



## Who We Are

The Industrial Technologies Program (ITP) leads the Federal government's efforts to improve industrial energy efficiency and environmental performance. The Program is part of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) and contributes to its efforts to provide reliable, affordable, and environmentally sound energy for America's future.

ITP's primary role is to invest in high-risk, high-value research and development that will reduce the energy requirements of industry while stimulating economic productivity and growth. Because energy is an important input for many of our key manufacturing industries, reducing energy requirements will lower energy costs, reduce greenhouse gases and other emissions, and improve productivity per unit of output. As a Federal program, ITP invests in leap-frog technologies that will produce dramatic energy and environmental benefits for the Nation. It focuses investments on technologies and practices that will provide clear public benefit but for which market barriers prevent adequate private sector investment.

An integral part of EERE's mission is to use public-private partnerships to accomplish its goals. Through a process known as *Industries of the Future*, ITP has become a model of how the Federal government can partner with industry to effectively plan and implement a robust, comprehensive R&D agenda. These public-private partnerships also help to disseminate and share best energy management practices in factories throughout the United States. They also facilitate voluntary efforts, such as the President's Climate VISION initiative to encourage industry to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By leveraging technical and financial resources of industry and government, the partnerships have generated significant energy and environmental improvements that benefit the Nation and America's businesses.

## The Challenge

Reliable, affordable, and environmentally sound energy for America's future is the cornerstone of the National Energy Policy, yet an expanding economy, growing population, and rising standard of living create growing demands for energy. Modernizing energy conservation is a key national goal included in the Policy. It specifies that *"the best way of meeting this goal is to increase energy efficiency by applying new technology – raising productivity, reducing wastes, and trimming costs."* This strategy is the heart of the Industrial Technologies Program.

The U.S. industrial sector has become much more efficient over the past 30 years and it continues to offer excellent opportunities to achieve efficiency gains. New technologies that use energy efficiently often lower emissions and improve productivity. However, energy-intensive industries face enormous competitive pressures that make it difficult to make the necessary R&D investments in technology development to ensure future efficiency gains. Without a sustained commitment by the private and public sectors to invest in technology R&D and adopt new technologies, the ability to close the gap between U.S. energy supply and demand will be severely compromised.