideas, reduce start-up costs, and shorten time to market.