

# ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS

federallabs.org f % in ⊙ ▶ ®



# Letter From the FLC Chair

In FY 2022, the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) used its expertise in supporting and promoting federal technology transfer to find new ways to continue growing and improving its performance in service to the nation. Led by ambitious goals to increase the impact and awareness of federal technology transfer, and understanding the potential of new engagement methods, the FLC introduced new digital tools to advance its ability to engage with members and other stakeholders.

This year, the FLC unveiled a fully redesigned website that unleashed powerful new capabilities to expand the FLC's efforts to promote, educate and facilitate technology transfer in a digital format. By implementing new tools, our members gained access to FLC's training courses and events, allowing them to track their professional development, a critical first step toward establishing a credentialing program for technology transfer professionals.

Recognizing that technology transfer is an active profession, the FLC updated the digital FLC Technology Transfer Desk Reference. The FLC also delivered an interactive online version of the FLC Greenbook — a compilation of technology transfer legislation and policy — featuring mobile access, search capability and active links to government websites.

Through hundreds of events hosted independently and with our partners, the FLC brought together more than 2,700 registrants, making it a goal-breaking year. Our premier event, the FLC National Meeting, covered timely technology transfer topics including march-in rights, equity funding and intellectual property protection. We also rolled out a new type of technology-focused event to nurture the formation of partnerships between government laboratories, industry and academia. These events featured a broad range of topics and technologies, providing opportunities for partnership development and technology transfer success.

To reflect the diverse individuals who represent a treasure trove of innovation and technical leadership in our nation's federal laboratories, the FLC adopted a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Policy. The policy ensures that all who want to participate in bringing our nation's innovations into the marketplace through the FLC are welcome. Building on this year's transformative work, the FLC has positioned itself for continued growth and positive impact.

This annual report outlines our organization's continued efforts on behalf of our member labs and their technology transfer partners. In accordance with 15 U.S. Code § 3710(e)(6) and on behalf of the members of the FLC, I am pleased to present the FLC 2022 Annual Report to the President and Congress.

Respectfully,

Linda L. Burger FLC Chair

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE FLC CHAIR	3
FLC ORGANIZATION	5
2022 BY THE NUMBERS	6
LEARNING WITHOUT LIMITS	7
2022 NATIONAL MEETING	8
FLC WEBSITE REDESIGN	10
FLC NATIONAL AWARDS	12
FLC PLANNER	14
INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT	16
LABTECH IN YOUR LIFE	18
FINANCIALS	19

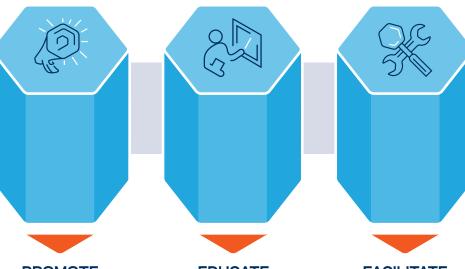
# **FLC Organization**

The FLC is the formally chartered, nationwide network of more than 300 federal laboratories, agencies and research centers that fosters commercialization best practices, strategies and opportunities for accelerating federal technologies from labs to the marketplace.

Through American taxpayers' investment in federal laboratories' research and development (R&D) efforts, scientific and technological breakthroughs can take place and return dividends to our economy. New industries, businesses and jobs are just a few of the benefits that result when a new innovation is brought to market, through a collaborative process called technology transfer (T2). The FLC is here to promote its member labs and the T2 profession, educate labs and their prospective partners about the T2 process, and facilitate the partnerships that drive these achievements. Accordingly, the FLC's organizational structure reflects those three key foundational pillars – Promote, Educate and Facilitate.

The FLC Executive Board is comprised of federal lab members who set direction and provide governance for FLC activities through the adoption of a strategic plan and supporting policies. Fiscal Year 2022 (FY 22) was the third year under the current strategic plan, and the FLC Executive Board and FLC team successfully completed a number of key goals this year that support the growth and awareness of the federal technology transfer community.

For more information on the FLC, please visit www.federallabs.org.



## PROMOTE

Actively promote availability, benefit and value of federal laboratory assets through T2 to improve national economic prosperity and execution of lab missions.

# **EDUCATE**

Provide progressive full-spectrum education and training (E&T) and networking opportunities for federal T2 professionals and key internal stakeholders.

