VISUAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SEARCH

DOE's New Comprehensive, Searchable Database of Innovation

vips.pnnl.gov

Office of Technology Transitions

VISUAL INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SEARCH

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Meet VIPS

Search | Discover | Connect

- Fast, easy, and searching is free
- Explore software and inventions from 20+ DOE national labs and sites
- Use keywords or visual filters to refine your search

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Why VIPS was developed

The Need

At its national labs and sites, DOE regularly invests in software and tech to foster innovation and drive growth in the private sector. To streamline the search process for prospective users and licensees of innovations stemming from all national labs, a solution was needed.

The Result

DOE selected Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to create, tune, and launch VIPS! With VIPS, we can now:

- Document, curate, and surface inventions from the DOE national labs for prospective users and licensees.
- Provide links to open-source repositories for instant software downloading.
- Provide links to connect IP seekers with lab tech transfer offices for proprietary licensing.

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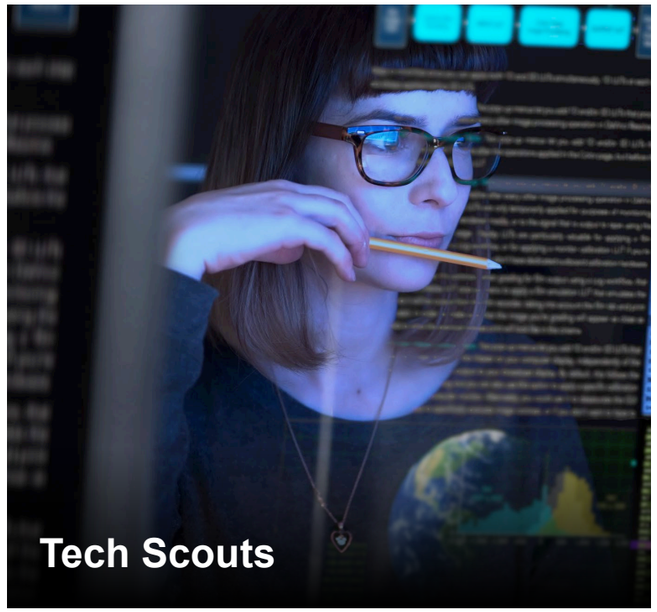
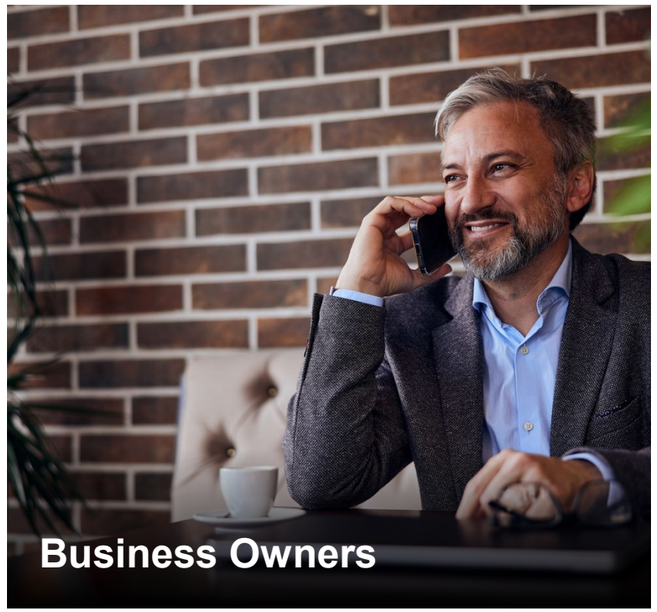
With VIPS, you can:

- Dive into a comprehensive list of national lab innovations, available to you for licensing or open-source use.
- Search for technologies, discover their potential, and leverage or license them for your own success!





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Advantages of the VIPS database

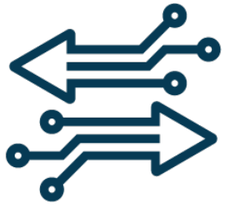
Centralized Search
Quickly find software and inventions from various sources in one location.

