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Materials at Los Alamos National Laboratory

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August 2, 2011



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Materials Data Management Consortium

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Materials Science & Engineering is entering a new era

- Traditional Era = Observe and exploit the properties of materials
- Future Era = Predict properties based upon fundamental understanding.

The new approach enables:

- Optimizing properties for specific functions
- Creating new materials and new functionality

Materials Performance is the traditional terminology to describe how a material fulfills the defined requirements.

We use *Materials Functionality* to describe the actual design and tailoring of a material to perform beyond the traditional requirements and sometimes in new ways beyond the basic properties.



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LANL Materials Pillar: Vision, Mission & Strategy

MISSION

We pursue the discovery science and engineering required to establish design principles, synthesis pathways and manufacturing processes for advanced materials to control functionality relevant to ensuring the U.S. nuclear deterrent, reducing global threats, and solving emerging national challenges.

STRATEGY

We predict and control functionality through forefront science and engineering across three themes:

- Defects and Interfaces
- Extreme Environments
- Emergent Phenomena



<http://www.lanl.gov/orgs/adepts/VISTAS/docs/VISTAS-Winter2010-LALP-09-036.pdf>

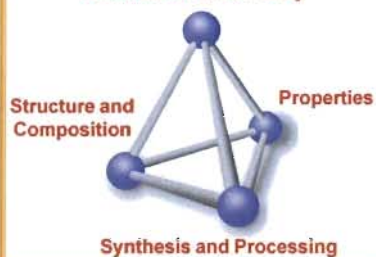
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VISION

Controlled Functionality

The Updated Materials Tetrahedron

Controlled Functionality



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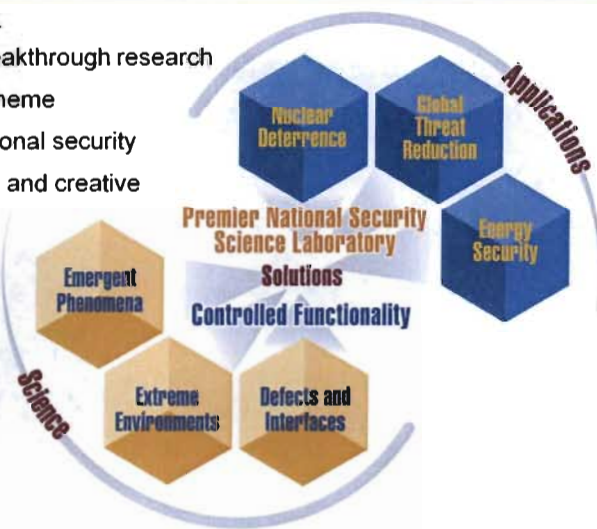




The Materials Strategy advances LANL Vision and Missions, which in return advance our Capability

We are differentiated by:

- Outstanding quality, breakthrough research
- Integration across the theme
- Science relevant to national security
- People who are curious and creative



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Theme Areas break into Constituent Classes

■ Defects and Interfaces = Classes of Functionality

- Mechanical/Structural
- Chemical/Compatibility
- Electronic/Photonic



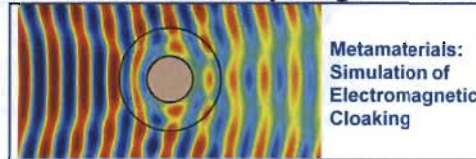
■ Extreme Environments = Classes of Environments

- Radiation
- Thermomechanical (includes warm, dense matter)
- Electromagnetic Fields
- Chemical/Electrochemical



■ Emergent Phenomena = Classes of Competing Interactions

- Intrinsic
- Extrinsic
- Adaptive Response



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Top micrograph: Explosively Loaded Tantalum Experiment

6 mm thick PETN Beneath Sample – Center Detonated

Soft Sample Recovery

'Void sheets' are forming along grain boundaries in sample

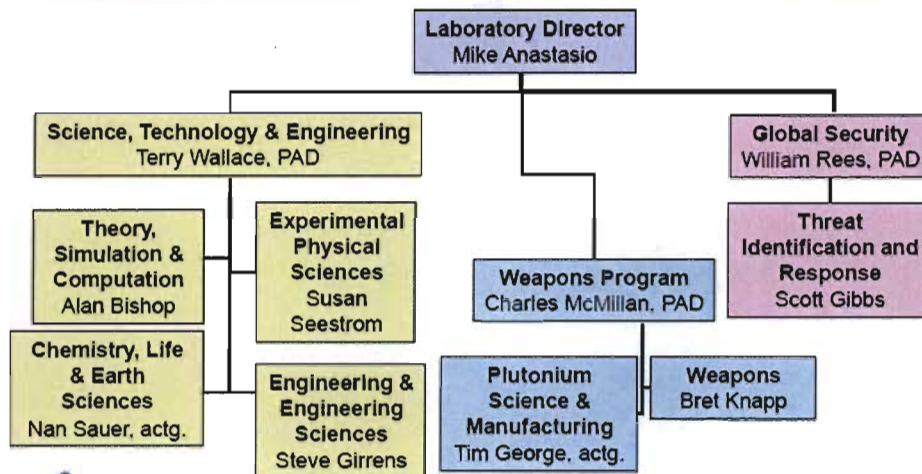
(Mason, Bronkhurst)

