Dear IJoSI editor:

Thanks for the reviews' valuable suggestions. According to their comments, I have revised our paper as explained below:

- 1. We have considered the articles that reviewers suggested, and added most of them with some comments in our paper where it is related. Especially, we described the difference between Ikovenko's research and ours, and the reason why we didn't proceed the research based on his patent strategies.
- 2. We need to clarify that our research intention is actually limited to "patenting deployment", particularly patenting in depth or in breadth. In our opinion, "patenting deployment" is somewhat different from "patenting strategy", which covers broader issues such as Ikovenko's 11 patent strategies. Therefore we have modified the title of this paper to "patenting deployment".
- 3. The terms, "Function and Attribute Analysis (FAA)" and 9-wondows method", are adopted from Darrell Mann's book: *Hands-on Systematic Innovation*. However, we have modified these terms to "Functional analysis with attributes (or parameters)" and "System Operator" correspondingly. Besides, we put a little more details on functional analysis to demonstrate our concept.
- 4. Our conclusion is also re-phrased for reviewers to comprehend our thought better.
- 5. There are minor re-arrangements in the paragraphs as well.

If you need further explanation, please let us know. Your kind assistance is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Tien-Lun Liu, Ph.D. Assistant Professor Department of Industrial Engineering & Management St.John's University Tamsui, Taipei County, Taiwan

E-mail: tliu@mail.sju.edu.tw Tel: 886-2-2801-3131 ext. 6566

Fax: 886-2-2801-3143