Sixty-second
Honor Awards Program

The Amphitheater
Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center

October 19, 2010

Introduction
Frederick E. Stephens
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration

Presentation of Colors
Armed Forces Color Guard

National Anthem
Paul Bell

Address
Honorable Gary Locke
Secretary of Commerce

Announcement of Awards
Honorable Scott Quehl
Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration

Presentation of Gold and Silver Medals
Secretary Locke assisted by Department Officials

Closing Remarks
Frederick E. Stephens
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration

Soloist
Paul Bell
MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

More than a century ago, the U.S. Department of Commerce was established and charged with a most important responsibility: to promote economic opportunities for U.S. companies and workers.

The services and tools required to fulfill this mandate have changed to meet the needs of a changing and highly competitive 21st century global economy, but the commitment and reputation for excellence of the public servants who work here remain at the highest level.

The accomplishments recognized at this ceremony reflect the diverse ways in which the talented and dedicated men and women of the Department of Commerce serve our Nation and contribute to our prosperity and security.

Among our outstanding accomplishments are these:

- A groundbreaking study on the state of the middle class in America that will help shape Federal policies
- The lifting of a Chinese domestic content requirement that will open a potential $100 million wind turbine market to U.S. exporters
- The development of the U.S. standard of civilian time, the world’s most precise absolute measurement of any kind
- The creation of a hurricane storm-surge model used by emergency managers to make life-impacting and costly evacuation decisions

President Obama has said that for our Nation to compete and win in the 21st century, we must rebuild our economy on a stronger, more balanced foundation. The men and women celebrated here are helping to build that stronger, more balanced foundation and a brighter and better future for all.

It is my great privilege to recognize and applaud our 2010 Honor Awards recipients.
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
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION

Gold Medal

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Matthew J. Falls
Management and Program Analyst

Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration

Roger D. Kilmer
Director, Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program

Phillip K. Wadsworth
Carroll A. Thomas Martin
Industrial Specialists

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Eve Lerman
Leila A. Odom
International Trade Specialists

International Trade Administration

Arminta N. Quash
Chief, Census and Related Programs Support Branch

U.S. Census Bureau
Economics and Statistics Administration

Shirley B. Dean
Deputy Chief Information Officer

Minority Business Development Agency

Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration

The group is recognized for developing and delivering timely business focused services and programs more effectively and more efficiently through CommerceConnect Michigan: a Department-wide coordinated "One-Stop Shop". The group provided American businesses in the struggling auto industry with better, faster and more comprehensive access to the Department of Commerce’s 60-plus technical assistance, grant and information-based programs. This new process enhanced Department effectiveness in meeting program objectives, along with a better Department-wide image and culture of customer service excellence.

Silver Medal

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Audrey E. Clarke
Senior Grants/Cooperative Agreements Specialist

Katherine D. Penyak
Procurement Analyst

Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration

The group is recognized for exceptional innovation and professionalism in developing and implementing the DOC ARRA Recipient Reporting System. Their leadership and collaborative spirit was critical to implementing a new program in a constantly changing environment in a few short months. They deftly prepared and issued Departmental guidance, and conducted daily/weekly meetings to ensure understanding and compliance. Their dedication to excellence resulted in greater data accuracy, quality, timeliness and ensured the transparency promised to the American public by the President.
BUREAU OF INDUSTRY AND SECURITY

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

David Nardella
Criminal Investigator
Export Enforcement
Bureau of Industry and Security

Special Agent Nardella is recognized for working with other Federal authorities in operating an undercover company, which purported to be a supplier of aerospace commodities, for 2 1/2 years. Special Agent Nardella acted in an undercover capacity, meeting with a conspirator to broker highly export-controlled carbon fiber material, destined for the China Academy of Space Technology, for use in their military satellite industry. He arrested the first two subjects separately, then convinced them to lure another member of the conspiracy into the U.S. All three were subsequently convicted.

John Sonderman
Rick Shimon
Supervisory Criminal Investigators

Joseph Varga
Criminal Investigator
Export Enforcement

Greg Michelsen
Attorney Advisor
Office of the General Counsel
Export Enforcement
Bureau of Industry and Security

The group is recognized for excellence in the investigation and successful criminal prosecution in the Balli Group case. The group overcame an elaborate attempt by the suspects to mislead the Department of Commerce regarding the destination and use of Boeing 747 aircraft. The group was able to block the delivery of three Boeing 747 aircraft to an Iranian airline and ground another three Boeing 747 aircraft already in Iran. The investigation resulted in a $15 million civil penalty, the highest in agency history.
PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Gordon Pomeroy
Supervisory Criminal Investigator

Lauren Nieland
Joseph Whitehead
Criminal Investigators

Export Enforcement
Bureau of Industry and Security

Adrienne Frazier
Attorney Advisory
Office of the General Counsel
Export Enforcement
Bureau of Industry and Security

The group is recognized for investigating and uncovering massive gaps in recordkeeping and unlicensed exports of embargoed materials to Syria, Iran, and Sudan (in violation of the Export Administration and OFAC Regulations) by DHL, one of the world’s largest international shipping companies. This action was unique because, for the first time, it was taken in conjunction with the Office of Foreign Assets Control targeting the same violations. It resulted in a record $9,444,744 civil penalty. The group consists of OEE enforcement agents from several field offices and an attorney from OCC for BIS.