•Middle: Energetic materials. New initiation behaviors have been observed using fabricated features in HE which give insight into time scales for cooperative interactions of hot spots. New temperature diagnostics have been implemented with laser shock experiments. Lays foundation for future initiation models based on microstructural features.(Dattelbaum)

•Bottom: Electromagnetic metamaterials are artificially constructed materials whose electromagnetic properties derived from their sub-wavelength structures, not from the materials from which they are made. The metamaterials image depicts a simulation of electromagnetic cloaking. (Taylor)



The Materials Capability spans the Laboratory, involving ~16 divisions in 7 directorates



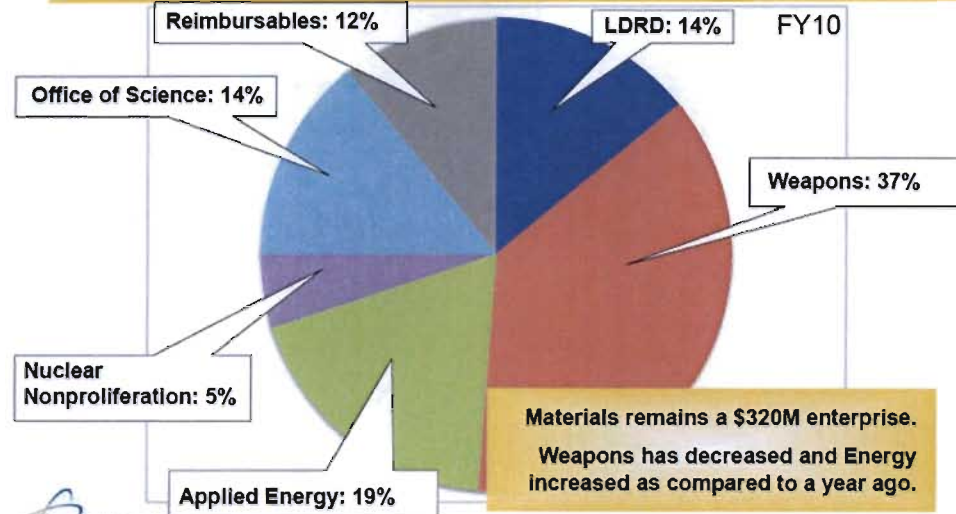
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Materials R&D at LANL serves the full suite of Laboratory missions



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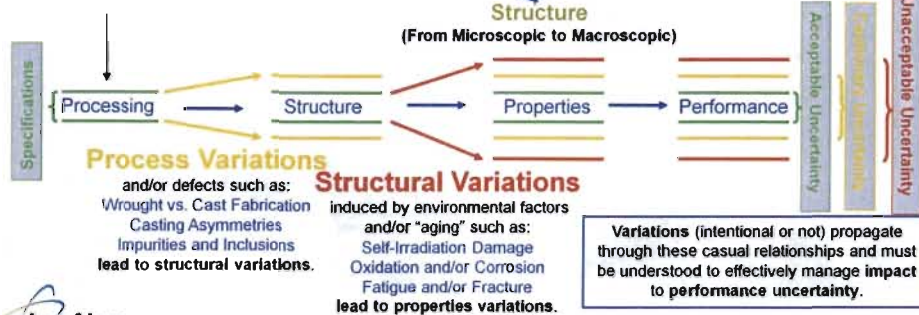
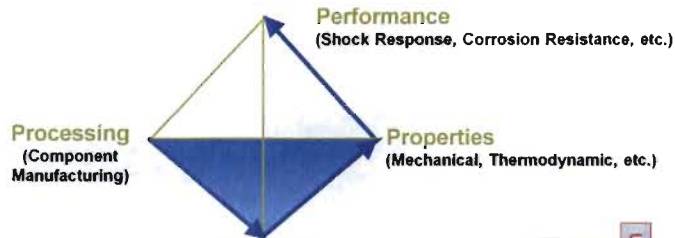




MATERIALS

Materials Science Tetrahedron Applied to Weapons Materials

Established Manufacturing Process
Known performance and margin based on well-known causal relationship between processing specifications and resultant structure, properties, and performance.



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Materials research is on the brink of a new era of science in which the traditional approach of observation & validation of performance is replaced by prediction & control of materials functionality



MaRIE builds on unique LANL capabilities to provide unique experimental tools needed to realize this vision:

In situ, dynamic measurements of real materials

Scattering & imaging simultaneously

in extreme environments

Dynamic & irradiation extremes

coupled to directed synthesis via predictive theory

Materials design & discovery



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