U.S. Department of Energy
National Energy Technology Laboratory
Office of Public Affairs
P.O. Box 10940
Pittsburgh, PA 15236-0940

U.S. Department of Energy
National Energy Technology Laboratory
Office of Public Affairs
P.O. Box 880
Morgantown, WV 26507-0880

NETL REPORTS:

News Media Contact:
Joe Culver 304/285-4822

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NETL Researcher Presented with Prestigious Technology Transfer Award
Madhava Syamlal Awarded for Commercialization of Innovative Chemical Engineering Software

Dr. Madhava Syamlal, a chemical engineer with the U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory (NETL), was recently presented with a 2008 Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) Excellence in Technology Transfer Award during the FLC National meeting, which was held May 5–8 in Portland, Ore.

The award was presented to Dr. Syamlal for his work on commercializing NETL's Coal Chemistry Module, a chemical engineering software. The Module, developed by Dr. Syamlal and colleagues, allows investigation of coal reactivity, and, used in conjunction with other models, can be applied to a variety of coal gasification processes that are essential to the continued use of domestic coal. The Module incorporates into computational fluid dynamics (CFD) models detailed reaction mechanisms for various properties, such as gasification and combustion, of different bituminous, subbituminous, and lignite coals. The technology transferred to ANSYS, Inc., a global supplier of CFD software products, and has applications for KBR and Southern Company as well.

Dr. Syamlal's award represents his committed work in commercializing the important technology he helped to develop. As a member of NETL's Office of Research and Development (ORD), Dr. Syamlal works to provide technical leadership in scientific computing. NETL-ORD develops and applies simulation and visualization tools for designing and analyzing the zero-emission, fossil energy plants of the future. Scientists in this division integrate experimental and computational sciences at multiple scales to generate information beyond the reach of experiments alone and, thereby reduce the cost and risk of developing novel technologies. Dr. Syamlal's specific area of expertise is in computational fluid dynamics.

Dr. Syamlal has been a resident of Morgantown, W.Va since 1985.

The Excellence in Technology Transfer Award recognizes researchers who have helped to commercialize new and innovative technologies. The award is presented annually to federal employees who have accomplished outstanding work in transferring to industry a technology developed within their laboratory.

The Federal Laboratory Consortium—a national partnership of more than 700 major federal laboratories and centers, parent departments, and agencies—is a leading entity in maximizing collaborative research

and the transfer of federal technologies to enhance the socioeconomic well-being of the nation in the global marketplace.

NETL is one of the Department of Energy's national laboratories. The laboratory manages and implements a broad spectrum of energy and environmental programs. It employs approximately 1,100 federal employees and support-service contractors at sites in Pittsburgh, Pa., Morgantown, W.Va., Tulsa, Ok., Fairbanks, Alaska, and Albany, Ore.

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