

INL News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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MEDIA CONTACT:

Keith Arterburn, 208-526-4845, [Send E-mail](#)
Michelle Blacker 208-526-6184, [Send E-mail](#)
Reuel Smith, 208-526-3733, 521-4910, [Send E-mail](#)

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INL honors 117 inventors at the Annual Honors Banquet

On Friday evening (Dec. 1), 117 INL inventors were recognized for 61 U.S. patented inventions at the Eleventh Annual Honors Banquet held by the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory in Idaho Falls.

INL honored Hall of Fame inventors during the evening: Three inventors for generating 15 U.S. patented inventions during their careers, four for 10 patents and nine for five patents.

Joel Hubbell, Peter Kong and James Sisson were honored for reaching the 15-patent plateau in the "Hall of Fame."

The inventions offer technological advances in many areas, including energy systems, nano-materials, national security, process and analytical chemistry, environmental protection, and agri-energy research.

INL honors 117 inventors at the Annual Honors Banquet

On Dec. 1 in Idaho Falls, 117 INL inventors were recognized for their 61 patents at the 11th Annual Honors Banquet held by the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory.

Sixteen inventors were honored for a lifetime of achievement for generating five or more patents during a career. Joel Hubbell, Peter Kong and James Sisson were recognized for generating 15 patents, while four other inventors accepted awards for generating 10 patents. Nine other inventors were inducted into the INL inventors "Hall of Fame" for generating five patents, the first plateau recognized in the honorary society.

INL's Chief Research Officer, Bill Rogers, also announced three new recognition awards, the first Laboratory Director's Awards for Exceptional Achievement in engineering, science and early career achievement. Troy Tranter was recognized for exceptional engineering achievement, Gary Groenewold for exceptional scientific achievement, and Christopher Wright for early career exceptional achievement.

The Inventor of the Year and Technician of the Year were to be announced during the evening program at the banquet.

"The inventors and discoverers honored here represent decades of the highest quality research," said INL Laboratory Director John Grossenbacher. "They set a high standard for their fellow researchers at the new Idaho National Laboratory. Our discovery science and inventorship are the key products of our laboratory and the means by which we accomplish our mission of solving some of our nation's most challenging technical problems. This annual recognition banquet allows us to reinforce the importance of scientific discovery and invention, our most important products, and allows us the opportunity to congratulate colleagues and co-workers for their great work."

Rewarding creative and cumulative performance, INL is the only national laboratory to recognize lifetime achievements for inventors who accrue 5, 10, 15 and 20 U.S. patented inventions. Established in 2002, the INL "Hall of Fame" provides public recognition and monetary awards based on levels of creativity. So far, four inventors have been recognized for being named on at least 15 U.S. patents, six inventors for having at least 10 U.S. Patents and 38 for five patents.

To date, INL has inducted 48 inventors into the "Hall of Fame" who have amassed nearly 300 inventions and received about \$300,000 in recognition as part of their lifetime achievement awards. These special awards are funded from licensing agreements that provide royalty income to the laboratory. Efforts to advance technologies created at INL and license them continue to pay dividends for the inventors and the national laboratory.

The three inventors at the highest level so far each received special recognition and \$20,000 for 15 U.S. patents. Four Hall of Fame members were credited with 10 patents issued in Fiscal Year 2006 and received \$10,000. Nine more received \$2,500 for reaching the initial five-patent plateau.

Those achieving 10 patents include:

- John Richardson, a retired INL employee, worked mainly in component-level design, engineering, analysis, systems design and functional management,
- Paul Lessing, for work in techniques to convert hydrocarbons from gas to liquid form,
- Daniel Ginosar, for work in energy efficiency systems and breakdown of halocarbons, and
- Kenneth Telschow, for work in characterization of materials using acoustic microscopy.

Those achieving five patents include:

- Kerry Klingler, for technology development in hydrogen and high-pressure natural gas systems,
- Phillip West, for research in technologies to survey seismic formations and waves,
- Mason Harrup, for developing new molecular composite material for battery use and material separations processes,
- Anthony Appelhans, for work in ion beam measurement and manipulation in high-vacuum environments,
- W. Alan Propp (not a current INL employee), for work with INL researchers in material defect analysis techniques,
- Terry Todd, for work in isotope separation and production of actinium 225 for use in medicine,
- Frederick Stewart, for developing new molecular composite material for battery use and material separations processes,
- Troy Tranter, for work in isotope separation and production of actinium 225 for use in medicine, and
- Thor Zollinger, for technology development in hydrogen and high pressure natural gas systems.

Among the 61 patents recognized this year, several addressed environmental challenges with new technologies, processes and materials in energy research, national security, nuclear medicine, nano-materials, improved battery composites, plus science and industrial processing.

Patents issued to INL represent the laboratory's continuing success in applying scientific solutions to meet the grand challenges of industry and government. Patents generated at INL will benefit industries in such varied fields as chemical, domestic and international, environmental cleanup and military and personal protection. The patents also have exceptional potential for application in health, manufacturing, environmental cleanup, national security, nuclear and fossil-fuel energy systems, renewable energy systems, and many other areas.

Idaho National Laboratory is one of the Department of Energy's 10 multiprogram national laboratories. The laboratory performs work in each of the strategic goal areas of DOE , energy, national security, science and environment. Specifically, INL is the nation's leading center of nuclear energy research and development. Day-to-day management and operation of the laboratory is the responsibility of Battelle Energy Alliance.

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