

ANNUAL
HONOR AWARDS PROGRAM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

SIXTY-EIGHTH HONOR AWARDS PROGRAM

THE AMPHITHEATER
RONALD REAGAN BUILDING AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

September 27, 2016

INTRODUCTION

Honorable Bruce H. Andrews
Deputy Secretary of Commerce

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

Armed Forces Color Guard

NATIONAL ANTHEM

U.S. Marine Band Brass Quintet

ADDRESS

Honorable Penny Pritzker
Secretary of Commerce

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AWARDS

Honorable Ellen Herbst
*Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration*

PRESENTATION OF GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS

Secretary Pritzker assisted by Department Officials

CLOSING REMARKS

Honorable Bruce H. Andrews
Deputy Secretary of Commerce

SOLOIST

Joel Silberman



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

It is my pleasure to welcome you to our 68th Annual Honor Awards ceremony.

The U.S. Department of Commerce has a proud history of creating the conditions for economic growth and opportunity in this country. For more than a century, our mission has been to empower U.S. companies and communities with the tools, technology, and data they need to prosper and create new American jobs.

The remarkable men and women we honor today are essential ingredients to the success of the Department of Commerce. Collectively, they advance our Nation's leadership in the constantly evolving global economy and help spread the word that America is open for business.

Each of our honorees exemplifies the dedication, the professionalism, and the willingness to go the extra mile necessary for our Department to provide the best possible service to the American people. Their areas of expertise extend across many fronts – trade and investment, science and engineering, business and community development, technology, environmental prediction and stewardship, and fostering a digital and data-driven economy.

It is with great pride that I salute each of our 2016 Honor Awards recipients and thank them for their service to the Department and to the Nation.

Congratulations.

Penny Pritzker
U.S. Secretary of Commerce



GOLD MEDAL

This award, the highest honorary award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary for distinguished performance characterized by extraordinary, notable, or prestigious contributions that impact the mission of the Department and/or one operating unit and that reflect favorably on the Department.



SILVER MEDAL

This award, the second highest honorary award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary for exceptional performance characterized by noteworthy or superlative contributions that have a direct and lasting impact within the Department.

To warrant a Gold or Silver Medal, a contribution must focus on qualitative and quantitative performance measures reflected in the Department's Strategic Plan and be identified in one of the following areas:

leadership

personal and professional excellence

scientific/engineering achievement

organizational development

customer service

administrative/technical support

heroism

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY



GOLD MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Matthew Borman
Anthony Christino
William Arvin
Alan W. Christian
Mark Salinas
Tracy Patts

Export Administration

Elizabeth Abraham

Office of the General Counsel

Bureau of Industry and Security

The group is recognized for the second stage of efforts to normalize relations with Cuba. They developed and published four Cuba export rules and participated in two bilateral Regulatory Dialogues, opened by the Secretary of Commerce and the Minister of Foreign Trade and Investment. The group also coordinated and executed over 175 outreach events to over 6,500 members of the export community. These efforts resulted in 500 licenses valued at \$6 billion and helped pave the way for the President's March visit to Cuba.



GOLD MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Catherine Donovan

Export Enforcement

Bureau of Industry and Security

Ms. Donovan is honored for her investigation of MKS Shanghai, which resulted in the dismantling of an Iranian nuclear procurement network responsible for procuring U.S. components, flaunted in press photos of then-Iranian President Ahmadinejad at an Iranian centrifuge, for use in Iran's nuclear weapons program. Ms. Donovan's efforts resulted in the extradition of one and the arrest of two Chinese nationals and the indictment of an Iranian national. One target of the investigation was sentenced to 9 years in prison, the longest sentence ever imposed in an export case involving International Emergency Economic Powers Act violations.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

Scott Douglas
Juventino Martin-Vargas
David Nardella
Gina Makowski
Scot Gonzales
Susan Silver-Farley

Export Enforcement

Sharon Bragonje

Export Administration

Bureau of Industry and Security

The group is recognized for outstanding investigative work resulting in the arrest of Nicholas Kaiga for attempting to illegally export materials intended to support Iran's nuclear program. Combining BIS's unique administrative authorities with sophisticated criminal investigative techniques, the group gathered evidence of Kaiga's involvement in the scheme. The group worked from several locations to apprehend and obtain a confession from Kaiga, who was later sentenced to 27 months in prison. These efforts impacted national security by disrupting Iran's ability to weaponize its nuclear program.

James Fuller
John Sonderman
Tracy Martin
John Ruiz

Export Enforcement

Joseph Cristofaro
Timothy Mooney

Export Administration

Bureau of Industry and Security

The group is recognized for the investigation related to ZTE Corporation. The group conducted and supported a multi-agency investigation over the course of several years that uncovered conclusive evidence demonstrating ZTE's deliberate and extensive efforts to evade and contravene U.S. export controls to supply sensitive U.S.-origin goods to prohibited destinations including Iran, North Korea, Cuba, Sudan, and Syria. As a result, the Department of Commerce placed ZTE on the Entity List, which restricts ZTE's acquisition of U.S.-origin items.

BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

Philip Kuhn
Daniel McGowan
Stephanie Mendez

Export Enforcement

Steven Schrader
Thomas J. Bond III
Theodore Curtin

Export Administration

Bureau of Industry and Security

The group is recognized for investigative and administrative expertise that led to the successful prosecution of a Syrian-born U.S. citizen who purchased tens of thousands of dollars of tactical equipment from U.S. vendors, including night-vision rifle scopes, goggles, and sniper scopes. He transported these items through Turkey to armed insurgent groups in Syria, including one that frequently fights alongside the official al-Qaeda branch in Syria. This is one of the first times export violations were used to prosecute such a case nationwide.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION



GOLD MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Investigations and Threat Management Division

*Office of the Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration*

The organization is honored for identifying an unrecognized strategic threat to national security, and then leading a U.S. Government effort to address the major paradigm change created by this threat utilizing mitigating efforts directly impacting both current and future U.S. national strategy at the highest level. Their investigation developed unprecedented evidence that revealed an adversary's innovative means of circumventing existing protective, investigative, and enforcement methods.



GOLD MEDAL ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Lea-Ann Bigelow

*Office of Performance, Evaluation
and Risk Management*

*Office of the Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration*

Ms. Bigelow is recognized for designing and leading the first DOC-wide Annual Strategic Review. This inaugural assessment of strategic progress reinforced the strategic plan governance structure and "results driven culture" through facilitated meetings involving over 150 executives and staff. An environment of trust, knowledge sharing, and pride in mission was cultivated. The approach met new OMB requirements for evidence of effectiveness and incorporated risk assessments, key performance metrics, and recommendations for improvement. Participant ratings of performance management processes improved by 21 points from FY15 to FY16.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION



SILVER MEDAL

LEADERSHIP

Office of the Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration
National Institute of Standards and Technology
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Census Bureau

*Office of the Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration*

The organizations are recognized for successfully developing and awarding five extremely complex, long-term, and alternatively-financed energy contracts valued at \$138 million. The contracts are cost neutral and are expected to generate a guaranteed, annual savings for the Department, starting at \$5 million per year and ultimately growing to over \$7.5 million per year for the next 22 years. The DOC Energy Savings Contract Team exceeded the Department's FY 2016 commitment of \$12 million by more than 10-fold, well ahead of schedule.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION



GOLD MEDAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

Jorge Ayala
Jeannette Tamayo
Susan Shanahan
Kerstin Millius
Andrea Contratto

Office of Regional Affairs

Angela Martinez

Office of Executive Secretariat and External Affairs

Jamie Lipsey

Office of the Chief Counsel

Economic Development Administration

The group is honored for undertaking a comprehensive, agency-wide business process improvement effort that has dramatically improved EDA's customer service. The group volunteered their time to provide thorough and thoughtful review of all of EDA's grant application policies, procedures, and forms. The result of their efforts is a new, customer-focused grant process that is more responsive to the needs of applicants without compromising the quality or competitiveness of the application review.



SILVER MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Bryan Borlik
John Cobb

Office of Regional Affairs

Barrett Haga

Office of Executive Secretariat and External Affairs

Economic Development Administration

The group is honored for leading the Department of Commerce's cluster-mapping efforts that offer statistical and visual data that assess business environment characteristics, and a member directory that profiles cluster initiatives throughout the country. This group has worked with Mexico, Korea, India, and the European Union to establish partnerships that facilitate trade and investment by aligning cluster data to allow businesses and economic development organizations to reliably compare industry sectors between respective countries.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Stephen Kong

Office of the Chief Counsel

Linda Cruz-Carnall

Paul Matyskiela

Jennifer Sloms

Kia Booker

Sanchia Gomez

Office of Regional Affairs

Economic Development Administration

The group is honored for creatively and effectively resolving an intransigent and high-profile interagency grant issue that had remained unresolved for over 30 years. The resolution resulted in a win-win-win on all sides, allowing an EDA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) recipient in a distressed area to begin making loans to help local small businesses thrive, resolving legal concerns for another Federal agency, and keeping EDA's RLF intact and in the community to increase access to capital and spark local economic growth.

ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION



GOLD MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Avi Bender
Alexander S. Cohen
Jeffrey A. Meisel
Logan T. Powell

U.S. Census Bureau

Tyrone Grandison
Ian Kalin

Office of the Deputy Secretary

Economics and Statistics Administration

The CitySDK Team is recognized for their leadership and entrepreneurship. They delivered a unique open source Federal data service that is focused on cities and communities, is scalable, and taps into a growing ecosystem of industry, academia, emerging companies, and other Federal agencies. Civic innovators have already used this approach to create a wide range of applications, including: an accessible housing locator, a model for faster disaster response, a shared economy app to tackle food deserts, and a parks' equity analysis.



GOLD MEDAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

Dale C. Kelly
Omari S. Wooden
Theresa L. Gordon
Paul F. Newman
Josefina Hicho
Marquita E. Davis
Carlos D. Hough
Eric Gauthier
Stephen T. Jackson
Nidaal Jubran

U.S. Census Bureau

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is recognized for reengineering and integrating AESDirect system functionality into the ACE system, resulting in an improved export process for American businesses. Using new tools and an innovative software development approach, the team accomplished this goal ahead of schedule and ensured the design and functionality met the needs of the exporting community. This effort advanced the "single window," or Government-wide, approach for managing the collection of trade information for statistical and export control purposes.

ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION



SILVER MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Willette Allen
Lori Carrig
Scott A. Scheleur
Sarah A. McGuigan
Adeline Tran
Mala M. Kline
Michael Liodice
Thomas M. Wandeloski
Joelle C. Wright
Melvenia J. Browne

U.S. Census Bureau

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is recognized for extraordinary achievements in the design, development, and deployment of an improved solution for disseminating economic indicator data. Their solution is a remarkable technological achievement that reduces the lag time between economic indicators' official release and when they are accessible to the public to the smallest it has ever been – less than 5 seconds, and in some cases less than 1 second. This was achieved by building partnerships and coalitions that reach across organizational and agency boundaries.



SILVER MEDAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

Nick Orsini
David M. Dickerson
Matthew J. Przybocki
Kristen Nespoli
Karen M. Bradwell
Maria A. Iseman
Ryan M. Fescina
Carol A. Aristone
Dennis T. Pham
Melissa Scott

U.S. Census Bureau

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is recognized for developing a new monthly report showing advance totals of U.S. exports, imports, and balance of goods. They collaborated with other Government agencies and revised complex programs and processes to ensure the statistics' accuracy. This accomplishment provides international trade statistics sooner to maximize U.S. global competitiveness; keeps data users better informed during a time when earlier access to information is a driving force behind critical decisions made by policy makers; and improves the accuracy of early estimates of GDP.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION



GOLD MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

International Trade Administration
Office of the General Counsel
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

International Trade Administration

The organizations are recognized for exceptional efforts to support the successful conclusion of the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations, a key Administration trade policy goal. These organizations provided sustained expert analysis and solutions to help bring about successful conclusion of the 5-year, 12-country negotiation process. They prepared key reports to inform stakeholders, including Congress, about the historic opportunities secured by the Agreement, developed promotion plans to educate U.S. businesses on its benefits, and helped set up the architecture for its successful implementation.



SILVER MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Commercial Service – Africa Region
Global Markets – Office of Africa
Office of Domestic Operations –
Mid-Atlantic Region

International Trade Administration

The Trade Winds Africa Team is recognized for increasing U.S. exports to Sub-Saharan Africa, by establishing a pragmatic Africa-focused approach that led to real on-the-ground U.S.-Africa business success. This was the largest-ever U.S. Government-led Trade Mission to Sub-Saharan Africa. Three hundred business people from 108 U.S. companies travelled to 8 countries, where they conducted over 1,500 business-to-business and individual market entry meetings with 21 different African markets. Four hundred fifty participants were trained in Africa-Centric Public Private Partnerships and Black Economic Empowerment.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION



SILVER MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Rebecca Gudicello
Dorothea Blouin
Morgan Barr
Jessica Huang
Robin Roark

Industry and Analysis

International Trade Administration

The group is recognized for exceptional efforts to conclude a major expansion of product coverage under the WTO Information Technology Agreement. The team prepared U.S. negotiating proposals and used superior diligence, technical skills, and creativity to analyze over 350 U.S. and foreign product proposals, tariff schedules, and staging offers resulting in a final agreement that maximizes the benefits of trade. This landmark agreement will bring duty-free trade valued at \$1.3 trillion per year, for over 200 products, including \$180 billion in annual U.S. exports.

International Trade Administration

International Trade Administration

The Canada Supercalendered (SC) Paper Team is recognized for conducting the countervailing duty investigation of SC Paper from Canada. Imports from Canada were \$868 million in 2014. This investigation presented novel and complex issues, and was conducted on a truncated schedule under intense scrutiny from Congress, the Canadian paper industry, and senior leaders across U.S. Government. This dedicated team collaborated effectively to ensure accurate results under these extreme pressures. The outcome of this investigation leveled the playing field in the U.S. market for U.S. producers of SC Paper.

Elizabeth Schaefer
Julian Richards

Industry and Analysis

International Trade Administration

The group is recognized for their extraordinary dedication, expertise, and skill in estimating the Jobs Attributable to Foreign Direct Investment in the United States. The group's state-of-the-art economic modeling, their extensive data collection and manipulation, and their coordination with the Council of Economic Advisors and the Bureau of Economic Analysis resulted in the Under Secretary's release of their results. Their results are the official U.S. Government source and are used Government-wide, including by the White House and Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee members.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION



SILVER MEDAL

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Sean McAlister
Joseph Jackson
Vinay Singh
Richard Craig
Deborah Davidson

Global Markets

International Trade Administration

The group is recognized for working feverishly for nearly 14 months to position the Department to play a distinct leadership and global role by establishing the U.S. Government's first Commercial Diplomacy Institute (CDI). The Institute will play an integral role in educating, mentoring, and building the next generation of trade and investment leaders through various programs that advance the Department's commercial diplomacy mission; and unlike many bureau-managed professional development training programs, the CDI will be open to all 52,000 Department employees who want to learn about international trade.

