

THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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**Department of Energy Recognized by Computerworld as 2011
Honors Laureate**

Online Application Portal Recognized for Ability to Promote Positive Change

Washington D.C. --- Executive Director of the Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office, Jonathan Silver, announced today that the Department of Energy was recognized as a 2011 Laureate by International Data Group's Computerworld Honors Program. The Department of Energy was honored for the innovative online portal designed by the Loan Programs Office with assistance from USA Energy Advisors, Accenture and HandySoft USA. The secure, user-friendly portal provides an easy and efficient method for applying for loan guarantees that support clean energy projects across the United States. The Department of Energy joins 254 other Laureates in 23 countries in this year's program. The prestigious annual award program honors visionary applications of information technology that promote positive social, economic and educational change.

"The portal has been a tremendous success, permitting us to radically shorten the loan review process," said Jonathan Silver, Executive Director of the Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office.

The Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office replaced its previous paper-intensive, cumbersome and time-consuming submission method with a new, flexible, Web-based portal that provides greater transparency and efficiency in the application process. The portal has resulted in significant time savings, reducing initial review time from 30-45 days to less than 10, while enabling applicants to submit materials in less than one business day versus several weeks thanks to convenient upload features that the previous system did not provide.

"The number and quality of nominations this year were very inspiring and demonstrate how valuable IT is to community change," said John Amato, Publisher, Computerworld.

“Computerworld is very proud to name the 2011 class of Laureates and showcase their initiatives benefiting society through innovative uses of IT.”

The Computerworld Honors awards will be presented at the Annual Laureates Medal Ceremony & Gala Awards on June 20, 2011 at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium in Washington, D.C.

For more information about the Department of Energy’s Loan Programs Office, please visit <http://www.lpo.energy.gov>.

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