

# How to Engage the National Labs

*National  
Laboratory*

**Industry**



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# Drivers/Culture for Industry

- **Profit & results driven**
- **Aim is to bring new products, processes to marketplace**
- **Developing IP/trade secrets is paramount**
- **Time is critical – delays can be costly, being first to market is often rewarding**
- **Mission driven**
- **Annually senior management decides the research portfolio, and is tuned monthly - projects can be terminated quickly depending on market conditions**
- **Team approach – diverse skill sets brought together; R&D and business collaborate from day one.**
- **Projects must meet many criteria defined at the outset of the project before progression to next stage (stage gate approach)**
- **Not just the science – many other factors e.g. cost of research, potential benefits from the investment, manufacturing feasibility, commercial possibilities, competitive analysis, safety aspects**

# Drivers/Culture for National Lab

- **National resource for scientific discovery, unique facilities, new technologies**
- **Aim is to produce science innovations and energy technologies ready for transfer to industry**
- **Development of IP is encouraged, open literature publications are encouraged**
- **Timelines dependent upon funding sponsor**
- **Mission driven research centered on energy and national security**
- **Primarily PI driven, bottoms-up research portfolio; funding relies on innovative ideas and productivity**
- **Team approach, diverse skill set**
- **Research ranges from basic and applied (open) to proprietary and secure; metrics correspond accordingly**
- **Sponsor-driven, ranging from open research with publications to sensitive and proprietary research.**