

# Media Advisory

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## SIXTH ANNUAL SCIENCE-ENGINEERING-TECHNOLOGY CONGRESSIONAL VISITS DAYS: May 1-2, 2001

### *Representatives of science, technology and industry spotlight basic federal R&D*

Well over 200 scientists, engineers and business leaders are expected to participate in the sixth annual Science-Engineering-Technology Congressional Visits Day (CVD) on May 1 – 2, 2001. The event will bring together a wide range of disciplines and industrial interests for congressional and administration briefings, as well as visits to Members and key staff on Capitol Hill. The purpose of the two day event is to convey to Congress the crucial message that increased and balanced federal investment in R&D is essential to U.S. global leadership and that partnerships between the public and private sectors play a critical role in our nation's future prosperity and national security – now and for many years to come.

Congressional Visits Days is sponsored jointly by the Coalition for Technology Partnerships and the Science-Engineering-Technology Work Group (see below for more details.).

According to Debbie Rudolph, Manager, Technology Policy, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, "Basic R&D supported by the federal government is crucial as the foundation to competitive technologies and the nation's future economic well-being and national security." Adds Kathleen Kingscott of IBM, on behalf of the Coalition for Technology Partnerships, "In too many cases we are living off the seed corn of past investments, and unless we demonstrate the will to increase support for science and technology R&D, future generations of Americans will suffer the consequences."

The Administration briefing will take place on May 1 between 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Hotel, 999 9<sup>th</sup> St., N.W. Daniel Goldin, Administrator of NASA, as well as Dr. Joseph Bordogna, Deputy Director, National Science Foundation, have committed to brief the attendees. Also confirmed are Kevin Kolevar, Department of Energy, Senior Policy Advisor, Karen Brown, Acting Director, National Institute of Standards and Technology and Marcus Peacock, Associate Director, Office of Management & Budget. The Congressional staffers briefing will take place in the same location from 3:20 – 5:00 p.m. and will include David Goldston, Majority Staff Director, House Committee on Science, Robert Palmer, Minority Staff Director, House Committee on Science and Bryan Hannegan, Staff Scientist, Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee.

House Science Committee Chairman, Sherwood Boehlert, will offer remarks at approximately 8:30 a.m. on May 2 during the course of a CVD Breakfast Briefing in the Russell Senate Office Bldg. Caucus Room.

There will also be a function on May 1 between 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. in 216 Hart Senate Office Bldg. to present the George E. Brown, Jr. Science-Engineering-Technology Leadership Award to Senators Christopher Bond and Barbara Mikulski. Both Senator Bond and Senator Mikulski have confirmed their attendance at this event.

**The Media is welcome to attend the above briefings and awards function and are invited to speak to representatives of the Science-Engineering Work Group (a broad coalition of scientific societies and the Coalition for Technology partnerships, a group of high tech companies and trade associations), as well as those visiting their Members of Congress. Both will be available on May 1 at the Renaissance Hotel immediately before and after the briefings, as well as between 3:00 – 3:20 p.m., for background discussions and interviews.**

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Participants in CVD will discuss our nation's broad portfolio of investments in science, engineering and technology and will provide a constituent voice to Members of Congress on both the local and national impact of these programs. "Crucial to the federal role in science and technology is a balanced approach to federal investments; each are mutually supportive, with the whole greater than the sum of its parts. Our aim is to push these efforts over the finish line," adds Kevin Marvel, Associate Executive Officer of the American Astronomical Society.

More than 50 percent 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 and technical advances.

**The Coalition for Technology Partnerships is a group of small, medium, and large businesses and trade associations. These groups have joined forces to demonstrate that partnerships between government and industry reflect the realities of today's budget climate and technology development mechanisms. Contact: Kathleen N. Kingscott – Phone: 202/515-5193; Fax: 202/515-4943; e-mail: [tking@us.ibm.com](mailto:tking@us.ibm.com)**

**The Science-Engineering-Technology Work Group is an information network comprising professional, scientific, and engineering societies, higher education associations, institutions of higher learning, and trade associations. The Work Group is concerned about the future vitality of the U.S. science, mathematics, and engineering enterprise. Contacts: Debbie Rudolph – Phone: 202/785-0017; Fax: 202/785-0835; e-mail: [d.rudolph@ieee.org](mailto:d.rudolph@ieee.org) and Kevin Marvel – Phone: 202/328-2010; e-mail: [marvel@aas.org](mailto:marvel@aas.org).**

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