THERE IS NO PRIZE FOR SECOND PLACE

INNOVATION RACE

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INNOVATION RACE explores the imminent threat of China exploiting weaknesses in US patent protection and presents solutions for restoring our dominance in innovation, technology, and invention.

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

For the past century, America has been the world leader in ideas, invention, and innovation. Developing new technologies to solve complex issues as well as tools to make our lives more comfortable and efficient is the realization of the American dream for many. But our grip on ‘world leader’ status is loosening as China has emerged as a powerful political and industrial force.

Today, China is threatening American innovation by exploiting weaknesses in US patent protection, and big tech is letting them get away with it. Innovation Race explores these critical issues impacting all Americans, and proposes solutions for how we can restore US dominance in invention, technology and innovation.

LONG SYNOPSIS

For hundreds of years, the U.S. Patent System protected the property rights of inventors, and allowed them to seek out investment money, start businesses, and reap the tremendous financial rewards of inventing something new and beneficial. This is the heart of the American Dream.

The world leader in ideas, invention, and innovation has always been America and its patent system was the gold standard since its development. Anyone could come up with an idea and develop new technologies that solve complex issues or create tools to simply make life more comfortable and efficient.

In 2011, that began to change. Big Tech giants lobbied Congress to create a new bureaucratic kangaroo court and after a series of events, a bill was passed that allowed big corporations to crush small inventors, overwhelm them with legal fees, revoke their patents, and steal their intellectual property.
Today, America’s world leader status is loosening. American corporations allowed China to manufacture its inventions, steal its technology secrets, and, in a few short decades, rise to become the world’s second largest superpower, both in politics and innovation. The problem facing America now is that China’s not satisfied with being second…

INNOVATION RACE shares how China threatens American innovation by exploiting weaknesses in U.S. patent protection. The feature-length documentary explores these critical issues that will impact all Americans and proposes solutions for how the US can restore dominance in the areas of invention, technology, and innovation.

Several key experts are featured in the film and include Senator Chris Coons (Dem. Del), Chair of the Senate Subcommittee on Intellectual Property. He states that America got to be the world’s #1 economy by always innovating the technologies of the future. Congressman Thomas Massie (Rep. KY), an MIT-educated inventor, warns of what happens when the Patent System breaks down. When someone’s intellectual property rights are stolen, inventors have no incentive to work through the “1% inspiration and 99% perspiration” of creating, perfecting, and bringing to market their brilliant new inventions.

Venture capitalist, Gary Lauder, shares how investors are wary to invest in American businesses that may have their patents stolen. National security experts Brig. Gen. Robert Spalding (USAF, Ret) and Col. John Mills (Army, Ret) share the very present danger facing our nation if China controls technology. Finally, China expert, Gordon Chang, warns that stakes could not be higher. China is determined to be the world leader in 5G, which will eventually control all our devices through the “Internet of Things.” Chang provides a chilling scenario of how, with the flick of a switch, China could one day turn off our electrical grid, remotely drive your car off a cliff or turn off your pacemaker.

A myriad of inventors, judges, generals, law professors, and policy experts inform viewers that whoever controls the world’s technology, controls the world’s economy and whoever controls the world’s economy, controls the world itself, and whoever controls the world itself, can control you. In the INNOVATION RACE, there is no prize for second place.

**Patents in the United States Constitution**

Article I, Section 8, Clause 8 of the US Constitution:
[The Congress shall have Power . . . ] To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries.

**HOW CAN WE HELP?**

Contact the elected officials in your district and ask them to support HR5874: the Restoring America’s Leadership in Innovation Act.
Senator Chris Coons

An American lawyer and politician serving as the junior United States senator from Delaware since 2010. A member of the Democratic Party, Senator Chris Coons has earned a reputation as a principled progressive and pragmatic lawmaker, focused on some of the most important issues confronting Delaware and the nation. Serving on the Appropriations, Judiciary, Foreign Relations, Small Business & Entrepreneurship, and Ethics committees, Chris is uniquely positioned to help nurture American innovation and make the United States more competitive in the global market.

Rep. Thomas Massie

U.S. Representative Thomas Massie entered Congress in November 2012 after serving as Lewis County Judge Executive. He represents Kentucky’s 4th Congressional District which stretches across Northern Kentucky and 280 miles of the Ohio River. A graduate of MIT, Massie is also an inventor with over 2 dozen patents.