### **FACILITATE**

Proactively engage and leverage partnerships that connect relevant private sector partners with individual federal laboratories to increase measurable outcomes.

# **2022 BY THE NUMBERS**

# ATTENDANCE AT FLC EVENTS Industry & Tech Events 33% 37% Regional Pilots National Meeting Webinars 13% 16% 2,703 35%

# **SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH**



**AUDIENCE** 

GREW

35.6%

BY GAINING

8,456

NEW

**FOLLOWERS** 





**ENGAGEMENT** 

**INCREASED** 19.3%

BY GAINING

9,001 **NEW LIKES AND** COMMENTS

# **FEDERALLABS.ORG VISITORS**

**INCREASE** 

COMPARED TO 2021

REGISTERED

**ATTENDEES** 

(UNIQUE PAGE VIEWS)



MOST VISITED SECTIONS



**FLC NATIONAL** 

MEETING

FLC **BUSINESS** 

Discover more about the rollout of a redesigned FLC website on page 10.

# **NATIONAL AWARDS AGENCIES** \*Some categories include multiple agencies and regions. WINNING LABS BY REGION Far West Mid-Continent 2 Midwest Northeast Southeast WINNING LABS BY AGENCY DOE NASA USDA DOD

# **Learning Without Limits**

# FLC MAKES ESSENTIAL RESOURCES ACCESSIBLE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE

The world of technology transfer is constantly evolving as new information, innovations and partnerships emerge. The Consortium ensures that technology transfer professionals and industry partners can stay up to date by making educational tools and resources accessible wherever and whenever needed. The FLC designed, developed and implemented a new online learning management system that provides 24/7 access to a library of webinars and instructional materials organized by career path. The FLC also launched a mobile version of its interactive digital Greenbook, which outlines the legislation and policies that shape the federal technology transfer ecosystem.

### 2022 HIGHLIGHTS







Learning Management Sustem Established



Webinars



Attendees Registered for Webinars AN INCREASE OF **105%** COMPARED TO 2021



Updated FLC Desk Reference Published



### **BEST ATTENDED EDUCATION WEBINARS**

Ongoing education is essential to technology transfer success. As evidence of this demand, the FLC's education webinars drew more than a third of total registered attendees at FLC-hosted events in 2022.



 $oxed{1}$  Material Transfer Agreements for Early Career Professionals

Attendees learned the basics of Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs), which cover resource transfers between federal labs and non-federal entities. The session focused on what MTAs are, what they entail and how to effectively navigate them.

180 registered

registered



This session covered the basic principles of Export Administration Regulations, which govern some domestic transfers of technology, as well as practical advice about when and how to abide by them.



3) Showcasing the Value of Technology Transfer

**176** registered This webinar focused on the value of technology transfer and practical tools to move technology forward, including licensing, Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs), other partnership agreements and facilities use.

# 2022 National Meeting

## **BUILDING CONNECTION, GROWING ENGAGEMENT**

Held virtually for the third consecutive year, the FLC's premier annual event garnered increased engagement in its sessions: On average, participants attended more than four hours of educational sessions and programming per day during the three-day event. Building on the previous two years of virtual National Meeting experience, the FLC leveraged lessons learned and strategic new efforts to achieve a more focused and engaged audience in the training sessions, plenaries and panel discussions.

HIGH VALUE, HIGHLY **RELEVANT** 

of surveyed participants indicated that the National Meeting met or exceeded expectations

stated that the National Meeting was a valuable time investment

States Represented

# TRAINING SESSIONS

**Helping Your Commercial Partners** Succeed with the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)

This session highlighted how the MEP helps small and medium-sized manufacturers source key materials, design efficient workflows and generally increase the likelihood of meeting their business objectives.

### Critical Infrastructure Innovation: Seeking to Secure Our Cities and Municipalities

This session explained how to harness state-of-the-art communications, computing and sensor technologies to foster cleaner, safer and more equitable places to live and work.

### **KEYNOTE**

**Entrepreneurial Expertise in** Tech Transfer

Ray Leach, CEO of the venture development organization JumpStart, shared insights on applying entrepreneurial expertise to navigate the challenges of bringing a technology to market and securing venture capital investment.

