

Technology Assistance Program

Get Federal Expertise to Help Solve Technical Challenges for Your Business

Businesses can get technology assistance at no cost from experts at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. More than 550 firms have been helped over the past five years. And, more than 90% of them gave high ratings for the usefulness and delivery of the assistance.



“The assistance gave my company the technology to create a marketable product.”

- Rick Reil, owner
The Veach Company,
Kennewick, WA

For more information, contact:

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What kinds of technology assistance does Pacific Northwest National Laboratory offer?

A few examples:

- Characterize and recommend materials
- Develop new products
- Create new software/hardware applications
- Develop new chemical processes
- Improve production and manufacturing processes
- Resolve technical problems
- Perform scientific peer review
- Recommend energy conservation and environmental technologies

See examples of companies helped at <http://www.pnl.gov/edo/helped.stm>.

Note: PNNL is prohibited from providing assistance that is readily available in the private sector. Assistance must be technical in nature.

How much assistance is offered, and how often?

A technical specialist is assigned to work on your project for up to 40 hours. Firms are eligible for assistance once per fiscal year (October 1 through September 30). You can apply for assistance any time. Requests are funded on a first-come-first-served basis.

Who is eligible for assistance?

Businesses anywhere in the United States are eligible. Some size limitations may apply; contact the Program Manager (see box at left).

“Pooling” of technology assistance requests by more than one firm to develop a single product is prohibited.

What about intellectual property ownership?

- For any inventions made by PNNL during the assistance, the business assisted can get a non-exclusive, royalty-free license in the pertinent field of use.
- Any intellectual property associated with a preexisting product or invention remains the property of the business.

How do I apply?

It's easy. Contact Gary Spanner (see box at left) to make sure your business is eligible. Then you'll get a simple, one-page application form to request specific assistance.

Is there a cost for this?

There is no cost to the businesses receiving assistance. The U.S. Department of Energy sponsors the Technology Assistance Program at PNNL to create private-sector jobs and diversify the local economy.