

DOE Notes

Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Program. Ten awards were recently announced under this program to provide outstanding young scientists and engineers with opportunities to participate in DOE's research programs. An applicant's background and research interests need to be compatible with DOE-sponsored research programs at participating laboratories. The stipend for first-year fellows, is \$52,800 and is renewable for up to two additional years. Recipients can attend up to three scientific meetings each year of their fellowships. For information about the program, call the DOE's Office of University and Science Education Programs at (202) 586-8949.

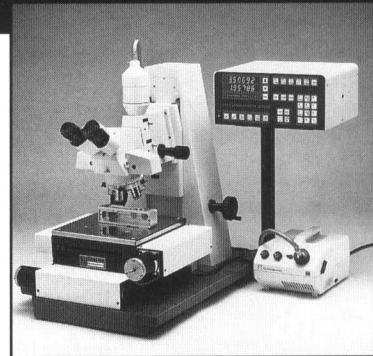
Solar Technology Commercialization. DOE is seeking partners to help commercialize thin-film photovoltaic technology under a five-year, \$120 million Thin Film Photovoltaic Partnership Program. The program is being managed for DOE by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) in Golden, Colorado, and will use the combined expertise of U.S. companies, universities, and national laboratories to improve thin-film photovoltaic efficiency, reliability, and manufacturability. Multiple awards for two to five years are planned. NREL recently issued the formal solicitation for industry partners with a response deadline of **June 15, 1994**. Subcontracts are expected to be awarded in December 1994. For a copy of the solicitation, contact: C.A. Miller, Subcontract Administrator, NREL, M/S 1320-17/2, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Golden, CO 80401-3393. Phone (303) 231-1941.

DOE CRADAs Top 750. Approved cooperative research and development agreements between the DOE and industry now top 750, bringing the DOE closer to its goal of 1,000 by the end of fiscal year 1995. CRADAs approved to date are valued at about \$1.7 billion, with 43% of the cost borne by DOE and 57% by the industry partners. More than \$1 billion has been approved since January 1993. Most of the CRADAs deal with manufacturing, materials, information/communications, energy, and the environment, although other fields such as aeronautics and biotechnology are also represented.

Task Force to Examine Future of National Laboratories. Former Motorola CEO Robert Galvin, under whose leadership Motorola received the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, will head a task force on alternative futures for the DOE national laboratories. The task force is charged with proposing specific alternatives for redirecting the scientific and engineering resources of the laboratories toward the economic, environmental, defense, scientific, and energy needs of the United States. Options involving the possible redirection, restructuring, or closure of parts of the DOE laboratory system will be addressed. The task force will focus on the roles and missions of the multiprogram laboratories and on nuclear weapons related activities but has the option of studying DOE's other single-program laboratories. The task force's report is due in February 1995.

Presstime Update: H.R. 1432, the Department of Energy Laboratory Technology Act of 1993, introduced by Rep. George E. Brown Jr. (D-CA), has been approved by the House's Science, Space, and Technology and Armed Services committees. The legislation would redirect the missions of DOE's 30 laboratories, provide for evaluating their effectiveness in accomplishing the missions, and reorganize and consolidate DOE tech transfer activities. □

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