



ACCESS PROTOCOL FOR USERS OF THE SURVEY DATABASES

The Issues

1. The Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) of Group: Knowledge Systems is committed to the generation, transmission and use of S&T knowledge that derives from its work in measuring the NSI through data collection, manipulation and interpretation.
2. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is the ultimate owner of the R&D and Innovation Survey data, while CeSTII is the principal custodian of the data sets
3. The conduct of the Surveys is subject to the Statistics Act No. 6 of 1999 whereby confidentiality is enforceable under law¹.
4. CeSTII, as a component of HSRC is bound by HSRC rules of confidentiality, ethical behaviour and copyright, except where such has been varied in writing.
5. In carrying out the Survey fieldwork, particularly in the case of the R&D Survey, HSRC has assured respondents of the confidentiality of the data collected, and in particular that the identities of the respondents will not be made publicly available without their written consent.
6. Access to respondents among the Higher Education Institutions has often required compliance with the approval process of the relevant Research and Ethics Committee.
7. Other assurances of confidentiality have been given to business sector respondents.
8. It will be important to maintain these relationships of trust.

¹ 'Guidelines on the Use of Deemed Employees' Statistics Canada, 2002 (Internal document)