## **TOP-RATED SESSIONS**

RANK TITLE

Town Hall

3

Helping Your Commercial Partners Succeed with MEP

See page 13 for more information

5

Lab Directors Forum

T2 Stories From FLC Award Winners

**Critical Infrastructure Innovation** 

# LAB DIRECTORS FORUM

In this discussion, the FLC's 2022 Laboratory Director of the Year, Bartley P. Durst, shared how he has established a strong focus on technology transfer in his lab and how he capitalized on that to consistently bring federal innovations to market over nearly four decades.



**Richard Paul** National Advisory Council



2022 LABORATORY DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR Bartley P. Durst Geotechnical and Structures Laboratory U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

# **TOWN HALL**

In this interactive town hall, FLC Chair Linda Burger and the chairs of committees representing each of the FLC's three pillars – Promote, Educate and Facilitate – discussed the Consortium's new and ongoing efforts and how attendees can get involved.



Linda Burger NSA

**PANELISTS** 



Whitney Hastings HHS



Karen Presley NSA



Jenna Dix NSWC

# **DID YOU KNOW?**

The FLC worked hard to make its virtual National Meeting interactive and engaging. Attendees shared their insights on a digital bulletin board, mingled in virtual networking rooms and competed for a top spot on the leaderboard by answering trivia questions.

### **TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE**

How would you have ranked on the leaderboard? Find out by trying to answer one of the trivia questions

Globe and Jerusalem are types of what?

a. Flowering seeds b. Artichokes

d. Lettuce



Karen Presleu NSA



# SMALL BUSINESS FIRESIDE CHAT

Building a startup, partnering with a federal lab, collaborating to meet market needs these critical aspects of technology transfer each brings unique challenges and benefits. In this discussion, a panel of industry partners shared their advice and experiences from being technology transfer partners with the National Security Agency.

**PANELISTS** 



**Benjamin Harvey** Al Squared



**Sudesh Kumar** Kapalya



**Neil Norris** Athcorp and XZEVN Solutions



**Robert Williams** Athcorp and XZEVN Solutions

Answer: b. Artichokes

**FLC WEBSITE REDESIGN PROMOTE** 

# Improving Form, Increasing Function

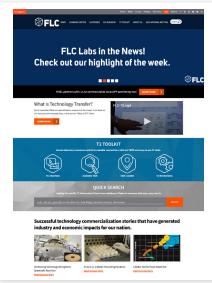
### **ENHANCED ACCESS TO KEY RESOURCES**

The FLC relaunched its website in July 2022, unveiling a fully updated design and user experience. Hundreds of web pages were rewritten and retooled to make the website easier to navigate and more effective at showcasing federal lab innovations, professional development resources and partnering opportunities. The redesign has contributed to an 80% increase in traffic to the website, which helps raise the public's awareness of the FLC's work and amplifies our ability to serve the federal technology transfer community through information and events.

### **NEED TO KNOW**

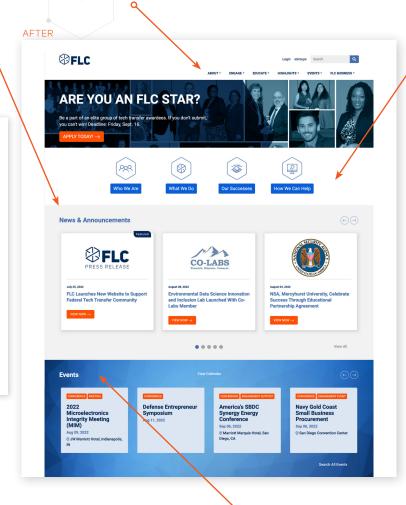
Technology transfer professionals, industry partners and the public need to know what's new and what's next in federal technology transfer. News and announcements are front and center to highlight the most recent updates from the FLC and its partners.

### BEFORE



### **NAVIGATION MENU**

The website's navigation was reconstructed to be more intuitive and user-friendly. The search function allows users to search by lab, topic or keyword, enabling them to find the information they need quickly and easily.