James Thompson
Supervisory Electronics Engineer

John Varesi
General Engineer

Christopher Costanzo
Electronics Engineer

Export Administration
Bureau of Industry and Security

This group is recognized for their distinguished work culminating in a January 2009 Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Defense regarding export controls on uncooled thermal imaging cameras, and the corresponding regulation published in May 2009 that codifies and implements this agreement. Years in the making, this agreement and regulation is a major benefit for the U.S. uncooled thermal imaging industry, which has suffered the severe consequences of an unlevel playing field vis-a-vis competitors in international markets due to stringent unilateral U.S. export controls.
The group is honored for their leadership in the agency’s disaster recovery effort. They played a central role in identifying investment opportunities, engaging local officials in the process, and providing technical assistance in the preparation of program applications. Their efforts led to the agency’s success in allocating $148 million in EDA investments – five times AURO’s regular allocation, without additional personnel, as well as working long hours while selflessly turning down earned overtime pay.

The group is honored for their extraordinary leadership in successfully performing their own duties and those of multiple vacancies in order to provide critical stability to the agency. After experiencing staff reductions totaling 31 percent, EDA received $650 million in supplemental appropriations, nearly three times the agency’s annual budget. The task of designing and implementing plans to effectively obligate these funds quickly to distressed communities, while continuing EDA’s long-term mission of sustainable economic development, fell to the group due to a void in political leadership.
The group is honored for developing an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology, which provided for the systematic capture of data for the 2009 Kenya Population Census. The group created a highly sophisticated data capture system and provided significant on-site and off-site technical support to the Kenyan National Bureau of Statistics. This represents a tremendous leap forward in technology and census design for Kenya. The OCR technology will enable the collection of 99 percent of the population data with a 0.1 percent error rate, which constitutes a vast improvement in accuracy.
The group is recognized for successfully completing a collaborative project with the Chinese government. The project entailed an analysis of U.S. and Chinese trade statistics and reconciliation of the differences in reported trade data. It required coordination with multiple government entities in both countries over five years. The group’s steadfast commitment to the effort yielded a report that was signed at the 2009 plenary of the U.S.—Chinese Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade and advances the understanding of how official trade statistics reveal actual trade flows between our countries.

The group is recognized for technological advances over the last five years by developing and supporting electronic data collection software for the Census Bureau’s Economic Censuses and Current Surveys. This software supports small, medium, large, and extremely complex businesses. To date, secured electronic reporting has been used in 31 out of 72 Economic Censuses and Surveys. For the 2007 Economic Census, electronic reporting reduced the respondent reporting burden, streamlined data processing, and contributed to overall processing savings of $1.6 million.
SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Benjamin Cowan
Lisa Ninomiya
Economists

Douglas Klear
Information Technology Specialist

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is recognized for developing and implementing a new, high-performance central processing system for gross domestic product (GDP) and other key national economic statistics. They introduced streamlined methodologies and substantially reduced computer processing times (by a factor of 20). Their implementation of improved calculations and their development of improved analysis tools was vital to the success of the every-five-year GDP comprehensive revision. Their efforts have resulted in improved reliability and speed of delivery of these statistics to BEA customers.

Carol E. Moylan
Chief, National Income and Wealth Division

Nicole M. Mayerhauser
Chief, Industry Sector Division

Edward T. Morgan
Clinton P. McCully
Supervisory Economists

Aya Hamano
Economist

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Marc Rubin
Statistician

U.S. Census Bureau

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is recognized for developing comprehensive measures of economic activity for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These new statistics—including Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Personal Income—provide new tools for gauging the economic performance of the territories. Working with the Department of Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs and the U.S. Bureau of the Census, BEA developed new territorial statistics within the framework of the U.S. National Income and Product Accounts.
The group is recognized for the innovative use of web-based technology to create and advance OnTheMap for rapid viewing and analysis of massive quantities of data. With detail at the census block level, the application and its underlying data go far beyond traditional tools for measuring local or regional workforce data, economic development, transportation planning, emergency management and educational progress. OnTheMap has changed the way data users receive and process information and is fueling growing demand for data visualization methods.

LEADERSHIP

David N. Beede
Beethika S. Khan
Economists

Office of Policy Development

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is recognized for superior work in the development of a comprehensive analytic report on the state of the middle class in America. The report was prepared at the request of the Vice President and represents months of exhaustive analysis to define what it means to be middle class in America today and what it takes to sustain a middle class lifestyle at various income levels. This is a groundbreaking study that will shape the development of policies aimed at the middle class and influence economic planning over the coming decade.
John M. Bushery
Pamela D. McGovern
Mathematical Statisticians

U.S. Census Bureau
Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is recognized for developing a comprehensive set of statistical quality standards that will ensure more accurate, reliable, timely and effective information about the people and economy of the United States, while reducing the burden to respondents and taxpayers. They researched best practices, achieved the consensus and support of Census managers and produced the standards in record time. These standards demonstrate the Bureau's commitment to quality and transparency, promote confidence in our products and improve our reputation within the global statistical community.

Barbara LoPresti
Chief, Technologies Management Office

U.S. Census Bureau
Economics and Statistics Administration

Ms. LoPresti is recognized for innovative automated solutions that facilitated the listing of housing units in densely populated areas, for establishing a multi-tiered help desk to resolve technical problems arising during field operations and for developing systems to support the Census Coverage Measurement Program. She designed, developed and deployed critical systems on an extremely compressed schedule. Her achievement was essential to the successful completion of Address Canvassing and the re-engineering of the 2010 Census.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Michael Armah
Brendan Leary
Supervisory Economists

Teresita Teensma
Economist

Bureau of Economic Analysis
Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is honored for personal and professional excellence in implementing the new classification for consumer spending in the U.S. economic accounts. The new system provides policymakers and the American public with a contemporary classification that more accurately reflects today's U.S. economy. Through careful planning, the new classification was implemented seamlessly and thoroughly, and BEA customers and supervisors were provided with innovative, easy-to-understand briefings on the impacts of the changes.