Yolinda Qu
Christopher Wong
Dennis Simmons
Huilong Shi
Ming Yang

Global Markets

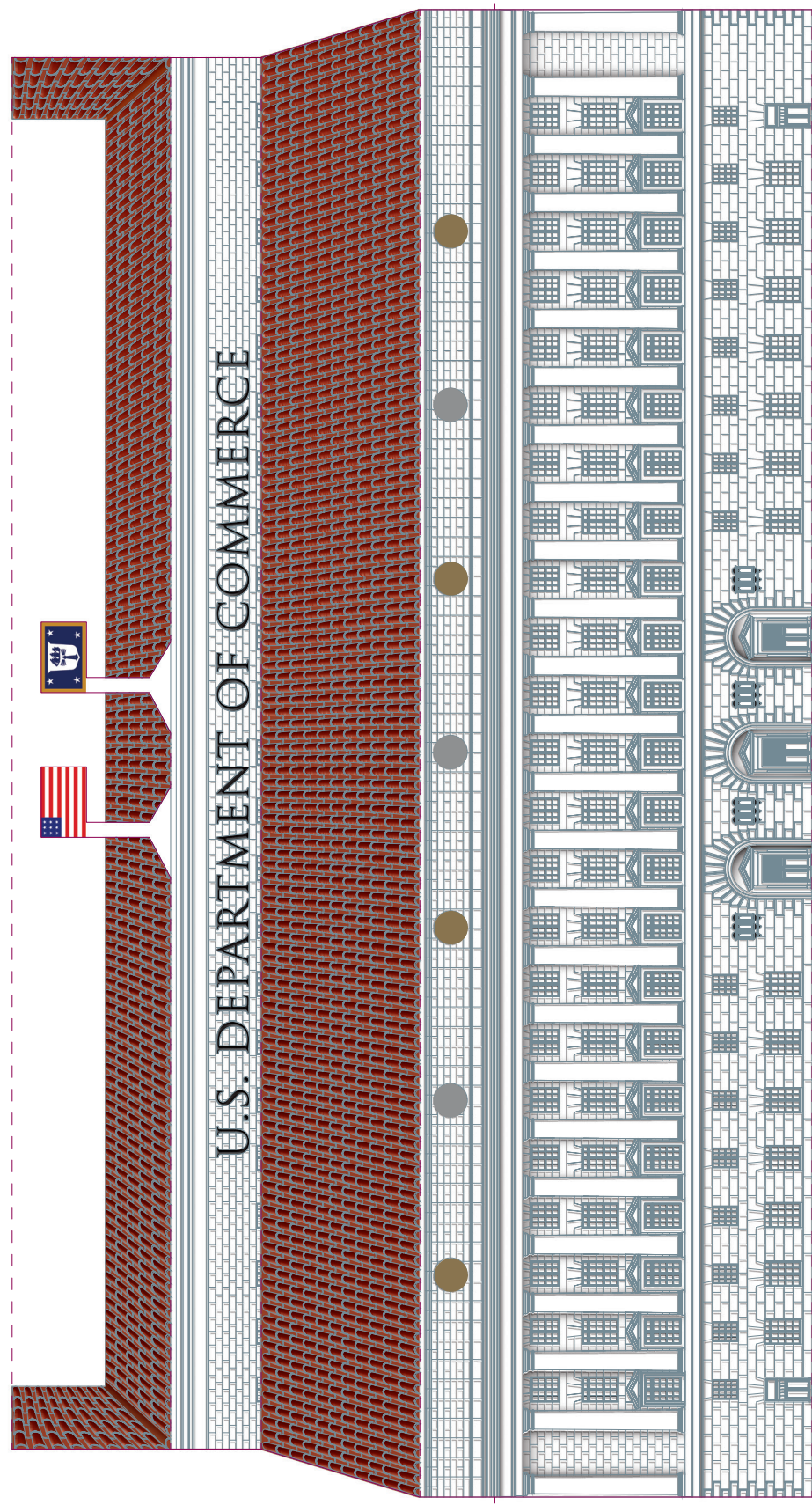
Jennifer Boger
Michael Finn
Matthew Hein

Industry and Analysis

International Trade Administration

The ITA China Medical Devices and Pharmaceuticals Team, at the 2015 JCCT, is cited for successfully addressing industry stakeholders' top trade concern by setting in motion changes that will significantly reduce the time it takes for U.S. exporters to bring pharmaceuticals and medical devices to China. These changes include a suite of new policies from the Chinese Government and new annual reports issued by the Chinese regulator detailing the reduction in time it achieves each year. These changes effectively furthered the Department's Strategic Objective of increasing U.S. exports.

CONGRATULATIONS
2016
HONOR AWARDS RECIPIENTS



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY



GOLD MEDAL SCIENTIFIC/ ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Michael A. Boss
Kathryn E. Keenan
Stephen E. Russek
Karl F. Stupic

Physical Measurement Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is recognized for transforming magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) into a quantitative tool for unambiguously diagnosing and monitoring disease by creating a suite of calibration standards, or “phantoms,” that for the first time enable MRI images to be compared across machines and over time. By mimicking key attributes of the body, the phantoms ensure that MRI images provide quantifiable and traceable data to treat conditions including traumatic brain injury, neurodegenerative diseases, and cancer. The team successfully transferred their technology to foster widespread adoption.