Streamlined Scouting
Keyword search for the most relevant options to pair with your company's offerings.

Interactive Examination
Review IP offerings and abstracts and evaluate market potential.

Small Business Solutions
Explore solutions for your small business tech and software requirements.

Open-Source Ease
Find open-source software solutions and seamlessly connect to download sites.



Tech Transfer Enabler
National labs promote their IP using VIPS, facilitating their commercialization process.

Commercialization Connector
VIPS quickly routes licensing inquiries to the right lab/site, so reps can respond fast.

Automated Updates
VIPS is fully automated, so the data remains current without manual upkeep.

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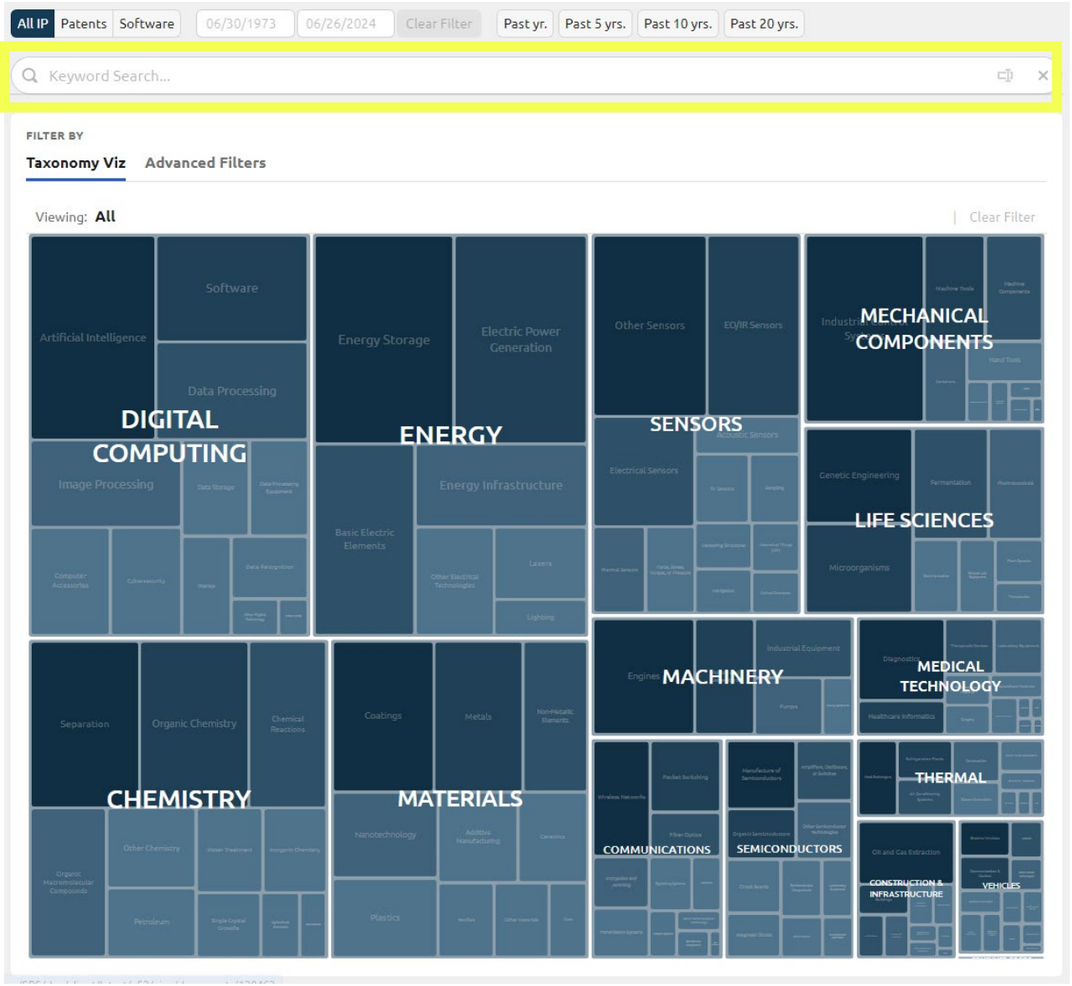
Using VIPS is fast, easy, and searching is free

Keyword Search

- Add text filters by typing a term into the search bar.
- Multiple keyword filters can be applied.
- Keyword filters can be cleared by clicking the “x” button.
- Find syntax info by selecting the button to the left of the “x”.