Brig. Gen. Robert Spalding (USA, Ret.)

Rob Spalding is the founder and CEO of SEMPRE, the only true technology company created to protect and secure our most critical resource: data. Rob is former White House National Security Council senior director for strategic planning, serving in senior positions of strategy and diplomacy within the Defense and State Departments for more than 26 years. His innovation while serving in the White House has led to a reset in national security and public policy regarding telecommunications in the US as well as globally. Rob is the author of two books, Stealth War: How China took over while America’s elites slept (2019) and War Without Rules: China’s Playbook for Global Domination (2022).

Colonel (USAR, Ret) John Mills

John Mills is a national security professional with service in five eras: Cold War, Peace Dividend, War on Terror, World in Chaos, and now – The Great Power Competition. He is the former Director of Cybersecurity Policy, Strategy, and International Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. John served time with the National Security Council, and is a senior fellow at the Center for Security Policy, and an adjunct assistant professor for the Cybersecurity Law and Policy Program at the University of Maryland, Global Campus.
Judge Paul Michel

Judge Michel served for more than 22 years on the Federal Circuit. He judged several thousand appeals and authored more than 800 opinions, one third concerning intellectual property law. Intellectual Asset Management Magazine inducted him into its Hall of Fame, and he was designated one of the 50 most influential leaders in intellectual property law in the world. Judge Michel received the Jefferson Medal, the Eli Whitney Award, and the Katz–Kiley Prize, as well as Honorary Doctor of Law degrees from the Catholic University of America and the John Marshall Law School. He retired from a lifetime appointment to be free to speak out on the national need for better patent policy and protection of intellectual property and the vital, unmet resource needs of the courts, the PTO, the International Trade Commission, and other IP-related agencies.

Laura Peter

The Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). She is the principal advisor to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, and responsible for all agency operations. This includes oversight for the four USPTO Regional Offices, managing 13,000 employees, and executing the policies, priorities and programs for an annual budget of $3.5 billion.

Scott Keiff

The Fred C. Stevenson Research Professor at GW Law School, he specializes in international trade; intellectual property; antitrust; finance and securities regulation; bankruptcy; biotechnology and medicine; governance and compliance; cyber; privacy; and security. Formerly a Commissioner of the U.S. International Trade Commission, he was nominated by President Obama and confirmed unanimously by the Senate. He also has served as an advisor to high-level government offices during the Bush, Obama, and Trump Presidential Administrations on national security and economics.

Gordon Chang

Columnist, author, and lawyer. Chang is the author of The Great U.S.–China Tech War, Losing South Korea, and Nuclear Showdown: North Korea Takes On The World. After graduating from Cornell Law School, Chang lived in Mainland China and Hong Kong for nearly 2 decades, working as a Partner and Counsel at the US international law firms Baker & McKenzie and Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. Chang has given briefings at the National Intelligence Council, the CIA, the US State Department, and the US Department of Defense. He has also testified before the US House Committee on Foreign Affairs. He has appeared as a frequent guest on nearly every TV News Network, as well as The Daily Show with Jon Stewart.
Adam Mossoff
Professor of Law at Antonin Scalia Law School, George Mason University. Adam teaches a wide range of courses at the law school, including property, patent law, trade secrets, trademark law, remedies, and internet law. His research primarily focuses on the theoretical justification for and historical protection of patents and other intellectual property rights as private property rights.

Jim Edwards
Dr. James Edwards advises companies, trade associations, and conservative organizations on patent policy and is Co-Director of the Inventor’s Project. He participates in the Medical Device Manufacturers Association’s Patent Working Group, and is also the Executive Director of Conservatives for Property Rights. Edwards mentors start-ups and early-stage companies, largely in the med tech space, and is involved in several IP-centric projects. Edwards served as Legislative Director to Rep. Ed Bryant, R-Tenn., then a member of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee, and handled IP legislative matters. Edwards also worked on the staffs of Rep. John Duncan, R-Tenn., the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, and Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C. In addition, he was an association executive at the Healthcare Leadership Council. Edwards earned a Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee, and bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of Georgia.

Gary Lauder
An early adopter in the field of venture capital, Gary Lauder has been a venture capitalist since 1985, investing in over 125 private companies. He is managing director of Lauder Partners LLC, a Silicon Valley-based venture capital firm.