Physical Measurement Laboratory
Information Technology Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The organizations are recognized for exceptional scientific achievement culminating in a loophole-free test of Bell’s theorem using entangled photon pairs. The test proves quantum theory complete with a maximum chance of an alternate theory accounting for the results at about 1 in 170 million, thereby yielding clear evidence against the 1935 paper of Einstein, Podolsky, and Rosen. NIST’s achievement is the first experiment to close three major “loopholes” that plagued earlier tests, through the use of NIST-developed single-photon detectors, single-photon sources, and random number generators.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY



SILVER MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Therese McAllister
David Butry
Stephen Cauffman
Erica Kuligowski

Engineering Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is recognized for the development of the Community Resilience Planning Guide for Buildings and Infrastructure Systems. The Guide “operationalizes” community resilience, using a six-step process to help communities think through and plan for their particular hazards, their social and economic needs post-event, and recovery of the built environment. The nominees’ extraordinary public outreach efforts, including five regional workshops, public comment periods, Federal agency engagement, and targeted outreach to key stakeholders, were critical to success.

Elaine Barker
Lawrence Bassham III
Shu-jen Chang
Lidong Chen
Quynh Dang
Morris Dworkin
John Kelsey
Rene Peralta
Ray Perlner
Andrew Regenscheid

Information Technology Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is recognized for exceptional technical innovation in leading a global effort to develop Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 202, the “SHA-3” hash function standard. Cryptographic hash functions are critical components of the technologies (e.g., digital signatures, message authentication) that secure global communications, international electronic commerce, and more. Advances in cryptanalysis in 2004-07 weakened the security of all widely used hash functions, broadly threatening cybersecurity. SHA-3 restores the foundation of cybersecurity for decades.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY



SILVER MEDAL SCIENTIFIC/ ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Andrew Allen
Lyle Levine

Material Measurement Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is honored for establishing innovative new instrumentation and software to measure microstructure and dynamics in materials over many length scales and under real-world conditions. Their achievement, illustrated through key application studies, provides a new window into materials' behavior that fosters their deployment into energy, building, and other technologies. The tools, incorporated into a facility that leverages the powerful x-rays at Argonne National Laboratory, are now a sought after resource for industrial, government, and academic scientists nationwide.

Bryan Barnes
Richard Silver

Physical Measurement Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is recognized for their pioneering advances in optical microscopy, including first-in-the-world quantitative measurements of structures 30 times smaller than the wavelength of the light used to measure them. The group has paved the way for U.S. semiconductor manufacturers and equipment suppliers to

resolve critical issues in deep subwavelength linewidth and defect metrology. Innovations in structured illumination and 3-D scattered light field analysis enabled the group to unlock quantitative information from images at near-atomic scales, a resolution previously thought impossible.

Steven W. Brown
Keith R. Lykke (Posthumous)

Physical Measurement Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is recognized for developing and applying an innovative laser-based method to the calibration of VIIRS, the premier instrument on both the Suomi NPP satellite and soon-to-be-launched Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS). The group demonstrated that their method provides a full system-level calibration of the sensor, lowers calibration uncertainties by an order of magnitude, reduces calibration time from 20 to 3 days, and accurately quantifies subtle stray light and light polarization effects that impact the most demanding VIIRS on-orbit measurement, ocean color.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

Robert Keller

Material Measurement Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. Keller is honored for inventing transmission electron backscatter diffraction. This microscopy technique provides a 10-fold improvement of measurement of the atomic structure of crystalline materials compared to traditional means, and thus is a revolutionary new tool for the development of vital materials for advanced electronics, nanotechnologies, and innovative structural alloys. Because of its power, this technique has been eagerly adopted for distribution by instrument manufacturers worldwide and has already been deployed by semiconductor firms, government labs, and universities.

John P. Marino

Luke Arbogast

Robert Brinson

Material Measurement Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is recognized for developing a revolutionary nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) method for 'fingerprinting' the structure of biopharmaceuticals. Using a new form of NMR data collection and processing, they were able to determine, with atomic resolution, the structure of a monoclonal antibody protein, a feat previously thought to be impossible. Their work provides a new fundamental measurement tool to protein drug manufacturers and regulators, supporting the development of lower cost generics that promise to greatly increase patient access to these innovative lifesaving medications.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

Kevin McGrattan
Glenn Forney
Anthony Hamins
Randall McDermott
Richard Peacock
Craig Weinschenk

Engineering Laboratory

Blaza Toman

Information Technology Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is recognized for developing the Fire Dynamics Simulator (FDS) fire modeling software, an outstanding technical achievement in the practical application of fire science, to create an innovative engineering tool for cost-effective fire-safe design of structures. FDS bridges the gap between basic research and practical application, while maintaining the highest standards of scientific rigor. FDS has had a significant impact on improving fire safety and reducing annual fire losses. The Fire Dynamics Simulator has revolutionized how performance-based fire safety design is implemented in the U.S.

