

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.

STI PRODUCT TYPE: PATENTS

Definition

A patent for an invention is the grant of a property right to the inventor, which in the United States is issued by the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The patent gives the holder exclusive rights to a process, design or new invention for a designated period of time. The assignee could be a government agency or a company that is a contractor or grant recipient. After a patent is issued, the USPTO includes the patent in its database, making the patent application, full text, and other descriptive information accessible to the public. If DOE-funded research led to the patent, then this research result is of interest to DOE as a form of STI. The DOE Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) obtains patent records of interest to DOE directly from USPTO; however, to ensure comprehensiveness, broad dissemination, and archival preservation, inventors funded by DOE may find it useful to submit information to OSTI through their particular STI submission channels.

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 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>. For patents, the researcher has the option to (1) use the Lab's processes for STI submission, providing metadata for a patent as well as a full-text document in searchable PDF format or (2)

rely on the OSTI-USPTO process for ensuring access via a link to the document hosted by USPTO. If the latter is the Lab's preference, periodic review of the Lab's patents in the OSTI collection is desirable to ensure that all patents from the Lab are being included.

Financial Assistance Awardees/Grantees – A patent can 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 for "Other STI" on the Federal Assistance Reporting Requirements Checklist (DOE F 4600.2) provided in the award package at the time of award. Using E-Link, the required metadata for the patent are filled in on the AN 241.3, with the option to either upload the full-text document in searchable PDF format or provide a URL link to the USPTO location of the specific patent. Questions related to E-Link may also be sent to 241user@osti.gov.

Availability in DOE/OSTI Web Products

Patents submitted to OSTI are available in the following resources:

- **DOepatents** (<http://www.osti.gov/doepatents/>) is a searchable database of patent information resulting from DOE-sponsored research and development (R&D), consisting of bibliographic records with full text where available, either via a PDF document or a link to the record at the **USPTO** (<http://www.uspto.gov>).
- **SciTech Connect** (<http://www.osti.gov/scitech>) includes metadata/citations and full-text documents, as well as the other types of STI products STIP has collected historically.

Both **DOepatents** and **SciTech Connect** are included in the **National Library of Energy^{Beta} (NLE^{Beta})** — <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) and the international science portal **WorldWideScience.org** (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
- Questions related to E-Link may also be sent to 241user@osti.gov