

NEHRP Director Testifies to House Science Committee

On July 29, 2014, Dr. John R. Hayes, Jr., Director, NIST National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science, Space, & Technology Subcommittee on Research & Technology on "A Review of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program". A copy of his written testimony is posted [here](#).

President Obama Nominates Dr. Willie May as Director of NIST

On July 25, 2014, Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzger sent the following e-mail to all NIST employees:

Dear NIST Team:

I am pleased to announce that yesterday President Obama nominated NIST's own Willie May to be the next Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and Director of NIST. Dr. May has had a long and distinguished career at Commerce, beginning in 1971 at the National Bureau of Standards and rising to the top of NIST, most recently as the Associate Director for Laboratory Programs. NIST is fortunate to have a leader who has dedicated his career to helping make it the world class institution it is today.

I look forward to working with Dr. May to ensure that NIST continues to be a leading scientific and technical institution that addresses some of our Nation's most pressing challenges, including innovation, advanced manufacturing, and cybersecurity.

Please join me in congratulating Willie on this tremendous honor.

MEP Launches Competition to Fund Manufacturing Centers in 10 States

On August 4, 2014, NIST opened a competition to award new cooperative funding agreements for its Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) centers in 10 states. The competition is the first in a multiyear effort to update the funding structure to better match needs with resources in MEP's network of 60 centers. The MEP centers help small and mid-sized U.S. manufacturers create and retain jobs, increase profits, and save time and money.

The current competition will fund awards for centers in Colorado, Connecticut, Indiana, Michigan, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. The awards will provide half of each center's first-year operating funds, which the centers must match with funding from non-federal sources. MEP anticipates awarding a total of nearly \$26 million for the 10 centers.

Additional information on the Federal Funding Opportunity is available [here](#). An informational webinar for organizations that are considering applying for this funding opportunity will be held on August 21, 2014 at 2:00 pm EDT. Organizations wishing to participate in the webinar must register in advance by contacting MEP by email at mepffo@nist.gov.

2014 AMTech Federal Funding Opportunity

NIST has announced a new Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia (AMTech) competition for planning awards to support industry-driven consortia in developing research plans and charting collaborative actions to solve high-priority technology challenges and accelerate the growth of advanced manufacturing in the United States. The AmTech Program anticipates awarding a total of \$5.6 million in two-year grants during the young program's second competition. Awards will range between about \$250,000 and \$500,000, subject to the availability of funds. Applications are due Oct. 31, 2014, and selections will be announced during the first half of 2015.

NIST will offer an informational webinar at 2 pm EDT on August 14, 2014. Registration for the webinar is available [here](#). Slides from the webinar as well as an archived copy of the event will be posted [here](#). Additional information on the Amtech program is available [here](#). The full FFO notice is posted at the website below.

http://www.nist.gov/amo/upload/2014_AMTech_FFO.pdf