

INL Intelligence

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A high-level monthly briefing on operations and activities at the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory
Work at the lab advances the Department's mission to ensure America's security and prosperity by addressing its energy, environmental and nuclear challenges through transformative science and technology solutions.

■ Lab Leaders Attend Major International Nuclear Conference

Senior INL managers spoke about the future of nuclear energy in the U.S., chaired and participated in technical discussions and talked about INL's distinctive post-irradiation examination capabilities at this month's GLOBAL 2011 meeting organized by the Atomic Energy Society of Japan and American Nuclear Society. The event was held in Makahari Messe, Japan. In addition to its technical experts, INL had an exhibit at the international meeting to showcase some of the nuclear-related research INL is working on. Toward the end of this year's event, INL leaders discussed plans for the next biennial meeting, which will be held in 2013 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Global 2013 is being organized by the Idaho Section of the American Nuclear Society, with INL as a key sponsor.

■ Agreement Extends Bioenergy Research

INL has signed a three-year Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with Los Angeles-based OriginOil to advance the use of algae as a feedstock. Algae capture carbon dioxide and often produce lipids, which can be converted to biodiesel, or the cells themselves can potentially be blended with other fuel sources. The research team will conduct evaluations of processes and technologies to efficiently harvest and convert algae into an energy feedstock. Under this agreement, OriginOil and INL will collaborate to help set industry standards for the use of algal biomass and advance algal biofuel into the transportation fuel market. The research will take advantage of INL's large feedstock process demonstration facility that can blend, densify and format high-value biomass commodities for industrial biorefineries. The combined effort will impact America's energy independence by accelerating the production of alternative biofuels.

■ Professional Society Honors INL Researcher

David Petti, INL Fellow and technical director of the Very High Temperature Reactor Technology Development office, has been selected as a Fellow of the American Nuclear Society at the group's recent annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Petti was honored for his exceptional leadership in the development and demonstration of advanced fuels and materials for fission and fusion systems. ANS President Eric Loewen, a former INL employee, praised Petti and others honored at the awards ceremony. "On behalf of everyone in the Society, we offer our thanks to these individuals who have worked so tirelessly to push forward the nuclear science and technology community," he said.

■ United Way Campaign Gets Boost from INL Employees

Employees at the INL site have given a boost to three regional United Way offices with record-setting donations for the upcoming year. United Way organizations in eastern Idaho received pledges of more than \$600,000 for 2012. "In a difficult economic year, we are pleased that INL employees have stepped up their giving to support the important work of United Way in communities across the region," said Amy Lientz, INL director of Communications & Governmental Affairs.

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