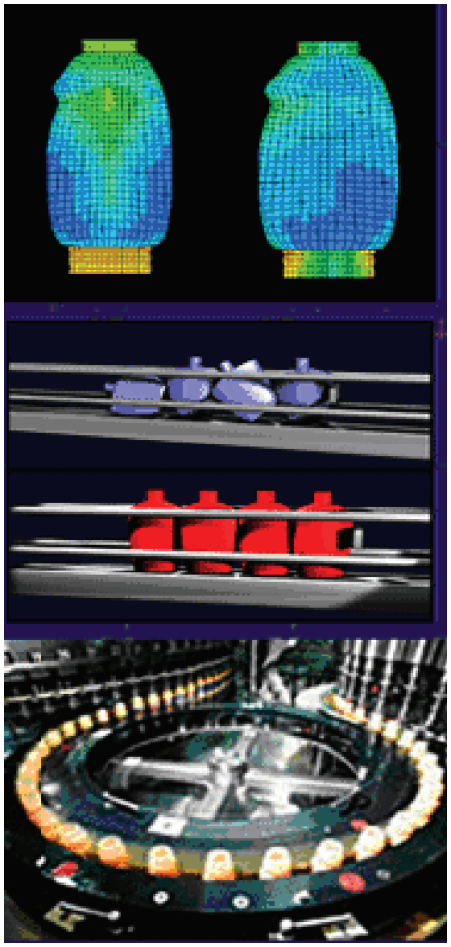
Los Alamos NATIONAL LABORATORY EST. 1943 Partnerships P&G



P&G produces billions of items each year in over a 100 manufacturing plants that run more efficiently because of the partnership with LANL.

Los Alamos—Procter & Gamble Partnership Advances Manufacturing Line Reliability

The Los Alamos National Laboratory's (LANL's) Statistical Sciences Group (D-1) and Procter & Gamble (P&G) have worked together since 1995 on improving the reliability of manufacturing lines. At LANL, our work on quantifying uncertainty in complex phenomena is critical to the Laboratory's stockpile stewardship mission. At P&G, the same science is critical to the efficient planning and running of manufacturing lines for products used every day by hundreds of millions of people including Pampers diapers, Tide detergent, Downy fabric softener, Crest toothpaste, Pantene shampoo, and approximately 100 other products.

The partnership started because LANL and P&G had complementary problems. LANL had highly developed statistical models but relatively little data with which to validate and rapidly develop models. P&G had very large amounts of data, but lacked well-developed models. As a result of the collaboration, LANL has been able to advance mission critical statistical models much more quickly than otherwise possible. P&G has realized savings and production efficiency improvements totaling more than $1 billion.

Recognition of the value of the partnership has been widespread. "This solution is the single most powerful driver for reducing costs across all aspects of manufacturing that I have found in over 25 years of experience at P&G," said Mary Anne Gale, vice president of global supply chain operations for P&G. P&G has also sublicensed the technology to two companies, BearingPoint and Zarpac, which are marketing the applications to other manufacturing companies. This collaboration in reliability engineering has been the nucleus for 15 other projects in seven LANL technical divisions with joint research valued at over $30 million, allowing LANL to accelerate development for a range of mission-critical technologies.

Building Partnerships Through Technology Transfer

If you would like to learn more about how partnering with P&G or other companies could help advance your research, please contact the Technology Transfer division:

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Awards:

- 2003 R&D 100 Award Winner
- 2004 Council for Chemical Research—Award for Government Industry Collaboration
- 2004 Distinguished Licensing Award—Harry Martz and Mike Hamada

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