Randy Landreau
Landreau is the President of US Inventor, an organization working to restore the American Patent System. Randy is also an inventor and President of Complete Product Development, a company that provides CAD design, prototyping, 3D printing, silicone molding, and educational services to inventors and companies.
Josh Malone

Josh Malone quit his corporate job in 2006 to take his shot at the Inventor’s Dream. Eight years later, savings depleted and kids’ college unfunded, he took one last swing before trudging back to the corporate world. And hit a homerun with Bunch O Balloons. His solution to the 63 year old problem of filling and sealing water balloons instantly became the number one selling summer toy. His invention was stolen by a notorious infringer who convinced the USPTO to revoke his patent under a controversial procedure of the 2011 America Invents Act. A brutal and costly legal battle combined with an anti-corruption crusade ultimately resulted in a $31 million award and restoration of his patent rights. He is now a full time volunteer with the inventor advocacy organization, US Inventor.

Steve Pearlman

Entrepreneur and inventor of Internet, entertainment, multimedia, consumer electronics and communications technologies and services. He is best known for the development of QuickTime, WebTV, OnLive, pCell and Mova Contour facial capture technologies. In addition to founding startup companies, Perlman was a Microsoft division president and a principal scientist at Apple Computer.

Jonathan Becher

Jonathan Becher is president of Sharks Sports & Entertainment, the parent organization for the NHL’s San Jose Sharks, the AHL’s San Jose Barracuda, three Sharks ice facilities, and the non-profit Sharks Foundation. Becher is responsible for the organization’s overall strategy with a particular focus on the end-to-end customer experience. Prior to joining Sharks Sports & Entertainment, Becher spent a decade at SAP in a variety of senior roles, including CMO and CDO. A three-time technology company CEO, Brecher is on the Board of Directors of multiple organizations and is a frequent speaker at events and a published author on a variety of topics. Becher holds a master’s degree in computer science from Duke University and a bachelor’s degree in computer engineering from the University of Virginia.

Adrian Pelkus

Adrian is an inventor with 30+ years experience developing over 300 different electronic products and high technology processes that have helped startup several technology companies. Mr. Pelkus is named inventor on eighteen issued U.S. Patents including the “Baby Think it Over” infant simulator, a “Thin Film Flexible Solar Cell”, the FDA cleared “Jaw Elevation Device” and O2MislyTM Wound Treatment System. In 2005 Mr. Pelkus reorganized the San Diego Inventors Forum, now a 501(c)(3) to help startup entrepreneurs. Mr. Pelkus also served on the Board of Directors of both United Inventors Association of America (UIA) and US Inventor. In 2020 Adrian Pelkus established the 501c3 South Carolina Inventors Forum to assist innovators and inventors and all creative folks with protecting, developing and commercializing their intellectual property through motivation, education, mentoring, and a network of local service providers and national networking opportunities.
Donald Merino

Donald is the founder of Asia Patent Group, a licensing and advisory business. His focus is working with individual inventors, companies and universities to help them develop their IP strategies, inventions and the potential paths towards monetization. In the past four years Dr. Merino has led significant consulting projects for US and foreign companies, including as advisor to the CEOs of Via Licensing and HEVC Advance (both worldwide leaders in technology pool licensing), one of China’s largest handset manufacturer, one of China’s largest Internet companies, and numerous smaller companies. During this time Dr. Merino completed over 50 licensing deals with Chinese and Taiwanese companies, and developed relationships with all of the major handset manufacturers, communication equipment manufacturers and television companies in China and Taiwan.

Decklan Ganley

Decklan is an English-born Irish entrepreneur, businessman, and political activist. He was the founder and leader of the Irish branch of the Libertas Party. Primarily a telecommunications entrepreneur, Ganley has built businesses across the European Union, Russia and latterly, the United States. Notably, he co-founded Broadnet, a company which rolled out internet and telecoms services across the European Union in the late 1990s. In 1999, after the award of 42 German licenses to Broadnet, the Irish Independent valued Broadnet at $875m. Ganley later sold his shares to Comcast for an undisclosed sum.