J. Gregory Robinson
Statistician

U.S. Census Bureau
Economics and Statistics Administration

Dr. Robinson is recognized for his extraordinary contribution to the field of demographic analysis and its application to coverage evaluation in five Decennial Censuses. His groundbreaking work has enabled the Census Bureau to evaluate the differential coverage of the Census for age, gender, and race groups. These estimates of coverage have been used to inform the planning for each successive Census and to measure improvements in coverage over the decades.
The group is recognized for developing expanded statistics on the use of energy, materials, and purchased services by industry, which are critical for understanding structural change and its implications for the competitiveness of U.S. businesses in a global economy. The introduction of KLEMS statistics in 2005 and the expansion of these statistics to examine the role of outsourcing and offshore outsourcing paved the way for new developments in understanding the sources of growth, productivity, and its implications for U.S. GDP (Gross Domestic Product).
CUSTOMER SERVICE

Pamela Kelly
Benjamin Mandel
Mark Ludwick
Zoe Ambargis
Supervisory Economists

Rebecca Bess
Hope Franklin
Economist

Thomas McComb
Mathematical Statistician

Bureau of Economic Analysis

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is honored for customer service in providing fast and effective information about the economic effects of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). They compiled vital information from a multitude of sources and presented it on BEA’s Web site. They further assisted customers on how to calculate and analyze regional impacts of ARRA and simultaneously improved the delivery of these statistics. Their efforts set a new standard of excellence in customer service.

ADMINISTRATIVE/TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Janet R. Cummings
Gail A. Leithauser
Assistant Division Chiefs,
Field Division

Miguel B. Perez
Annetta Clark Smith
Assistant Division Chiefs,
Decennial Management Division

Timothy J. Devine
Supervisory Survey Statistician

Edward L. Kobilarcik
Supervisory Program Analyst

Neala L. Jones
Program Analyst

U.S. Census Bureau

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group is recognized for validating the cost model assumptions for the 2010 Census Non-Response Follow-Up (NRFU), a $2.74 billion operation, which accounts for a major part of the entire program budget. They reevaluated the logic of the NRFU cost model, using fresh data acquired in the 2009 Address Canvassing operation. They updated 20 components of the cost model and prepared cost estimates for more than 1,000 likely scenarios. Their work ensured funding sufficient to deliver the Constitutionally-mandated population count for the Nation by December 31, 2010.
The group is being honored for developing and implementing the Decennial Security Screening Program. They introduced innovative enhancements to the security screening process for all temporary hires for the 2010 Census. These included deploying Livescan fingerprint devices to capture and transmit fingerprints electronically in support of rapid completion of FBI background checks on more than one million applicants. Their work has bolstered public confidence in the Bureau’s commitment to protecting the integrity of Census data and spurred permanent improvements in the investigation process.
China’s renewable energy market will reach $100 billion by 2020. U.S. wind exports to China could rise to $100 million due to this policy removal.

LEADERSHIP

John E. Peters
Senior Commercial Officer

Trade Promotion and the
U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service

International Trade Administration

Mr. Peters is recognized for leading the Department of Commerce’s operations in Japan. He has created a seamless Department of Commerce presence; expanded export successes; dramatically increased counseling for U.S. companies and focused his team on key Departmental priorities. He exemplifies the highest level of integrity and leadership in mentoring scores of Locally Employed Staff and Foreign Service Officers. As a Career-Minister in the USFCS, Mr. Peters has also served with distinction as Senior Commercial Officer in Seoul, Moscow, and New Delhi and drew on that experience to implement a system delivering outstanding results.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Megan Crowe
International Economist

Manufacturing and Services

Renee Hancher
International Economist

Market Access and Compliance

International Trade Administration

The group is cited for developing an innovative program to bring together interagency partners, industry, academia, and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Food Safety Cooperation Forum to implement the APEC Partnership Training Institute Network, a dynamic public/private partnership that works to improve the safety and flow of trade in processed foods through the APEC region. The nominees continue to work with the FSCF co-chairs, Australia and China, to develop a robust calendar of training workshops and seminars throughout the APEC region to address the standards- and trade-related needs of food exporters and importers.
Jeffrey Gren
Director, Office of Health and Consumer Goods

Emily Arakaki
International Economist

Abby Pratt
International Trade Specialist

Charles Siner
Ellen Szymanski
International Trade Specialists

Lisa Rigoli
Vince H. Suneja
Trade Compliance Officers

Rosemary Gallant
Principal Commercial Officer

Landon Loomis
Commercial Officer

Shuyu Sun
Senior Commercial Specialist

The group is recognized for accomplishments during the period October 2008 to November 2009 leading and implementing programs under the US – China JCCT Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Subgroup with China’s Food and Drug Administration. This Subgroup’s work has led to significant improvement in China’s regulatory regimes resulting in increased opportunities for exports of U.S. health products, while also increasing the quality of health products. An additional accomplishment of the Subgroup is establishing a China–U.S. dialogue on stopping the spread of counterfeit medicines which has led to meaningful results.