David R. Novotny
Alexandra E. Curtin
Michael H. Francis
Joshua A. Gordon
Jeffrey R. Guerrieri

Communications Technology Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The group is recognized for the development of the “Configurable Robotic Millimeter-Wave Antenna” (CROMMA) facility. Based on a six degree of freedom articulated arm robot, and a dynamic position and orientation laser tracking system, CROMMA is the world’s first 100–500 GHz antenna near-field scanning range. CROMMA enables antenna pattern, gain, and polarization measurements over any scan geometry (spherical, cylindrical, planar, extrapolation) with significantly lower uncertainties (<25 μm positioning accuracy) to meet the test needs of critical communication, satellite, and sensing systems.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



GOLD MEDAL

LEADERSHIP

James M. Roberts

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Roberts is cited for leading three field missions in the oil and gas fields of northeastern Utah in the winters of 2012, 2013, and 2014 to identify the cause of unusual wintertime episodes of high ozone pollution. He developed scientific strategy, coordinated the work of NOAA and external collaborators, and worked extensively with air quality managers and oil/gas industry stakeholders from early 2011 until summer 2015. The studies led directly to three new laws in Utah to govern extraction and processing of oil and natural gas, thereby aiding the region's efforts to meet Federal air quality standards.

N. Michael Simpson
Ronald Mahmot
Nancy DeFrancesco
Kevin Berberich
Richard Ullman
Jeffery Clegg
H. Douglas Whiteley
Irene Parker
Suzanne Hilding

*National Environmental Satellite, Data
and Information Service*

Douglas Biesecker

National Weather Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The Deep Space Climate Observatory mission team is honored for leading the Agency to establish the Nation's first satellite dedicated to space weather. Orbiting 1 million miles above Earth, DSCOVR joins NOAA's polar sun-synchronous and geostationary orbit satellites as pillars in our essential environmental observing architecture to protect lives and property. Space weather and its interaction with the Earth and the near-Earth environment increasingly affect our Nation's economic and physical well-being, impacting billions of dollars of commerce annually.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



GOLD MEDAL SCIENTIFIC/ ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Jay Lawrimore
Anthony Arguez
Boyin Huang
Matthew Menne
Russell Vose
Huai-Min Zhang
Patricia Viva Banzon
Byron Gleason
Thomas Smith
Claude Williams, Jr.

*National Environmental Satellite, Data
and Information Service*

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The group is honored for its work incorporating new data sources and developing an algorithm for NOAA's world-leading global surface temperature dataset. This resulted in ground-breaking research that reassessed global temperature trends. The results, published in *Science*, found that the rate of global warming during the past 15 years has been as fast as or faster than that seen during the latter half of the 20th century. This refuted the notion that there has been a "hiatus" in the rate of global warming.

Kenneth L. Pryor

*National Environmental Satellite, Data
and Information Service*

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Mr. Pryor is honored for significant scientific advances made to the Microburst Windspeed Potential product that enable more accurate and higher confidence levels in severe thunderstorm downburst predictions. His work to employ a comprehensive validation process involving a multi-sensor direct comparison approach resulted in the implementation of coefficients that improve the Microburst Windspeed Potential algorithm, which will help save lives and property. He also ensured our stakeholders will access new resulting data by his training and outreach efforts, and by developing a new phone app.

Jeffrey S. Whitaker

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Whitaker is honored for leading the 20th Century Reanalysis (20CR) project. His pioneering mathematical techniques combine surface-pressure observations and weather forecasts to generate global weather maps from the mid-1800s to the present. The 20CR provides the first-ever reconstruction of global weather conditions prior to the 1940s, from the Earth's surface to the jet stream. Better understanding of weather associated with historic events (from the sinking of the *Titanic* to the 1930s Dust Bowl and more) improves current forecasts which, in turn, affect the public, science, and industry.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



SILVER MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Todd Smith
Matthew Gilmore
James Cassin
Scott Doyle
Jeffrey Ray
Jason Couse
Susan Oliver

National Marine Fisheries Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The group is honored for obtaining criminal guilty pleas from seven persons and entities that conspired to illegally sell 300 tons of summer flounder worth \$1.2 million. The conspirators received prison sentences totaling 16 months, and paid \$1.2 million in fines and \$1.5 million used for environmental restitution. The vulnerabilities exposed during the investigation caused the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council to suspend the Research Set Aside Program, pending modifications to its monitoring regulations.

Mark Tew
Pablo Santos
David Sharp
Shannon White
Michael Dion
John Kuhn
Frank Alsheimer
Matthew Belk

National Weather Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The group is honored for outstanding leadership and innovation by developing and operationally implementing a new Hurricane Local Warning (HLW) product. The HLW replaces the complicated and lengthy Hurricane Local Statement. The HLW provides improved messaging for tropical cyclone watches/warnings, weather threats and impacts, preparedness information, and more. The HLW is largely automated from Weather Forecast Office gridded databases using an industry-standard format suitable for portable devices and software applications that enable faster dissemination of tropical hazard information to decision makers and the public.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



SILVER MEDAL SCIENTIFIC/ ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Greg Bast
CDR Devin Brakob
Kenneth Heystek
Terence Lynch
William Olney
CDR Scott Price
Damon Sans Souci
CAPT Michael Silah
CDR Mark Sweeney

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

James Price

Acquisition and Grants Office

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The group is recognized for funding, contracting, installation, and testing efforts of the T-56 Series 3.5 Engine Enhancement Package on NOAA WP-3D aircraft, resulting in certifying it for use. Extraordinary use of financial acumen, program management, contracting ingenuity, and instrumentation expertise allowed the group to accomplish this feat in a limited amount of time gaining “launch customer” pricing and full funding with Hurricane Sandy Supplemental funds. These engines will result in an 11% fuel savings equal to approximately 29,037 gallons of fuel every year and \$145,185 in cost savings.