Jenny Beth Martin

Jenny Beth is the co-founder and President of Tea Party Patriots, Chairman of Tea Party Patriots Citizens Fund, and a columnist for The Washington Times. Under her leadership, Tea Party Patriots has grown to be the largest and most effective national umbrella group within the Tea Party Movement. Jenny Beth and TPP now use their network to reach millions of Americans every week with education and updates about fiscal responsibility, free market principles, and constitutionally limited government. Time Magazine named Martin as one of the top 100 most influential people in the world in its 2010 issue. Her first book, “Tea Party Patriots: The Second American Revolution” was published in 2012.
Luke Livingston
Director Luke Livingston is the founder of Ground Floor Video, an Atlanta-based video production company. Livingston and his team are the force behind such films as Runaway Slave, a film that follows one-time NAACP Chapter President and now black conservative pastor C.L. Bryant; Tea Party: The Documentary a film is featured in the Library of Congress which documents the rise of the modern tea party movement; The Border States of America with Nick Searcy; The Determinators on the healthcare system and Obamacare; and Invalidated: The Shredding of the US Patent System, a film that was the precursor to Innovation Race.

Jo Anne Livingston
Jo Anne Livingston has spent more than 3 decades as an industry leader in advertising, marketing, and video production. As co-founder of Ground Floor Video, her career has included: producing three full length documentaries, including Invalidated and Runaway Slave, scriptwriting on television commercials and sales/marketing videos; producing a variety of sales/marketing videos, television commercials, and training videos; and serving as casting director on numerous projects. Clients include The Home Depot, Bosch Power Tools, Coca-Cola, Chic-fil-A, Hunter Douglas, Cox Media, and many others. Jo Anne and her husband and business partner Luke live just outside Atlanta, and spend as much as possible spoiling their English Cream Golden Retriever, Riley.

KEY LINKS

Website: https://www.innovationracemovie.com/index
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/InnovationRaceMovie/
Downloadable artwork and headshots: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o2hhr275efdzl2d/AACrl3vPkfcE3MYmRLIRlzlza?dl=0
High Res key art: https://www.dropbox.com/s/qjzzldl03hezjdd/InnovationRace_24x36_Poster.pdf?dl=0

PULL QUOTES

“Patents haven’t just played an important role in growing our economy, they played a key role in the technologies that have made our country safe.” - Adam Mossoff

“Clearly this is a race we cannot afford to lose, because we’re not going to have a country if we lose.” - Gordon Chang

“Our patent system used to be very strong and reliable. That is no longer the case.” - Gary Lauder

“Patents today are worth about half what they were a decade ago.” - Judge Paul Michel

“...and they (China) have gone, ‘wait a second. What if we don’t just steal the technology, what if we steal the system that America has operated successfully and we implement it in China. What if we out America, America?’” - Declan Ganley
Trailer for Upcoming Feature-Length Documentary

INNOVATION RACE
Launches Today

Anthem Film Festival Honors Film with “Excellence in Filmmaking” Award

Atlanta, GA - The first trailer for the compelling new documentary feature INNOVATION RACE launched today. INNOVATION RACE boldly explores the imminent threat of China exploiting weaknesses in U.S. patent protection and presents solutions for restoring our dominance in innovation, technology, and invention.

View the trailer here:

Created by Groundfloor Video, the filmmaking team of Luke and Jo Anne Livingston (INVALIDATED), and Executive Produced by Jenny Beth Martin and Tea Party Patriots Action, INNOVATION RACE shares a timely, dire warning of China’s commitment to using the weaknesses in our patent systems against us. While the film feels like the plot to a blockbuster political thriller, INNOVATION RACE exposes why this issue matters to all Americans, and is a reminder that there is no prize for second place.

Protection of inventions and intellectual property is guaranteed in Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution. Yet these safeguards were weakened in 2011 after the America Invents Act passed that opened up loopholes that have been exploited by not only China, but also Big Tech. There is an immediate need to amend this piece of legislation, or our country faces long-term consequences in the national security arena, on the economic front, and even in a terrifying loss of freedoms.