Matthew Howard
Morgan Barr
William McElnea
International Economists

Alex Folk
Industrial Specialist

Lisa Rigoli
Vince H. Suneja
Trade Compliance Officers

Market Access and Compliance

National Institute of Standards and Technology

International Trade Administration

The group is recognized for exceptional performance throughout a two-year period from summit to summit to establish Department of Commerce's Sustainable Manufacturing Initiative (SMI) – Commerce's first comprehensive effort to identify and address the sustainability needs of U.S. industry. The SMI has succeeded in linking ITA and NIST to significantly improve access to sustainable business programs and resources for U.S. businesses and increase nationwide awareness of sustainable manufacturing's benefits. This advanced the Department's mission of enhancing U.S. industry competitiveness and environmental stewardship.
Barbara Tillman
Senior Director, AD/CVD
Enforcement Office

Gene Calvert
Christopher Mutz
Jun Jack Zhao
International Trade
Compliance Analysts

Mark Hoadley
Supervisory International Trade
Compliance Analyst

Jesse Cortes
Import Policy Analyst

Shauna Lee-Alaia
Richard Herring
Senior Policy Analysts

Import Administration

Natasha Robinson-Coates
Robert Nielsen
Attorneys

Office of the General Counsel

International Trade Administration

The group is recognized for successfully conducting the first countervailing duty (CVD) investigation against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Through an intensive and comprehensive investigation, the group demonstrated exceptional skill in applying the countervailing duty law to unfair trade practices in a country that has ramped up its exports to the United States. The application of the CVD law to Vietnam enhances the Department’s ability to counter unfair trade and preserve jobs.

MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Gold Medal

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Eric Dobyne
Regional Director

Chicago National Enterprise Center

Minority Business Development Agency

Mr. Dobyne is recognized for leading the creation of the Minority Investment Management Forum. The Forum resulted in increased investments for minority asset managers in both public and private sector retirement funds. This program directly resulted in nearly $1 billion in procurement transactions for minority-owned firms. Due to this success, the Minority Investment Management Forum will be duplicated and expanded to include brokers and other financial services companies.
PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Efrain Gonzalez
Leticia Banuelos La Voy
Supervisory Business Development Specialists

Bridget Gonzales Young
Supervisory Public Affairs Specialist

Bernice Martinez
Business Development Specialist

Ivonne Cunarro
Chief Knowledge Officer

Tillie Welch
Secretary

Minority Business Development Agency

The group is recognized for its successful efforts in bringing together over 135 individuals comprised primarily of minority business enterprises, financial institution representatives, trade organizations, federal agency representatives, and elected officials to MBDA’s access-to-capital forum. As a result, MBDA documented new concepts for increasing the flow of capital to minority businesses and confirmed community support within key Federal agencies for advocacy on behalf of minority businesses.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY

LEADERSHIP

Thomas R. O’Brian
Chief, Time and Frequency Division

Physics Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. O’Brian is cited for his leadership in developing and disseminating the Nation’s standard of civilian time, the world’s most precise absolute measurement of any kind. As Chief of NIST’s Time and Frequency Division, he is responsible for programs ranging from basic research, to the development of frequency standards, to the operation of radio stations that broadcast signals used by millions of people throughout North America. The Division’s primary clock is precise to better than one second in 3 billion years. Its Internet Time Service averages more than 3 billion requests every day.
Ronald S. Ross  
Supervisory Computer Scientist  

Marianne Swanson  
Supervisory Information Technology Specialist  

Patricia R. Toth  
Computer Scientist  

L. Arnold Johnson  
Kelley L. Dempsey  
Information Technology Specialists  

Peggy N. Himes  
Computer Assistant  

Information Technology Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and Technology  

The group is recognized for its interagency leadership and technical excellence in creating the Risk Management Framework, a methodology for incorporating sound security risk management practices throughout the information system life cycle. This work, performed in support of FISMA, has been adopted government-wide to improve the security of USG systems and information. The impact of the work includes preventing compromises of government systems and information, increasing confidence in sharing data and services among agencies, and lowering security operational costs.

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Samuel P. Benz  
Paul D. Dresselhaus  
Physicists  

Charles J. Burroughs  
Thomas L. Nelson  
Bryan C. Waltrip  
Electronics Engineers  

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Laboratory  
National Institute of Standards and Technology  

The group is recognized for improving the accuracy of electric power metrology by developing the “Quantum Watt,” the world’s first quantum-based electric power standard. The standard integrates new precision measurement techniques with a quantum voltage reference to produce a best-in-the-world calibration system for electric power, with 10-fold improvement in measurement uncertainty. This improved accuracy already provides a significant competitive advantage for U.S. electric power meter manufacturers and will enhance the Nation’s ability to monitor and control its electric power grid.
Albert J. Fahey  
Nicholas W. Ritchie  
John Henry J. Scott  
David S. Simons  
Physicists

George A. Klouda  
Scott A. Wight  
Research Chemists

Dale E. Newbury  
NIST Fellow

John A. Small  
Supervisory Research Chemist

Barbara B. Thorne  
Information Technology Specialist

Cynthia J. Zeissler  
Physical Scientist

Chemical Science and  
Technology Laboratory

National Institute of Standards  
and Technology

The group is recognized for developing  
a world-class measurement science and  
standards program that supports U.S.  
and international atomic detection  
systems with critical measurement  
capabilities, which include innovative  
measurement techniques and  
instrumentation, advanced automation  
and data interpretation software, and  
quality assurance procedures including  
standards and methods validation.  
Their untiring efforts have lead to  
expanded analytical capabilities and  
greater confidence in the U.S. and the  
IAEA data on worldwide nuclear non-  
proliferation in support of the 1963  
Limited Test Ban Treaty.