Diane Kapareiko
Dorothy Jeffress
Gary Wikfors

National Marine Fisheries Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The group is honored for creativity, persistence, and scientific rigor in discovering a probiotic bacterial strain living within a healthy, adult oyster that protects larval oysters from disease, documenting the mechanism by which probiotic effects occur, and ensuring that the strain is safe for use by shellfish hatchery workers. These scientific accomplishments led to a formal partnership with a company to explore commercialization of the probiotic strain. Successful commercialization will provide an environmentally friendly way to improve oyster hatchery production.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



SILVER MEDAL ADMINISTRATIVE/ TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Michael Blumenfeld
Olivia Bradley
Kelly Mabe
Mitchell Ross

Acquisition and Grants Office

Michael Kane
Ben Kyger
David Michaud
John Potts

National Weather Service

Zachary Goldstein

Office of the Chief Information Officer

Shraddha Upadhyaya

Office of the General Counsel

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The group is honored for increasing the operational supercomputing capacity nearly four-fold, enabling the Weather and Climate Operational Supercomputing System (WCOSS) to process and analyze Earth observations at quadrillions of calculations per second to support weather, water, and climate forecast models. The acquisition delivers greater supercomputing capacity in 2015 than had been targeted for 2019, achieving a total capacity of 5.78 PFLOPS. The team's actions have resulted in a "game changing" upgrade to the WCOSS in terms of being able to provide consistent, accurate forecasts with more lead time.



SILVER MEDAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

Southern Region – National Weather Service

National Weather Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The organization is honored for sustained services and support during widespread disastrous flooding during Spring 2015. Impact Decision Support Services from the Regional Operations Center and many Weather Forecast Offices kept Federal, State, and local partners across Oklahoma and Texas well informed over an 8-week span. River Forecast Centers provided accurate forecasts and guidance that protected lives and property along area rivers. When catastrophic flash floods hit Wimberley, Houston, and many other towns, countless lives were saved by timely and accurate watches and warnings from local WFOs.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION



GOLD MEDAL CUSTOMER SERVICE

Douglas Kinkoph
Christopher Holt
Aimee Meacham
Timothy Moyer
Andrew Spurgeon
Gwendolyn Weaver
Scott Woods

*Office of Telecommunications and
Information Applications*

Jennifer Duane

*Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Communications and Information*

Wayne Ritchie

Office of Policy Coordination and Management

Percy Robinson

Office of the General Counsel

*National Telecommunications and
Information Administration*

The cross-agency collaborative team is recognized for strengthening the digital economy through extraordinary customer service leadership in their successful administration of the \$4.2 billion Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), the Department's largest and most complex grant program. The group's personal initiative and public commitment was instrumental in its successful completion of these awards so America can continue to lead the 21st-century Internet-based economy.



SILVER MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Paige Atkins
Robert Denny
Charles Glass
Brandon Mitchell
Steven Molina
Brian Patten
David Reed
LiChing Sung
Jonathan Williams
Aisha Wilson

Office of Spectrum Management

*National Telecommunications and
Information Administration*

The OSM WRC-15 team is honored for delegation leadership, surpassing U.S. expected outcomes at the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference by advancing international regulations supporting our Nation's existing and future private and public sector requirements. Their superb effort furthered U.S. technological advances on a global scale and opened the way for improvements to the quality of life in the United States and global community by further enabling wireless broadband, increased aircraft safety, and expanded use of unmanned aircraft while ensuring protection of vital government systems.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

Glenn Reynolds

*Office of the Assistant Secretary for
Communications and Information*

Karen Hanson
Jean Rice
Laura Spining
Sandeep Taxali

*Office of Telecommunications and
Information Applications*

Heather Phillips

Office of Congressional and Public Affairs

*National Telecommunications and
Information Administration*

The group is honored for achieving the President's directive to promote broadband deployment, competition, and adoption by removing barriers and identifying new actions. The group solicited stakeholder input, analyzed policy barriers, and led interagency deliberations that identified additional funding options valued at \$10 billion. The group also developed new initiatives, including BroadbandUSA's Community Connectivity Initiative, launched by the White House in March 2016. Their efforts promote Federal support for broadband, which drives economic development, innovation, and access to opportunity.