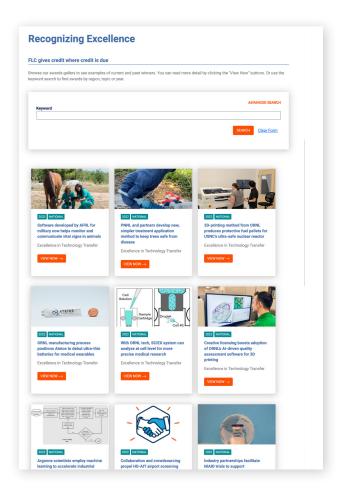


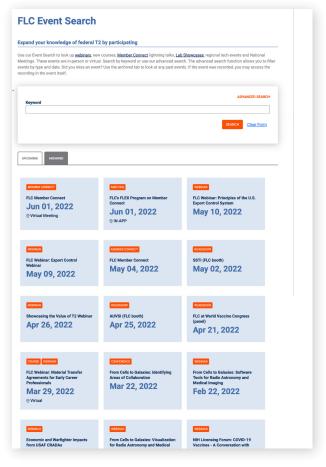
# **FUNCTIONAL SIMPLICITY**

A cleaner, more streamlined design brings the most important information to the forefront, including announcements, calls to action, news that impacts the community and upcoming events.

# SIMPLER SUBMISSIONS AND A **SEARCHABLE ARCHIVE**

In 2022, the FLC National Awards underwent significant improvements from the inside-out. The Highlights section of the redesigned website showcased a new streamlined submission process that combines national and regional awards, saving applicants time and reducing barriers to competing for these prestigious awards. The updated Awards Honors Gallery features more than 2,000 profiles of past winners, which have been reformatted to ensure that each awardee receives proper recognition and categorized to create a searchable archive of incredible technology transfer achievements.



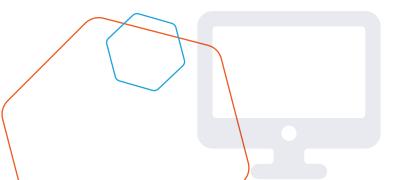


# HELPING MEMBERS CONNECT, **LEARN AND GROW**

The events page is a central hub for in-person and virtual opportunities to continue professional development and connect with others in the federal technology transfer community. Upcoming and archived FLC-hosted events - including virtual lab visits, roadshow engagements and webinars – are clearly displayed and easily searchable.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

From conferences to webinars, events are one of the most important ways that the FLC supports the technology transfer community. To ensure that as many members as possible benefit from these opportunities, this design gives users a snapshot of key details about upcoming events.



10 | Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer FLC 2022 Annual Report | 11

# **FLC NATIONAL AWARDS**

# Results Powered by Resilience

# CELEBRATING EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AND INNOVATION IN FEDERAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

The FLC National Awards honor standout success stories from the federal tech transfer community. The 2022 winners, selected from 64 submissions, represent eight federal agencies and a range of technology sectors – from airport security screening to electric car batteries. Each submission was also a victory of resilience as labs adapted quickly to changing market needs to achieve tech transfer success. Winning an FLC Award brings the distinction of peer-reviewed recognition as well as positive attention that can lead to connections that foster future tech transfer collaborations. Select winners are highlighted here to illustrate the range of agencies and technology sectors associated with these prestigious awards.

### **TEAM AWARDS**



Plum Island Animal Disease Center EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AWARD

The USDA's partnership with animal health company Zoetis enables the U.S. to produce vaccines to protect its livestock from foot and mouth disease – for the first time in history.



Langley Research Center (LaRC)
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
INNOVATION AWARD

NASA LaRC's annual technology fair enables the lab's technology licensees to showcase advances made to those technologies that could lead to new agreements and opportunities. The exhibition cultivates additional royalties and builds stronger partnerships.



Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL)
STATE AND LOCAL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AWARD

ORNL, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development partnered to bring more than \$8 billion for electric vehicle battery production in the state.



National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AWARD

NIAID's partnership with biotechnology company AbCellera provided the foundation for the development of antibody-based COVID-19 therapies.



INTERAGENCY
PARTNERSHIP AWARD

These federal agencies collaborated with industry partner Liberty Defense Holdings to develop a more efficient and reliable airport screening system.

### **INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**



ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Kelli Howie

DOE | Sandia National Laboratories



ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Patricia Cullum

VA | Department of Veterans Affairs



OUTSTANDING TECHNOLOGY
TRANSFER PROFESSIONAL
John Kaplan
VA | Department of Veterans Affairs



LABORATORY DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR Bartley P. Durst

DOD Geotechnical and Structures Laboratory U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



HAROLD METCALF AWARD FOR FLC SERVICE John Dement

John Dement

DOD | Naval Surface Warfare Center

# Tech Transfer Success Stories From FLC Award Winners

At the 2022 National Meeting (see page 8), a panel discussion featuring FLC Award Winners shined a light on lessons learned and best practices from their tech transfer successes. The panel of technology transfer and industry professionals shared their insights and advice for navigating the process of bringing federally developed software to market.