Keith R. Lykke  
Supervisory Chemist

Steven W. Brown  
Physicist

George P. Eppeldauer  
Electronics Engineer

Physics Laboratory

National Institute of Standards  
and Technology

The group is recognized for developing  
and deploying SIRCUS, the most  
advanced facility in the world for the  
calibration of optical sensors used on  
satellites for predicting weather and  
climate, space telescopes for  
understanding the cosmos, and marine  
buoys for assessing ocean temperature  
and environmental health.  SIRCUS  
ties optical sensor measurements to  
NIST primary standards with the  
lowest uncertainties, ensuring  
measurement accuracy, comparability,  
and traceability.

Antonio M. Possolo  
Supervisory Statistician

Information Technology Laboratory

National Institute of Standards  
and Technology

Dr. Antonio Possolo is honored for his  
extraordinary dedication and technical  
achievements in the application of  
statistical methods to measurement  
science to characterize and improve the  
estimates of areas dedicated to illicit  
coca cultivation.  His realistic  
assessment of uncertainty of these  
estimates, and his proposals for how the  
data may best be exploited, are  
outstanding contributions that will  
enable the CIA’s Crime and Narcotics  
Center to enhance its estimates of coca  
production, a key element in shaping  
the Nation’s counterdrug policy.
The group is recognized for the development of innovative methods to test ballistic resistance and long-term durability of body armor, resulting in a new National Institute of Justice (NIJ) standard for body armor and potentially saving thousands of lives. Their work was precipitated by an incident in Forest Hills, PA, where an officer was seriously wounded in 2003 when his PBO body armor was penetrated by a bullet it was rated to stop. NIJ turned to NIST to unravel the mystery that jeopardized hundreds of thousands of officers nationwide.

The group is recognized for developing a Health IT Testing Infrastructure to support the exchange of electronic health records nationwide. The team developed an innovative testing infrastructure that is the principal assessment tool by which health IT systems are tested. The innovative design of the testing infrastructure has allowed it to make an impact worldwide. This work is accelerating the adoption of interoperable health IT systems, leading to the improvement of quality and the reduction of costs of healthcare internationally.
Mr. Clark is recognized for his action and initiative throughout the NIST-Boulder Plutonium Spill Incident recovery project in his capacity as the COTR managing the decontamination contract. The highest standards of safety were adhered to. The public and the environment were protected from exposure. There is no remaining plutonium anywhere on site. Scientific instruments of national significance were successfully recovered for the continuation of research programs. The affected spaces were all released by the USNRC for unrestricted use.

Dr. Hayes is recognized for outstanding leadership of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP). Through his leadership, management skills and professionalism as Director of NEHRP, he has reenergized and provided new strategic direction to this critical program. In doing so, he has gained the support and respect of the NEHRP agencies, Congressional staff and the earthquake safety community nationwide. Dr. Hayes’ achievements are leading to a substantial reduction in risks of losses of life and property in future earthquakes in the United States.

Dr. Bruno is recognized for developing a method for analyzing complex fluid mixtures, application of this method to important current problems, and transfer of the methodology and results to the industrial and governmental communities that have this requirement. The measurements have been used to analyze such fluids as fuels (i.e., biofuels, sustainable liquids), crude oils, and mixed wastes. The method is now required prior to certification of the next generation of flight fuels for the U.S. Air Force. A major chemical equipment company is in the process of commercializing the technology.
Dr. Germer is recognized for developing innovative light-scattering measurement instruments, standards, and mathematical models to enhance the capability of the micro and nanoelectronics industry to inspect wafers for particle contamination and defects and to ensure critical dimensions are met in fabrication processes. He has demonstrated compelling applications of light scattering in medical imaging, astronomy, satellite calibration, and high-performance coatings manufacture. Dr. Germer’s contributions include widely disseminated modeling codes and short course offerings.

Dr. Tiesinga is recognized for his research enabling the application of cold atoms in precision metrology, atomic clocks, and basic science. He pioneered key theoretical developments on magnetic control of interactions between cold atoms. His work has improved the fundamental metrology of ultracold atoms, impacted the precision of clocks, and opened new directions for the science of quantum fluids, quantum information and computing, and ultracold chemistry.
address gaps in observation for priority societal needs. Such needs included the global monitoring of greenhouse gases from space and forest carbon tracking as identified by GEO, the Group of Eight Industrialized Nations, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The group is recognized for mobilizing space agencies worldwide to achieve demonstrated results in implementing the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) of the intergovernmental Group on Earth Observations (GEO). NOAA leadership secured concrete commitments—the first ever—from heads of over 20 space agencies to
SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Shobha Kondragunta
Physical Research Scientist

National Environmental Satellite, Data and Information Service

National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Kondragunta is recognized for her contributions to NOAA’s air quality program by developing a suite of new products from NOAA satellites, which include atmospheric smoke concentration, burned area, biomass fuel load, trace gas and aerosol biomass burning emissions, and nitrogen dioxide. Her collaborations with other agencies have led to the application of these products in various air quality decision support systems at EPA and the National Weather Service.

NOAA Fisheries Northwest Regional Office
Northwest Fisheries Science Center
Office of the General Counsel for Fisheries

National Marine Fisheries Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The team is honored for the first widely accepted Biological Opinion for the Federal Columbia River Power System. The plan includes immediate acceleration and enhancement of mitigation activities; expanded means to quickly detect unexpected declines in salmon populations; aggressive measures to reverse declines; and annual financial commitment of $200 million for recovery measures. The sustained effort over four years is unprecedented in scale and scientific analysis for Pacific Northwest salmon, encompassing 13 major federal dams, over 100 fish hatchery programs and habitats across four States.