INNOVATION RACE features a who’s who of leadership in all phases of technology, innovation, national security, business leadership, intellectual property and patent law, and government, including:

Senator Chris Coons – Democrat, representing Delaware, serving on Foreign Relations, Small Business & Entrepreneurship, and Ethics Committees.
Congressman and Inventor Thomas Massie – Republican, Representing KY’s 4th district.
Judge Paul Michel – Retired after 22 years of a lifetime appointment as Judge on the Federal Circuit to freely speak out about better patent policy and protection of intellectual property.
Laura Peter – Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the US Patent and Trademark Office.
Livingston shares, “This is a film for anyone who has ever said, ‘Hey, I’ve got an idea!’ It’s for anyone who believes in the American Dream. Anyone who is championing a child in STEM education. Anyone who gets inspired by the brilliant ideas showcased weekly on Shark Tank. But the bigger picture is, if we don’t fix these issues in our patent system, the long-term ramifications will impact the daily lives of all Americans.”

Martin continues, “Our founding fathers were very direct in their desire to both inspire and protect the innovations and ideas of American citizens. We felt compelled to share the stories of not only how inventors are being impacted by these issues with patent protections, but the bigger picture of the ramifications for our country if this course is not corrected. We hope Innovation Race is both a call to action and a reminder that we cannot take our freedoms for granted.”

INNOVATION RACE is poised to launch in theaters in Fall of 2022. Please see InnovationRaceMovie.com for more information.

# # #

About Tea Party Patriots Action:
Tea Party Patriots Action’s mission is to equip Americans with the resources and training they need to be engaged citizens and effective activists. Our vision is for a nation where individual liberty is cherished and maximized, where the Constitution is upheld, and where Americans are free to pursue their American Dream.
Credit Roll

Luke Livingston - Director
Luke and Jo Anne Livingston - Writers
Jo Anne Livingston - Producer
Pritchett Cotten - Editor
Jenny Beth Martin - Executive Producer

Cast:
Kayla - Jordan Rice
Teacher - Jessica Leigh Smith
Dr. Burke - Luke Livingston
Infringer - Christopher Kirschner
Ariel - Christian Flynn
Featured Student - Alexis Cua
Student - Andrew Cua
Student - Brandon Moore
Student - Harrison Forsythe
Student - Tyler Clark
Kayla’s Mom - Christy Flynn
PTAB Judge - Jack Winch
Administrator - Rusty Boettcher
Examiner - Andrea Debranski
Examiner - Nicholas Carberry
British Newscaster - Hanna Gatti

Production Crew:
Camera Operators – Judd Brannon
Pritchett Cotten
Juan Fernandez
Zachary Kincaid
Ted Lin
Luke Livingston
Cheng Ci Pei
Steve Pitre
Christopher Price
Jack Winch
Assistant Camera - Travis Switzer
Drone Pilots – Judd Brannon
Cheng Ci Pei
Sound – Benjamin Kincaid
Mike Rolly
Christopher Price
Lighting – Marc Hutchins
Credit Roll

Hair & Makeup – Rhonda Barrymore
Associate Producers – Kevin Mooneyhan, Shonda Werry
Editor – Pritchett Cotten
Additional Editing – Jude Brannon, Luke Livingston, Christopher Price
Motion Design – D.B. Hansen
Re-Recording Mix – Dave Erwin
5.1 Surround Mix – White Dog Studios
Music Editor – Prichett Cotten
Voiceover – Gene Spennato

Dramatization Unit:
Director of Photography – Judd Brannon
Camera – Pritchett Cotten
Grip & Electric – Marc Hutchins
Sound – Christopher Price
Location Coordinator – Christie Clark
Location Facilitator/Props – Alex Cua
Hair & Makeup – Rhonda Barrymore
Locations – Cherokee Makerspace
CPI Washington D.C.
Ground Floor Studio
Henry County Schools, Georgia
SAP Center San Jose, California
Music – Universal Production Music
Additional Footage – Amazing China Film
Apple Inc.
Artemis
Boston Dynamics
BBC
CGTN
cNip
CNSA
China
Dyson,
Hagley
Transcriptions – Transcription Hub
Sound Effects – Storyblocks
Special Thanks – Jane Anderson
Artemis, Inc.
Credit Roll

Cherokee Co. GA Film Office
Cradle of Aviation Museum
  Jason T. Dickerson
  Adam Eskew
Firestorm Robotics Club
  First Robotics
  Mary Grace Miller
  Rearden, Inc.
  Shireware, Inc.
Audio Post and Re-Recording Mix — Technoman Studios
Digital Intermediate Services — Roush Media, Inc.
  Supervising Colorist — Keith Roush, C.S.I.