### **IMPACT AWARD**

\/A

The VA and Virginia Commonwealth University developed eye-movement analysis technology that improves diagnosis of Parkinson's disease and other neurological conditions.



### **IMPACT AWARD**

DOE

Scoring tool gives consumers a standardized, easy-to-understand assessment of home energy efficiency.



# EXCELLENCE IN TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Military researchers collaborated with industry partner Animal Cloud to commercialize a software tool that helps monitor vital signs of people and animals.

# **FLC PLANNER**

# Turning the Lens on Federal Labs

Each picture tells a tale of tech transfer triumph.

The FLC Planner is a dynamic 14-month printed calendar that celebrates federally developed technologies through captivating images. The striking visuals convey what words can't, showcasing the transformative impact of federal technology transfer, inspiring collaboration among prospective partners and stakeholders. This page features the top 14 images that labs submitted in 2022, which were featured in the 2023 FLC Planner.



Western Ecological Research Center

Tracking Wildlife With High-Tech Tags



Hawaiian Volcano Observatory

HVO Monitoring Network



U.S. Army Combat Capabilities

Development

Command Chemical Biological Center

Training Aid Material Delivery Device

National Center for **Environmental Health** 

MIT Lincoln

Laboratory

Semiconductor

Newborn Screening Test Using Dried Blood Spot Specimens



Advanced Photon Source Upgrade Project



Automated Synthesis of Explosive Threats



# Federal Highway

Enhancing Roadway Safety



Los Alamos National Laboratory

Additive Manufacturing of a Tamper-Evident Container



# **Department of**





U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service

Cross-breeding Soybeans for Disease Resistance

# BY THE NUMBERS

HE NUMBERS
REGION
Far West
Mid-Atlantic
Mid-Continent
Midwest
Northeast
Southeast
AGENCY
Department of Agriculture
Department of Commerce
Department of Defense
Department of Energy
Department of Health and
Human Services
Department of Homeland Secur
Department of the Interior
Department of Transportation
Department of Veterans Affairs

# National Laboratoru

Supercomputer



Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological

Laboratory Underwater Hurricane Glider

> **National Institute of** Standards and Technologu

Bottling Monkeypox

Gene Fragments

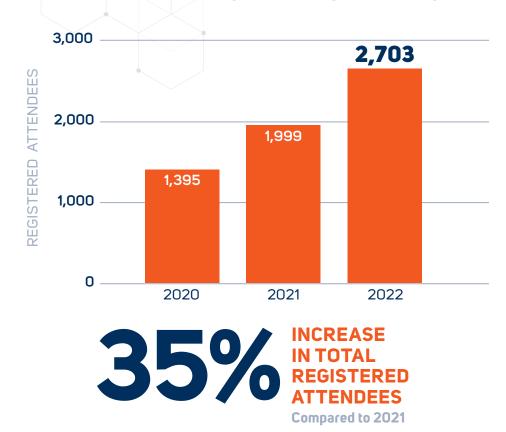
INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT FACILITATE

# **Connection and Collaboration**

# FACILITATING PARTNERSHIPS FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER SUCCESS

Federal technology transfer relies on opportunities to learn, share and connect. The FLC supports and facilitates essential partnerships between federal labs and industry through networking and informational events. The range of programming and diversity of topics – from export regulations to the metaverse – helped increase the number of registrants for all FLC-hosted events by 35% over the previous year.

# ATTENDANCE AT FLC EVENTS



### THREE LARGEST PARTNERSHIP-FOCUSED EVENTS





NCI TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE 392 registered

Turn to page 8 for an overview of the FLC's premier annual event.

This dynamic hybrid event convened researchers and technology transfer professionals with industry partners and stakeholders to highlight specific technologies and collaboration opportunities available through the National Cancer Institute.



MID-ATLANTIC/NORTHEAST REGIONS ANNUAL MEETING 231 registered

This three-day virtual event for the FLC's Mid-Atlantic and Northeast regions included opportunities for professional development, networking and honoring technology transfer successes.