Arthur A. Taylor
Physical Scientist

National Weather Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Mr. Taylor is recognized for developing and implementing the first-ever ensemble probabilistic hurricane storm surge model into operations at NWS National Hurricane Center. It is run whenever a tropical system is forecast to reach hurricane strength within 48 hours of landfall. It plays a substantial role in quantifying a "range of possibilities" and uncertainty that aid forecasters in formulating the NWS official surge forecast. As a result, Emergency Managers now have a powerful decision support assistance tool for making life-impacting and costly evacuation decisions.
This group is recognized for producing, according to the USGCRP, "the most comprehensive and authoritative scientific report" on impacts of global climate change in the United States. When released, Dr. John Holdren of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy stated, “I think this is a terrific day for the intersection of science and public policy.” The report confirmed climate change due to heat-trapping pollution is already occurring and is visible throughout the United States, and the choices we make will determine the severity of its impacts in the future.

LT Cox is recognized for her role in two life threatening situations at the isolated Summit, Greenland research station during the 2008-2009 winter season. First, after a staff member sustained a broken neck, LT Cox immobilized the patient, applied first aid and directed an airborne evacuation. Then, a 3-day search and rescue operation successfully saved a second crew member, who was lost for 70+ hours in a whiteout storm with wind chill temperatures of -80°F. She then directed a second emergency evacuation. LT Cox’s skills and leadership were essential to the successful outcome of both incidents.

Mr. Cunningham is recognized for extraordinary efforts assisting injured victims of the September 2009 Samoa tsunami. Putting in long, uninterrupted hours, he provided critical first aid, water and shelter for 200 people over 5 days at the remote, isolated NOAA Atmospheric Observatory. On his initiative, he found fuel and operated a generator powering the sole phone link in eastern Samoa. At the same time he stabilized damaged infrastructure at the observatory. His immediate response and sustained actions saved lives and earned NOAA the gratitude of Samoan villagers and government alike.
NOAA Ship Rainier
Office of Marine and Aviation Operations
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The NOAA Ship Rainier is cited for heroism and saving two lives following the sinking of the F/V Cricket in open water south of Biorka Island, Alaska on June 10, 2008. Key personnel including the Bosun Group Leader and 12 survey launch personnel were not aboard Rainier at the time. The Rainier determined the general location of the vessel in distress from an incomplete MAYDAY call, rapidly determined the location of the vessel two miles nearby, decided upon the most effective means of action using the rescue launch, and quickly rescued the two victims. The Rainier’s swift response saved two lives.

Edwin Seui
Enforcement Officer
National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Enforcement Officer (EO) Edwin Seui is recognized for conduct and action beyond the call of duty. EO Seui responded to a call for help on September 29, 2009, in American Samoa when tsunami waters struck the village of Leone. He spotted his neighbor Bati Tuaua, physically handicapped since birth and unable to move with ease, in the tidal wave surge. Grabbing hold of Mr. Tuaua, EO Seui kept his neighbor’s head above water while the surge pulled them through the village. As the water subsided, another villager helped EO Seui drag Mr. Tuaua to higher ground and safety.

LEADERSHIP

Alan Leonardi
Program Manager
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Leonardi is recognized for his leadership and innovation in creating a NOAA-wide contribution to the Ocean feature in the Google Earth product and for contributing as a leading member of the Google development team, bringing NOAA and other federal agency data to the attention of the public in an imaginative and compelling form. As a result of his leadership, coalition building, and cooperative engagement of non-traditional parties, information is now able to reach millions of people in the United States and abroad, through Google and Google Earth.

Anne Walton
Program Specialist
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Ms. Walton is recognized for providing exceptional leadership in improving marine protected areas (MPA) management capacity around the world. MPAs are increasingly seen as one of the most important ways to address growing lists of marine resource issues, and yet high-quality training experiences commensurate with this emphasis are lacking. Ms. Walton is meeting this demand head on, leading training efforts that move MPAs around the world from being “paper parks” to being fully functional protected areas.
PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Derek Wroe
Senior Forecaster

Raymond Tanabe
Warning Coordination Meteorologist

National Weather Service

Chad Yoshinaga
Program Management Specialist

National Marine Fisheries Service

CDR Anita L. Lopez
Commanding Officer, NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette

Office of Marine and Aviation Operations

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The group is honored for their proactive activities leading to the timely and potentially life saving decision to evacuate 17 federal employees, contractors, and volunteers from remote island camps in the Papahanaumokuakea National Monument in advance of Hurricane Neki, October 18-23, 2009. Due to the extreme isolation, the evacuation necessitated a high risk landing on a short runway by a USCG C-130 at Tern Island and diversion of the NOAA Ship Oscar Elton Sette to evacuate Laysan Island. This unprecedented effort was prompted by the first ever Hurricane Watch and Warning issued for the Monument.

SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Aviation Weather Center
National Centers for Environmental Prediction, Central Operations

National Weather Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The organizations are recognized for exceptional teamwork and accomplishment in developing and implementing the Graphical AIRMET. This new aviation weather advisory product has elevated the safety of our skies by providing five times more temporal and spatial resolution to better warn of potential hazards. This product has revolutionized aviation safety and air space utilization by improving aeronautical decision-making and increasing situational awareness. The project included design, development, testing, implementation and complex coordination among numerous user groups and agencies.
This group is recognized for developing the world’s first centralized repository of hurricane track data—the International Best Track Archive for Climate Stewardship (IBTrACS). This endeavor required unprecedented coordination between over a dozen national meteorological centers worldwide, as well as the creation of a revolutionary approach for integrating and quality assuring hurricane track data from numerous disparate sources. Just completed in 2008, IBTrACS has already been formally adopted as an official archive of the World Meteorological Organization.

