

U.S. Department of Energy

**STIP**

Scientific and Technical Information Program

# FACT SHEET

## STI PRODUCT TYPE: THESIS/DISSERTATION

### **About STI**

*In the course of performing research and development (R&D) and other scientific and technological work, researchers funded by the U.S. Department of Energy produce scientific and technical information (STI) to document and disseminate their findings. STI includes products such as journal articles, technical reports, conference presentations, books, and more. Through the Scientific and Technical Information Program (STIP), the DOE Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) collaborates with people across the DOE complex, including Headquarters programs, field offices, national laboratories, and other facilities. The STIP partnership ensures that the results of DOE-funded work are identified, disseminated, and preserved. OSTI collects STI produced across the DOE laboratory and facility complex as well as from financial assistance recipients.*

### **Definition**

A **thesis** or **dissertation** is an academic paper often based on original research, using scholarly resources, which is written by a candidate as a graduate school requirement for a higher academic degree (a master's or doctoral degree) or professional qualification. Dissertations and theses may be considered "gray literature" since they are not typically published commercially. In cases where the author's research was funded by DOE or conducted at a DOE facility, submission to OSTI as a scientific and technical information (STI) product facilitates access to federally funded research results.

### **Submission Options**

**Lab Researchers** - Each DOE laboratory has a site program to manage scientific and technical information (STI) produced under the contract and to make it available to DOE's Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI). Each site's STI Manager is involved in the process; for more information, see the listing of STI Managers at <http://www.osti.gov/stip/stimanagers>. Using the Lab's processes for STI submission, the author provides metadata for the thesis or dissertation as well as a full-text document in searchable PDF format or a link to the document hosted on the institutional repository, if it is publicly accessible. Both the DOE entity funding the research and the place of higher education (e.g. university or college), for which the thesis was prepared, should be reflected in the metadata submitted.

**Financial Assistance Awardees/Grantees** – The thesis or dissertation should be submitted to DOE through the DOE [E-Link System \(http://www.osti.gov/elink\)](http://www.osti.gov/elink), using Announcement Notice (AN) 241.3, per instructions provided in the award package, which may refer to this as "Other STI," as specified on the Federal Assistance Reporting Requirements Checklist (DOE F 4600.2) at the time of award. Using E-Link, the required metadata are filled in on the AN 241.3 and the full-text document is uploaded in searchable PDF format. Questions related to E-Link may also be sent to [241user@osti.gov](mailto:241user@osti.gov).

## Availability in DOE/OSTI Web Products

Theses and dissertations submitted to OSTI are available in the following resource:

- [SciTech Connect \(http://www.osti.gov/scitech\)](http://www.osti.gov/scitech) includes metadata/citations and full-text documents of various types of STI products and makes them full-text searchable.

SciTech Connect is included in the [National Library of Energy<sup>Beta</sup> \(NLE<sup>Beta</sup> – http://www.osti.gov/nle\)](http://www.osti.gov/nle), which virtually integrates and simultaneously searches high-quality, decentralized information collections and databases across DOE.

In addition, these web-based sources are included in the Federal science portal [Science.gov \(www.science.gov\)](http://www.science.gov) and the international science portal [WorldWideScience.org \(www.worldwidescience.org\)](http://www.worldwidescience.org). Science.gov represents an interagency collaboration of 17 U.S. government science organizations within 15 federal agencies, hosted by OSTI. Worldwidescience.org searches over 100 STI resources including national libraries and information centers from more than 70 countries.

OSTI also works in close collaboration with Google and others, using Sitemap Protocols and other information industry standards to facilitate the discovery of DOE STI through widely used search engines.

### Additional Information/Contacts

- The STIP website at <http://www.osti.gov.stip/>
- OSTI staff will respond to questions/suggestions sent to [stip@osti.gov](mailto:stip@osti.gov)
- Questions related to E-Link may also be sent to [241user@osti.gov](mailto:241user@osti.gov)