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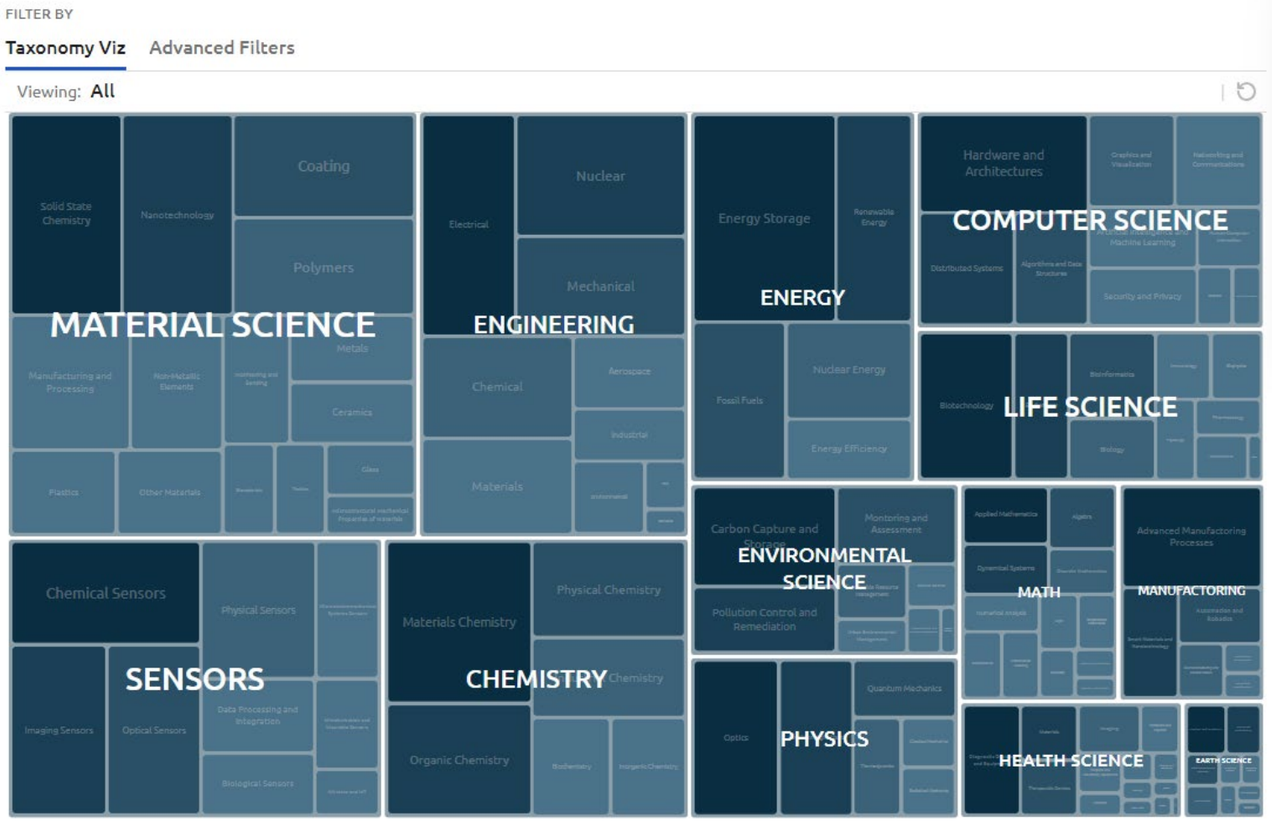
Taxonomy Viz and Advanced Filters

- The “Filter By” panel includes options to filter by taxonomy tags and metadata.
- The “Taxonomy Viz” tab is selected by default, displaying a tree map based on taxonomy tags.
- Select the boxes to apply the filter and dive deeper into a specific category.
- To display advanced facet filters, click the “Advanced Filters” tab on the right.



