

# Working with the FLC and Federal Laboratories

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# Overview

- Overview of U.S. Federal Technology Transfer
- Role of the Federal Lab Consortium for Tech Transfer (FLC)
- Identifying Potential U.S. Federal Lab Partners
- Selected Examples of Tech Transfer
- Technology Transfer Mechanisms— James Kasischke

# Federal Technology Transfer Defined

*Technology transfer is the process by which **knowledge, facilities, or capabilities** developed under federal research and development (R&D) funding are utilized to fulfill public and private needs -- it can occur:*

- **Between the government and non-government entities**
- Between government entities (labs/agencies)

.... and designed to:

- enhance **agency mission** capabilities
- increase **return on R&D** investment
- support **economic growth** and **development**
- enhance **U.S. competitiveness**

# Results of Legislative History (Current Tech Transfer Environment)

- Technology transfer is a mission of the federal government
- ORTAs (Lab T2 Offices) established
- Small businesses, universities and not-for-profits keep title to inventions made with federal funds
- Federal agencies receive greater, more flexible, patent and licensing authority
- Lab scientists can participate in royalty income
- Mechanisms and incentives to implement technology transfer, including CRADAs, etc.

# What is the FLC?

## The FLC:

- Formally created by Congress under the Federal Technology Transfer Act (Public Law 99-502)
- Composed of tech transfer professionals from the federal laboratories, their respective agencies, and affiliated organizations
- The only government-wide forum for technology transfer

## Membership reflects:

- 18 federal departments and agencies
  - > Over 250 fed gov't R&D laboratories and centers
  - > \$100 billion annual budget
  - > 100,000 scientists & engineers

# FLC Primary Activities

- Education and Training
- Sharing Best Practices/Networking
  - National and Regional Meetings & Conferences
- Professional Recognition
- Communications and Coordination

**“To add value to the federal agencies, laboratories, and their partners to accomplish the rapid integration of research and development resources within the mainstream of the U.S. economy.”**



# Accessing Federal Technology/Capabilities (Entry Points)

- **FLC** (e.g., **Technology Locator Service**)
  - [www.federallabs.org](http://www.federallabs.org)
- **Agency** (e.g., T2 Office; Partnership Intermediaries)
  - **Laboratory/Institute** (Lab T2 Office -- ORTA)
    - **Individual Scientists & Engineers**

# Tech Locator Service Example

## (Ras Labs, LLC)



### Interest

Looking for federal lab work on electro-responsive smart materials (to improve its own technology).

“Ras Labs and Princeton Plasma Physics Lab recently formed a CRADA and are actively conducting research with various metals and plasmas to improve the interface between the embedded electrodes and the electro-responsive material of these actuators, which should lead to superior electro-responsive actuators.”

Lenore Rasmussen, Ras Labs, LLC



# Examples of Federal Tech Transfer

# Hybrid Solar Lighting: (DOE: Oak Ridge National Lab)

- A roof-mounted collector concentrates sunlight into a bundle of plastic optical fibers which are routed to multiple “hybrid” luminaires that blend natural light with artificial light, maintaining a constant level of lighting.
- ORNL **patented** the technology in 2003 and **licensed** it in 2005 to Sunlight Direct, LLC, a local startup company that emerged from ORNL. The principal was granted part-time **entrepreneurial leave** status by UT-Battelle, LLC, the management and operating contractor for ORNL under contract to DOE.



**2006 R&D 100 Award winner**

# Enhanced Digital Imaging

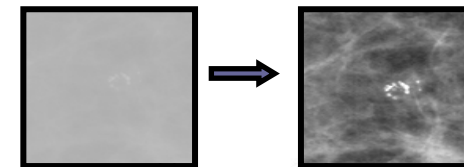
(DoD-Navy: Naval Undersea Warfare Center)

- Enhanced Digital Imaging uses wavelets for multi-resolution analysis, feature enhancement, and noise reduction. The use of wavelet mathematics makes this method more robust than previous enhancement techniques and allows foreign objects to be more readily identified.
- Developed by the Naval Undersea Warfare Center  
Division Newport
- Exclusively licensed to Advanced Image Enhancement (AIE), Inc.
- 3-way CRADA with Rhode Island Slater Fund

## AIE Digital Mammography Enhancement

Existing Image Segment

Enhanced Image Segment



**2007 IEEE Electro Technology Transfer Award Winner**

# Portable Chemical Sterilizer (DOD-Army: Natick Soldier System Center)

- The PCS is a portable sterilizing apparatus that functions without electricity – using a **patented** chlorine dioxide combination mixed in simple water and functions in just 30 minutes.
- The Natick Soldier Center **collaborated** with academia and the Medical Research and Materiel Command -Institute of Surgical Research to **invent, patent and transfer this technology to commercial industry via two PLAs** negotiated by DOD Techlink.
- PCS technology won a 2005 Army R&D Achievement Award for Technical Excellence and contributed to Natick Soldier Center winning the 2006 Army Small R&D Lab of the Year Award.





# Aerosol Vaccination Device (HHS: Center for Disease Control)



- The CDC and Create Inc. engineered a handheld, battery operated device (for respiratory administration of vaccines) with disposable patient interfaces.
- Technology was transferred to AerovectRx Corporation through: **Confidential Disclosure Agreement, Material Transfer Agreement, Commercial Evaluation License Agreement, and Exclusive Patent License Agreement.**
- The technology allows large scale sanitary, customizable, and dosage-controlled delivery through the nose or the mouth -has been successful in animal studies of measles vaccination and will be included in human trials later this year.



# www.federallabs.org

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