Memorial Service for David Cooper Blee, founder and CEO of the United States Nuclear Industry Council (USNIC)

January 8, 2020

The GAIN team is deeply saddened by the recent loss of David Blee, the founder and CEO of the United States Nuclear Industry Council (USNIC). David strongly advocated for the US leadership in nuclear energy and worked tirelessly to further cooperation between industry, research organizations, and government agencies toward this goal. Many of the successful nuclear energy partnerships that GAIN has established originated through his efforts. David's contributions in support of the nuclear energy industry will be sorely missed, but their befeficial impacts will be long-lasting.

Memorial Service Info

GAIN announces first-round FY-2020 Nuclear Energy Voucher recipients

December 19, 2019

The Gateway for Accelerated Innovation in Nuclear (GAIN) announced today that two nuclear companies will be provided GAIN Nuclear Energy (NE) Vouchers to accelerate the innovation and application of advanced nuclear technologies. NE vouchers provide advanced nuclear technology innovators with access to the extensive nuclear research capabilities and expertise available across the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) national laboratory complex. This is the first set of awards in FY 2020.

The GAIN NE Voucher Program accepts applications on innovation that supports production and utilization of nuclear energy (e.g., for generation of electricity, supply of process heat, etc.) in the following general topic areas:

- Analysis and evaluation of, and for, advanced reactor concepts and associated designs, including development of licensing information or strategies
- Structural material and component development, testing and qualification
- Advanced nuclear fuel development, fabrication and testing (includes fuel materials and cladding)
- Development, testing, and qualification of instrumentation, controls, and sensor technologies that are hardened for harsh environments and secured against cyber intrusion
- Modeling and simulation, high-performance computing, codes and methods
- Technical assistance from subject matter experts and/or data/information to support technology development and/or confirm key technical or licensing issues

The businesses selected to receive GAIN nuclear energy vouchers for Round 1 FY 2020 are:

GAIN 2020 1st Round NE Voucher Recipient	Awarded Proposal	Partner Facility
Hydromine, Inc. New York, NY	On-Line Lead/Water Heat Exchanger Sensor/System Feasibility	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Lightbridge Corporation Reston, VA	Advanced Test Reactor Experiment Design for Measurement of Lightbridge Fuel™ Thermophysical Properties	Idaho National Laboratory

GAIN NE voucher recipients do not receive direct financial awards. The GAIN nuclear energy vouchers provide access to national laboratory capabilities at no cost to the voucher recipients. All awardees are responsible for a minimum 20 percent cost share, which could be an in-kind contribution. Further information on the GAIN nuclear energy voucher program as well as current and all past awards may be found **here.**

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Nuclear Energy (DOE-NE) established GAIN to provide the nuclear community with the technical, regulatory and financial support necessary to move innovative nuclear energy technologies toward commercialization while ensuring the continued safe, reliable and economic operation of the existing nuclear fleet. Through GAIN, DOE is making its state-of-the-art and continuously improving RD&D infrastructure available to stakeholders to achieve faster and cost-effective development of innovative nuclear energy technologies toward commercial readiness.
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March 12, 2020