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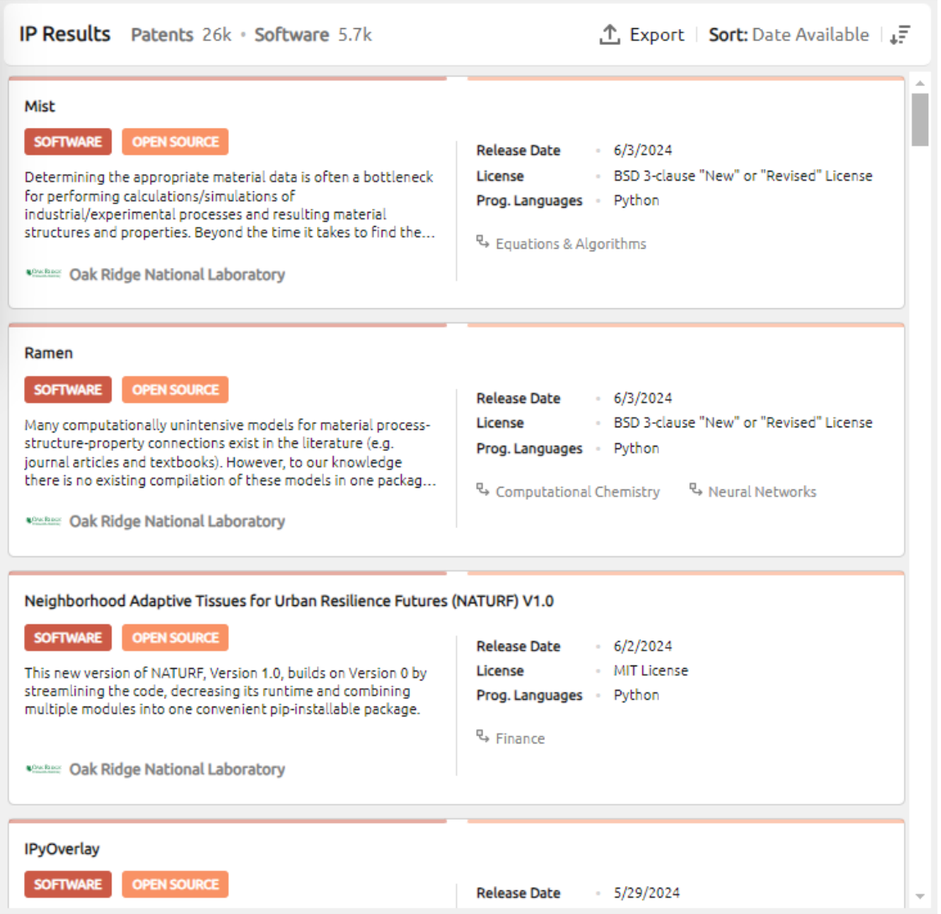
Results List

- The results list will display IP based on the filters applied.
- Preview the metadata and learn more about it by clicking the title or result panel in the list.
- Colored labels make it easy to distinguish between IP type when scanning through the list.



