

# 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 strategic priorities of energy security,  
nuclear security, scientific discovery and environmental responsibility.

## ■ Dignitaries Celebrate Energy Center Opening

The Feb. 20 dedication ceremony for the new 55,000-square-foot, \$17 million Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) in Idaho Falls attracted a broad cross section of local, state and national leaders. Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter, Lt. Gov. Brad Little and the entire Idaho congressional delegation were joined by INL, U.S. Department of Energy and Battelle Memorial Institute leaders, the presidents of Idaho's three research universities, and dozens of local business and government officials. The state-of-the-art CAES facility, which was built to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building standards, is dedicated to education, training and research in pursuit of solutions to critical energy problems.

## ■ National Scientific User Facility Selects New Experiments

Four new university-led nuclear energy experiments have been selected for placement in the Advanced Test Reactor National Scientific User Facility. Todd Allen, ATR NSUF scientific director, said projects led by Utah State University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of California-Santa Barbara and University of Wisconsin were chosen because they show great promise for advancing the safety and performance of nuclear energy systems. Established by the U.S. Department of Energy in April 2007, the ATR NSUF supports basic and applied nuclear research and development, advancing the nation's energy security interests.

## ■ INL Announces Availability of STEM Education Grants

INL is encouraging teachers to consider applying for two grant programs designed to support excellence and innovation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education. The 2009 INL Mini Grants provide funds to enhance public and private elementary, middle school and high school STEM programs. Teachers can apply for up to \$2,000 to fund technology or lab equipment, material for special projects or professional development. The 2009 INL Science Laboratory Grant Program is a new offering this year designed to provide funding for a new science lab program or project, or to update and enhance existing equipment or programs specifically in the areas of physical science or chemistry. Two grants will be awarded in the amount of \$10,000 each, and an individual school is eligible for only one grant each year. Grant applications are available at <http://www.inl.gov/k-12/>. Applications must be received by March 13, 2009.

## ■ Nuclear Safety Engineer Receives Recognition

A nuclear safety engineer with 20 years of research and development experience has been designated INL Fellow. Nam Truc Dinh, Ph.D., joins only eight others at the lab who have risen to the elite rank. The title represents the pinnacle of scientific achievement and recognizes an individual's outstanding contributions to the scientific and engineering communities. At INL, Dinh leads the effort to develop a next-generation production code for nuclear reactor system analysis and safety margin characterization. He is the academic dean for the Modeling Experimentation and Validation Summer School scheduled for this July in Idaho Falls.

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