BRDIS Reporting Tools
Facilitating the reporting process

Richard S. Hough, Branch Chief
Research, Development and Innovation Surveys Branch
U.S. Census Bureau
Overview

• Background
• Redesign of Survey of Industrial Research and Development
• Outreach activities
• Lessons learned
• BRDIS reporting tools
• Demo of the tools
• Questions
Background

• Business R&D and Innovation Survey (BRDIS) is the result of an extensive redesign of the Survey of Industrial Research and Development

• Survey is conducted under a joint partnership agreement with NSF

• BRDIS was fielded as a full scale pilot in Jan 2009
Redesign Process

- Data user workshops
- Business expert panel
- 5 rounds of cognitive testing with a panel of SIRD respondents
BRDIS Outreach

• Focused on most significant R&D respondents
• Account manager process
• Post survey meetings
Lessons Learned

• Primary mode of communication during the reporting process is email
• Respondents were creating electronic versions of the paper form – scanning to pdf, programming excel spreadsheets, creating internal web sites
• These activities were adding to the overall response burden
BRDIS Reporting Tools

- Business help site
- Online question by question instructions
- Online respondent services
- PDF versions of each form
- Excel spreadsheet versions of each section of the form
- Excel consolidator
Demo of tools

- www.census.gov/econhelp/brdis
Questions/Comments