# Federal Lab Education Accelerator (FLEX) Pilot Program

# CREATING KEY PARTNERSHIPS FOR LONG-TERM COLLABORATIONS

The FLC launched the FLEX pilot program, an innovative approach to engage the next generation of entrepreneurs by connecting MBA students and federal labs. Through the FLEX program, students gain experience by conducting market research on real federal technologies, while labs benefit from students' market assessments. The program's first year saw participation from seven federal labs and four universities – with a promising outlook for future expansion.



# Forging Strategic Industry Partnerships

# FLC ENTERS NEW AGREEMENTS WITH FOUR LIKE-MINDED ORGANIZATIONS

The FLC proudly partners with organizations from government, industry and academia with an interest in connecting their constituents with federal labs' technologies, facilities and expertise. Through collaborative communications, networking opportunities, technology demonstrations and exhibit space, these strategic partnerships support the FLC's mission to increase the impact of technology transfer and support all members of the federal technology transfer community. Those organizations are:



# LOS ALAMOS COMMERCE & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LACDC)

LACDC is a private not-for-profit organization that promotes economic development by providing resources and assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs.

# XELEVÂTE

### **XELEVATE**

Xelevate is an Uncrewed Systems Center of Excellence testing facility located near Washington, D.C. This partnership is part of an ongoing campaign to help small to large businesses with innovative technologies succeed through collaborations with federal laboratories.



### ROCKVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Rockville Economic Development is a public-private partnership that builds the economic base of Rockville, Maryland, through entrepreneurship, expansion, retention and recruitment programs.



# UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO (UNM) RAINFOREST INNOVATIONS

UNM Rainforest Innovations supports technology transfer and economic development activities for UNM by facilitating connections between technology-focused businesses and multiple federal laboratories that have a presence in New Mexico.

# **FINANCIALS**

# Technology From the Lab to Your Life

# INTERACTIVE VIRTUAL TOUR HIGHLIGHTS EVERYDAY TECH THAT **CAME FROM FEDERAL LABS**

Technology transfer is everywhere: Innovations born in federal labs have made their way into our homes, businesses and public spaces. LabTech in Your Life (LTIYL) is an interactive video experience that helps users visualize the impact of tech transfer in our everyday lives by providing users a virtual tour of a home and an airport. As visitors explore, they can select items to learn more about the federal lab origin stories behind those technologies.

In 2022, nearly 900 visitors toured the home and airport in LTIYL, spending an average of 10 minutes — more than twice the national average for virtual tours. Below are the newest additions, submitted from five federal agencies, which made this immersive virtual experience more robust to further drive home the importance of federal tech transfer to the public.



# 2022 Financial Statement

By statute (15 USC 3710(e)(7)), the FLC receives its funding as a stated percentage of the intramural research and development budget of each federal agency for the fiscal year. These funds are transferred to NIST at the beginning of each fiscal year and then transferred by NIST to the FLC to conduct its activities. The cooperative agreement partner has been reviewed in an independent audit per 2 CFR Part 200.

# AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FLC FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

AGENCY	AMOUNT INVOICED
Department of Agriculture	\$213,800.00
Department of Commerce	\$106,664.00
Department of Defense	\$2,609,440.00
Department of Energy	\$798,640.00
Department of Health and Human Services	\$791,816.00
Department of Homeland Security	\$16,240.00
Department of the Interior	\$60,232.00
Department of Transportation	\$28,120.00
Department of Veterans Affairs	\$135,152.00
Environmental Protection Agency	\$20,992.00
National Aeronautics and Space Administration	\$358,288.00
National Science Foundation	\$22,296.00
TOTAL	\$5,161,680.00

# SCHEDULE OF REVENUES AND DISBURSEMENTS

Revenues	\$5,217,085
Agency Invoiced Contributions	\$5,161,680
Program Income	\$55,405
Budgeted Disbursements	\$4,070,405
Cooperative Agreement	\$3,505,405
Budgeted NIST Administrative Expenditu	ures \$565,000

**TECHNOLOGIES** featured in the LTIYL home and



### **TECHNOLOGIES BY AGENCY**

	LOGILO DI AGL			
USDA	DOD	DHS	EPA	NASA
24 00	0 2	1 1	3 HH	10