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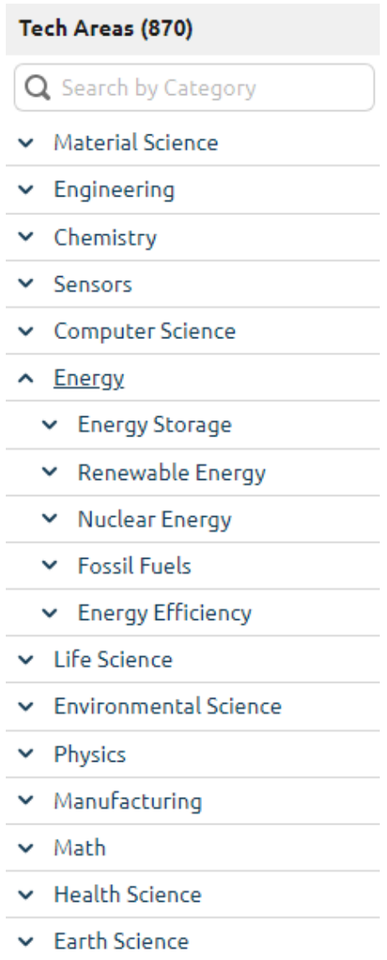
Lab View

- Search by name and/or select a lab from the list to open the Lab View.
- The Lab View provides a detailed summary of all available data specific to the selected lab.

Tech View

- Search by category and/or select a tech area from the list to open the Tech View.
- The Tech View provides a detailed summary of all available data specific to the selected tech area.



FAQs about VIPS

1. Who can access the information on this site?
   - VIPS is open to...
2. Where does the data come from?
   - Patents are harvested from...
3. How often is the data updated?
   - Both patent data and...
4. How is the data processed and enriched?
   - Both patents and software...
5. Can I contact the Department of Energy to get access to software or inventions in VIPS?
   - You can, but...
6. How does this site compare to others?
   - Much of the patent and software information...

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Try your first search today!

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Who can access the information on this site?

VIPS is open to all innovation seekers looking for DOE-backed software and technology. Whether you are a tech scout, an entrepreneur, a researcher, a faculty member, or a business leader, you will find a comprehensive list of national lab innovations—available to you for licensing or for open-source use—at your fingertips in the VIPS database.

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Where does the data come from?

Patents are harvested from the United States Patent and Trademark Office Bulk Data Storage System (https://bulkdata.uspto.gov). Issued patents (going back to 2005), published patent applications (going back to 2015), and patent assignments are each collected and processed to reflect the most up-to-date set of patents. Software is harvested from the Office of Scientific and Technical Information (https://www.osti.gov) and their newer platform, DOE CODE (https://www.osti.gov/doecode). This includes all software records identified and recorded by each of the national laboratories and sites. Additional metadata is harvested from GitHub (https://github.com) when software records identify a public repository.

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How often is the data updated?

Both patent data and software data are harvested weekly. Best of all, VIPS users and national labs benefit from a solution that is fully automated, so the data remains current without continuous manual maintenance.

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How is the data processed and enriched?

Both patents and software are harvested using a customized data harvesting pipeline. Both are analyzed to identify their association with DOE and/or individual national laboratories or sites. For patents, a tailored approach is used for each potential laboratory or site and could include analysis of the latest assignment information and/or contract numbers extracted from the government interest clause of the patents' description. For software, VIPS relies on the metadata supplied by each laboratory or site and recorded by the Office of Scientific and Technical Information. Both types of IP are further enriched to identify the most relevant tags as described in the VIPS scientific domain taxonomy.

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Can I contact the Department of Energy to get access to inventions listed in VIPS?

You can, but they will refer you to the originating national laboratory to get access through a license or other standard agreement.

Instead of reaching out to the DOE or to the national laboratories directly, use the connection tools integrated into VIPS. Your inquiry will be routed to the associated lab for quick follow up.

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How does this site compare to others?

Much of the patent and software information that feeds VIPS is available through official sources such as the United States Patent and Trademark Office, DOE CODE, and GitHub. Plus, there are other commercial patent search and analysis tools available.

So, what's unique about VIPS?

VIPS surfaces and showcases the intellectual property assets from more than 20 DOE national labs and sites in one place. It provides easy access to explore, discover, and assess thousands of IP solutions that are available to you for licensing or open-source download, and offers an easy way to connect with commercialization reps for further inquiry.

Return to FAQs