Matthew Menne
Claude Williams
Physical Scientists

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

This group is recognized for groundbreaking advances in climate data preservation and analysis. The researchers developed the next generation U.S. Historical Climatology Network dataset, which provides climate scientists and decision-makers with the authoritative source of data for understanding climate change in the United States. Achievements include cutting-edge solutions that identify and remove previously undetected artificial discontinuities from the U.S. temperature record, making it possible to accurately assess the extent to which the climate of the Nation has changed.
CUSTOMER SERVICE

Weather Forecast Office,  
Grand Forks, North Dakota  
North Central River Forecast Center

National Weather Service

National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration

WFO Grand Forks and North Central River Forecast Center are recognized for providing extraordinary on-site and remote decision support services to eight separate locations, in addition to issuing critical, life-saving warnings, when record flooding impacted the entire Red River of the North Basin. Exemplary collaboration between federal, state, and local agencies included the unprecedented use of unmanned aerial surveillance "predator" drones to collect and integrate aerial reconnaissance data of overland flooding into hydrologic models.

Weather Forecast Office,  
Buffalo, New York

National Weather Service

National Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Administration

WFO Buffalo is recognized for exceptional efforts to support the recovery operation of the Continental Flight 3407 accident, claiming 50 lives near Buffalo on February 12, 2009. WFO personnel responded in the middle of the night to provide extraordinary support services including deployment of an on-site meteorologist to the emergency operations center and initiating 43 site-specific forecasts for rapidly changing weather conditions at the site. As a result, the recovery operation was completed in advance of a severe winter storm that would have significantly hindered the investigation.

NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

Gold Medal

LEADERSHIP

Bernadette McGuire-Rivera  
Associate Administrator for  
Telecommunications and Information Applications

Anthony Wilhelm  
Deputy Associate Administrator  
for Infrastructure

Anita Wallgren  
Communications Policy Specialist

Wayne Ritchie  
Management and Program  
Analysis Officer

Mary Louise Kenny  
Barbara Brown  
Communications Program Specialists

Maureen Lewis  
Francine Jefferson  
Telecommunications Policy Analysts

Sandra Stewart  
Administrative Specialist  
Office of Telecommunications and Information Applications

Diane Simmons  
Program Analyst

National Institute of Standards  
and Technology

National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration

The group is honored for innovative implementation and management of the unprecedented TV Converter Box Coupon Program. The Program informed all Americans how to prepare for the transition to digital TV. NTIA issued more than 64 million coupons to
reduce the cost of television converter boxes. NTIA also worked with multiple partners to ensure consumers throughout the country understood and planned for the transition. The Program significantly exceeded expectations and was a critical factor in the United States smooth and successful transition to digital TV.

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Fiona Alexander
Associate Administrator for International Affairs

Laurence Atlas
Senior Advisor

Jane Coffin
Vernita Harris
Ashley Heineman
Suzanne Sene
Telecommunications Policy Specialists

Office of International Affairs

Kathy Smith
Chief Counsel

Stacy Cheney
Attorney Advisor

Office of the Chief Counsel

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Navigating complex challenges, while under intense scrutiny from Congress and the international community, the group completed with unprecedented success a 10-year long program, to privatize the coordination of the Internet Domain Name System (DNS), a critical component of the Internet infrastructure. The group performed exceptional services by establishing a new permanent framework for global DNS coordination that is accountable to Internet users worldwide, an outcome that assures the continued stability, security, and reliability of the Internet and continued private sector investment.
SCIENTIFIC/ENGINEERING ACHIEVEMENT

Frank Sanders
John Carroll
Geoffrey Sanders
Electronics Engineers

Institute for Telecommunication Sciences

Robert Sole
Electronics Engineer

Office of Spectrum Management

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

The group is recognized for identifying the cause of nationwide radio interference to safety-of-life air traffic control radars, providing diagnostics to the agency operating the radars to identify the problem, and providing solutions for the problem. The affected radars provide microburst warnings to air traffic control. The solutions provided by the group involve changes in the design, testing, and deployment of interfering transmitters. The group’s accomplishment will ensure that radar microburst warnings at airports across the country continue to function without interference.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

LEADERSHIP

Kathryn Nickerson
Senior Counsel

Office of the General Counsel

Ms. Nickerson is honored for her work with colleagues at other bureaus and agencies, with foreign counterparts, and with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on the development of guidance to prevent corruption in international commercial transactions. Bribery by foreign competitors and requests for bribes by foreign officials are a major impediment to U.S exports. The OECD Recommendation on Combating Bribery of Foreign Officials represents a major step forward in eliminating this barrier to exports.
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Gold Medal

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Carol Rice
Supervisory Program Analyst

Patricia Derr
Mathematician

Eleazar Velazquez
Senior Program Analyst

David Petrocci
Jeffrey Stitz
Thais Wright
Auditors

Matthew Shuman
Peter Sima-Eichler
Program Analysts

Matthew Katz
Michael Fruitman
Writer/Editors

Office of Inspector General

The team is recognized for its exemplary planning, coordination, and execution of a comprehensive review of the 2010 Decennial Census. Deploying more than 100 OIG staff to field operations nationwide and analyzing the resulting data, the group—through initiative and innovation—produced reports and Congressional testimony containing important, real-time recommendations for modification of Decennial Census activities. The impact of this work was felt immediately, improving Census operations now and providing insight for 2020 Decennial planning.