SILVER MEDAL

SCIENTIFIC/
ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Stephen Voran
Andrew Catellier

Institute for Telecommunication Sciences

*National Telecommunications and
Information Administration*

The group is honored for designing and executing a highly compressed speech intelligibility testing regime that produced authoritative results to inform international standards under development for next-generation wireless communications equipment. The work was relied on by representatives of the U.S. and five other countries during deliberations to define the relevant international technical standards to ensure that public safety mission critical voice communications requirements will be met by commercial off-the-shelf equipment worldwide.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER



SILVER MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Erin Cavanaugh
Sabrina Montgomery
Stuart Simon

Office of IT Policy and Planning

Mary Ann Millard
Terri Ware

Office of Management and Business Operations

Office of the Chief Information Officer

Michael Mihlfried
Valerie Smith
Virna Winters

Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration

John Guinan

Office of the General Counsel

Office of the Chief Information Officer

The group is recognized for effectively joining forces to initiate, plan, collaborate, and stand-up the Department's Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) Program across the organization. FITARA is a new Act that seeks to drive efficiencies in the current framework, governance, and management of information

technology (IT) across the entire Federal government. FITARA sets forth new authorities relating to CIO accountability and oversight in the areas of budget planning, acquisition planning, and workforce management. It requires that organizations implement new strategies to drive collaboration, target and remove inefficiencies in order to provide better value and improve IT outcomes.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL



GOLD MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Mark L. Greenblatt
Brian Nysenbaum
Robert J. Braine
Peter Sima-Eichler
William Tokash

Office of Investigations

Office of Inspector General

The group is recognized for conducting a complex investigation that identified time and attendance fraud, misuse of office, contracting violations, hiring improprieties, and whistleblower retaliation, and for producing a high-quality public report with recommendations focused on appropriate disciplinary actions and significant policy and procedural changes.

Keith Teamer

Office of Investigations

Office of Inspector General

ASAC Teamer is recognized for tenacious pursuit of all leads and support to DOJ civil and criminal judicial action to remedy the false classification of small-diameter graphite electrodes from China to avoid payment of antidumping duties. Through skillful investigation and cooperative efforts, he spearheaded the investigation that proved false statements were made to ITA and Customs officials to avoid duties of more than \$2.1 million. As a result, the subject companies were criminally convicted, fined \$250,000, and agreed to pay \$3 million to resolve a civil lawsuit.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL



SILVER MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Allen R. Crawley
Matthew Katz
Richard Krasner
Frederick J. Meny
Katherine A. Smith

Office of Audit and Evaluation

Office of Inspector General

The audit team is recognized for identifying critical weaknesses in NOAA's acquisition management and oversight for the multibillion dollar Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite-R Series (GOES-R), which put the program at risk for significant cost overruns and schedule delays. The team has clarified complex issues and made valuable recommendations to minimize data gaps for this nationally critical program. The team's work was instrumental in improving management and oversight of this major acquisition.

Christopher Kapek
Lisa Kelly
Marla Iwata
Edward Newbins

Office of Audit and Evaluation

Office of Inspector General

The team is cited for identifying \$46 million in benefits and recommending improvements to EDA's Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Program. They identified underperforming grants with persistent excess funds; exposure of loan funds to misuse and economic loss; and limitations on EDA's ability to oversee underutilized RLFs. The team made several recommendations, including to develop an improved process for monitoring grantee sequestrations of excess funds and default rates, and timely corrective actions for noncompliant RLFs and to document determinations on RLFs that should be terminated, transferred, or consolidated.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



GOLD MEDAL LEADERSHIP

Shira Perlmutter
Mary Criitharis
Charles Eloshway
Caridad Berdud
John Rodriguez
Kitisri Sukhapinda
Jennifer Vernon

Office of Policy and International Affairs

Peter N. Fowler

International Trade Administration

United States Patent and Trademark Office

The group is honored for its leadership in drafting and negotiating the text of the intellectual property (IP) provisions of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement. Accounting for nearly 40 percent of world GDP, the TPP writes the rules for global trade in the 21st century. Through the group's efforts, these rules will include strong and balanced protections for American innovators and consumers that will promote the growth of U.S. IP-related exports and the nearly 40 million American jobs that are attributable to IP-intensive industries.



SILVER MEDAL PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Stacy Fuller Lucas
Ronald Stright
Laura A. Grier
Amy Kim
Richard L. Ellis

Office of the Commissioner for Patents

John Sheers
Al Teymourlouei
Vu Tran
Rajiv Tuli
David Landrith

Office of the Chief Information Officer

United States Patent and Trademark Office

The group is honored for their extraordinary impact on U.S. Intellectual Property and Federal IT by pioneering, developing, and deploying an innovative, high-impact Patent Examination Tool for case management. The tool meets the highest standards of system stability, maintainability, and usability to provide Patent Examiners with a reliable, easy-to-use examination experience and empower them to maximize their essential role in U.S. patent prosecution.

Many thanks to those individuals who contributed to today's program:

Department's Incentive Awards Program Manager, Emeritus:

Michael R. Osver

Incentive Awards Program Officers of the Department

Monica Hudnell – BIS

John Portell – EDA

Glenn West – ESA

Ruben Pedroza – ITA

Morgan Frycklund – NIST

Karen Robin – NOAA

Larry McCrary – NTIA

Mary Ann Millard – OCIO

Ann Eilers – OIG

Debra Ginther – PTO

Special thanks to:

Joel Silberman, Soloist

Richard Houston, Writer/Editor

Armed Forces Color Guard

U.S. Marine Band Brass Quintet

Mail and Multimedia Division

