

Taken from House Conference Report 108-401...
FY 2004 Appropriations bill...Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004

REPORT LANGUAGE

DIVISION B--COMMERCE, JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS, 2004

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The conference agreement includes \$628,102,000 for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for fiscal year 2004, instead of \$460,059,000 as proposed by the House, and \$845,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH AND SERVICES

The conference agreement includes \$344,366,000 for the Scientific and Technical Research and Services (core programs) of the NIST, instead of \$357,862,000 as proposed by the House, and \$391,147,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The following is a breakdown of the amounts provided under this account by activity.

Fiscal Year 2004 Recommendation	(\$ in 000)
Electronics & Electrical	\$44,700
Manufacturing Engineering	21,800
Chemical	42,313
Physics	37,675
Building and Fire Research	21,542
Materials Science & Engineering	53,000
Computer & Applied Mathematics	49,478
Technology Assistance	15,000
Award Programs	5,655
Research Support	53,203
<i>Total, STRS</i>	344,366

Under the Electronics and Electrical heading, \$3,000,000 is for the Office of Law Enforcement Standards, \$1,200,000 is for the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology Program (FIRST), and \$500,000 is for a joint project between FIRST and the Boston Museum of Science.

Under the Manufacturing heading, \$800,000 is for a spreadsheet engineering initiative at the Tuck School of Business.

Under the Chemical Science and Technology heading, \$1,600,000 is for the Hollings Marine Laboratory, and \$400,000 for advanced measurements, standards, and data that health care providers and researchers need to improve health care quality.

Under the Physics heading, \$725,000 is for the necessary critical back-up elements for the NIST time scale and time dissemination services, and \$1,450,000 is for research to develop measurements and standards for nanotechnology-based products.

Under the Building and Fire heading, \$3,000,000 is for costs relating to the World Trade Center investigation, \$1,900,000 is to continue a certain wind demonstration project in Texas, and \$600,000 is for a school safety and preparedness project at the National Infrastructure Institute.

Under the Award Program heading, \$450,000 is for costs associated with the National Medal of Technology.

In addition, under the Research Support heading, \$2,400,000 is to continue a certain telework project, \$6,500,000 is to continue a certain critical infrastructure program, and \$5,500,000 is for maintenance and operations costs at the Advanced Measurement Laboratory.

The agreement does not include an increase to the amount to be transferred to the working capital fund.

The conference agreement adopts, by reference, language included in past years, regarding the A-76 contracting process.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The conference agreement includes \$218,782,000 for the Industrial Technology Services appropriation of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, instead of \$39,607,000 as proposed by the House, and \$369,223,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes \$179,175,000 for the Advanced Technology Program, instead of \$259,600,000 as proposed by the Senate and no funding as proposed by the House. The conference agreement does not include a \$50,000,000 new program as proposed by the Senate for ATP focused competitions on homeland security

technologies. The conferees agree that a focused competition on homeland security technologies should be held out of the \$60,700,000 provided for new awards.

The conference agreement includes \$39,607,000 for Manufacturing Extension Partnership, the same amount as proposed by the House, instead of \$106,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

CONSTRUCTION OF RESEARCH FACILITIES

The conference agreement includes \$64,954,000 for the construction and major renovations of the NIST campuses at Boulder, Colorado, and Gaithersburg, Maryland.

The Committee directs NIST to report to the Committees on Appropriations on the progress of these construction projects on a quarterly basis beginning with the second quarter of fiscal year 2004.

This account supports all NIST activities by providing state of the art facilities necessary to carry out the NIST mission.

The conference agreement provides sufficient funding to complete the new Advanced Measurement Laboratory in Gaithersburg, Maryland and the conferees expect occupancy by 2005.

The conference agreement adopts, by reference, language proposed by the Senate regarding a facilities improvement plan.