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**Sent:** Thursday, September 29, 2011 11:47 AM  
**To:** amtech  
**Subject:** AMTech Comments

A computer-based system with a proven success record exists that was designed to act as the platform for technology acquisition and utilization research and decision-making. The "Generation - 3" system fully automates the technology innovation process through two embedded tools: "Technologyspace Map" and "Technologyspace Navigation Tool".

The Technologyspace Map explodes the entire range of all technologies available throughout the world or any targeted subject matter "slice", and all possible cross-pollination opportunities available for innovative solutions based on the natural laws of physics. Because it is based on the natural laws of physics, the populated map is exhaustive and comprehensive. The Technologyspace Map further identifies all "players" in the selected technology space and their relevant capabilities to access and utilize the targeted technologies for competitive advantage. These players then, can be potential competitors or alliance partners.

The Technologyspace Navigation Tool, navigates the map enabling users to identify, plan and execute competitive maneuvers to successfully access and utilize key technologies for achievement and sustainment of competitive advantage.

The Advanced Manufacturing Technology Consortia should have this tool to guide their work. The set of tools (Map and Navigation Tool) are part of Project Socrates Gen-3 initiative supported by a Congressional Appropriations Committee mandate to the DoC to establish this system as the platform for its Economic Security Board.

The adoption of this system by NIST to also support the AMTech program seems to be a logical step and which will provide a stream of advanced manufacturing technology innovation breakthroughs. The adoption of the system also provides the platform for cooperation between NIST, DoC, DoD, other government agencies and private sector organizations throughout industry, academia and finance.

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