

**Media Advisory**  
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**SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS AND BUSINESS LEADERS CALL ON  
CONGRESS TO SUPPORT AND INVEST IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

*Ninth Annual Science-Engineering-Technology Congressional Visits Scheduled for March 3 - 4, 2004*

- WHO:** More than 200 scientists, engineers and business leaders will be in Washington, D.C. next week to emphasize to Congress that increased and balanced federal investment in research and development is essential to continued U.S. global leadership and strength and that federally funded research secures the nation's future.
- WHAT:** Their visit is part of the ninth annual Science-Engineering-Technology Congressional Visits Days (CVD). Participants in CVD will discuss the nation's broad portfolio of investments in science, engineering and technology and will provide constituent voices to Members of Congress on both the local and national impact of these programs.
- WHEN:** **Wednesday, March 3, 2:30-5 p.m.** The two-day event kicks off with a briefings and remarks from Dr. Ray Orbach, Department of Energy, Office of Science (invited), and Dr. Arden Bement, National Science Foundation Interim Director, followed by briefings by senior members of Capitol Hill staff. The briefings take place Wednesday, March 3, 2:30-5 p.m. at the American Association for the Advancement of Science Auditorium, 1200 New York, Ave. NW.
- Wednesday, March 3, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** A reception and awards ceremony will take place between 5:30-7:30 p.m. on March 3 in Room B339, Rayburn House Office Building to present the George E. Brown, Jr. Science-Engineering-Technology Leadership Award to Representatives Judy Biggert (R-IL) and Rush Holt (D-NJ).
- Thursday, March 4, 8 a.m.** CVD participants will visit with congressional staff and Members on March 4, following a Congressional breakfast at 8:00 a.m. in 902, Hart Senate Office Bldg, featuring Representative Nick Smith (R-MI).
- WHY:** More than 50% of all industrial innovation and growth in the United States since World War II can be attributed to advances pioneered through scientific research, with publicly funded R&D the vital foundation for today's scientific and technological progress. Achievements from federally funded science, engineering and technology include global environmental monitoring, lasers, liquid crystal displays, the Internet, among many other scientific, technological and mathematics advances.

**BACKGROUND:**

The event, sponsored by the Science-Engineering-Technology Work Group, brings together a wide range of disciplines in science and technology, as well as industrial interests, for congressional and administration briefings and visits to Members and key staff on Capitol Hill. The Science-Engineering-Technology Work Group is an information network comprising professional, scientific, and engineering societies, higher education associations, and institutions of higher learning. Additional information is available on the Internet at <http://www.setcvd.org/>.

**Media are welcome to attend the above briefings, awards function and breakfast and are invited to interview representatives of the Science-Engineering-Technology Work Group.**