

# When Should I Pursue a Patent? Patents vs. Trade Secrets

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has posted an on-demand webinar on whether you wish to keep your invention a trade secret or go pursue a patent.

NIST says this webinar represents an opportunity to learn how to think around the cost-effectiveness of these distinct business strategies in the technology development ecosystem and how to be effective in a lean and scrappy manner.

Among the first considerations in making the decision are: Patent worthy, Cost to Protect, Need to Commercialize, Risk of Disclosure, Strategic Assessment, and Willingness to Enforce.

The webinar explores all of those considerations with details designed to help participants make the proper decisions. Each point also comes with a reality check.

**Watch the on-demand webinar, and slide set 1 and slide set 2.**