Silver Medal

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

John Bunting
David C. Rose
Kathleen McKevitt
Supervisory Auditors

Besufekad Tadesse
Program Analyst

Shawn Lewis
Auditor

Angela Hoffman
Information Technology Specialist

Ann Eilers
Senior Adviser and Project Lead, Recovery Act Oversight Task Force

Office of Inspector General

The team is recognized for its proactive oversight of the $4.7 billion Broadband Technology Opportunities Program—a Recovery Act program constituting the largest grants program that the Department has ever implemented. All funds had to be awarded within 18 months. The team gave NTIA real-time advice on strengthening controls and provided training to NTIA staff and over 1,800 grants applicants. NTIA implemented several of the team’s recommendations during the reviews, improving program operations and helping ensure better broadband infrastructure deployment nationwide.
The group is recognized for developing and implementing the first significant changes to the patent examiner work credit system in more than 30 years. This joint union and management task force developed initiatives that focuses on quality work upfront in the process, provided more overall time for examination of applications and incentives for identifying allowable subject matter earlier in prosecution and rebalanced internal and external incentives in order to decrease rework. The work of the task force sets the foundation for long-term improvements in efficiency of examination.

Office of Patent Training

Commissioner for Patents

United States Patent and Trademark Office

The organization is honored for achieving the ISO 9001:2008 certification. This significant milestone demonstrates the USPTO’s commitment to improving value to our customers and overall organizational performance, and the Office’s responsibility to provide the best training services for new patent examiners. It confirms that the Patent Training Academy has defined and documented standards to ensure that processes are in place to achieve consistent quality products and services, thereby allowing American innovators to obtain enforceable intellectual property rights globally.
Arthur S. Flemming Awards

Dr. Steven W. Brown
Physicist

Physics Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. Brown was recognized for advances in light measurement and its application to the remote sensing of the Earth and space. These advances include the co-development of SIRCUS, the facility for Spectral Irradiance and Radiance Calibrations using Uniform Sources. SIRCUS is an innovative laser-based facility for the high-accuracy calibration and characterization of optical radiation sensors. SIRCUS is revolutionizing the calibration of satellite sensors by improving the ability to detect the small decadal-scale changes in the Earth's environment due to climate change.

Dr. Marla L. Dowell
Physicist

Electronics and Electrical Engineering Laboratory

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. Dowell was recognized for sustained exceptional leadership of the world's most comprehensive program in laser metrology. Leveraging her excellent management skills and broad technical expertise, she has transformed NIST's laser metrology and standards program into an extremely effective, customer-focused provider of world-leading measurement services. Dr. Dowell's team has accelerated the development of a new class of test equipment, provided traceability to the semiconductor manufacturing industry with best-in-the-world accuracy for all UV laser instruments, and enabled high-power laser calibrations for critical U.S. defense programs with unique detector designs and coatings.
Dr. John Kitching
Physicist

Physics Laboratory
National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. Kitching was recognized for leading a world-class research program to develop ultraminiature devices bringing atomic measurement precision to a wide range of applications. Dr. Kitching leads a team combining laser physics, atomic physics, and microelectronics to pioneer new technologies including ultraminiature atomic clocks, magnetometers, gyroscopes, and other devices. The extremely small size, low power consumption, and excellent sensitivity of these devices open new applications in areas such as navigation and positioning, medical imaging, communications, and detection of threats.

Dr. Dietrich Leibfried
Physicist

Physics Laboratory
National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. Leibfried was recognized for conceiving and demonstrating the geometric phase gate, the most versatile and productive way to perform operations in a quantum computer. The team he helps lead has used the geometric phase gate to demonstrate a long string of world’s firsts and bests in quantum computing research, culminating in the recent demonstration of a simple fully programmable quantum computer incorporating all the criteria generally recognized for a scalable, practical quantum computer.

Dr. Eite Tiesinga
Physicist

Physics Laboratory
National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. Tiesinga was recognized for his work on controlling and understanding the interactions of atoms and using so-called Feshbach resonances to tune or control those interactions. This work has become crucial for neutral atom quantum computing, for creating dipolar molecules with unusual quantum properties, and for understanding Bose-Einstein condensation and superfluidity associated with neutral atoms trapped in laser-generated optical lattices. Such tunable resonances have become an indispensable tool in precise and quantitative experimental control of ultracold quantum gases.
Blue Pencil & Gold Screen Award

Census CounterParts

Principal Contributors:
Montgomery F. Wood
Christine E. Geter
Editors
Elzie R. Golden
Omya Alston
Graphic Artists

U.S. Census Bureau

Economics and Statistics Administration

The group was recognized for contributions to Census CounterParts, an internal newsletter of the U.S. Census Bureau. Census CounterParts is published ten times a year and is distributed across the country. It provides news articles, personality profiles and feature articles of interest to employees. Census CounterParts won 2nd Place in the Internal Newsletter category of the 2010 National Association of Government Communicators (NAGC) Blue Pencil & Gold Screen Awards.
Many thanks to those individuals who contributed so much to today’s program.

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Incentive Awards Program Officers of the Department

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Amy Cubert ................. NIST
Jennifer Heyob ................. NOAA
Angela Singmore ................. OIG
Angela Marshall ................. PTO

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Multimedia Division