

## DOE Building Technologies Office: Advanced HVAC&R Research Effort

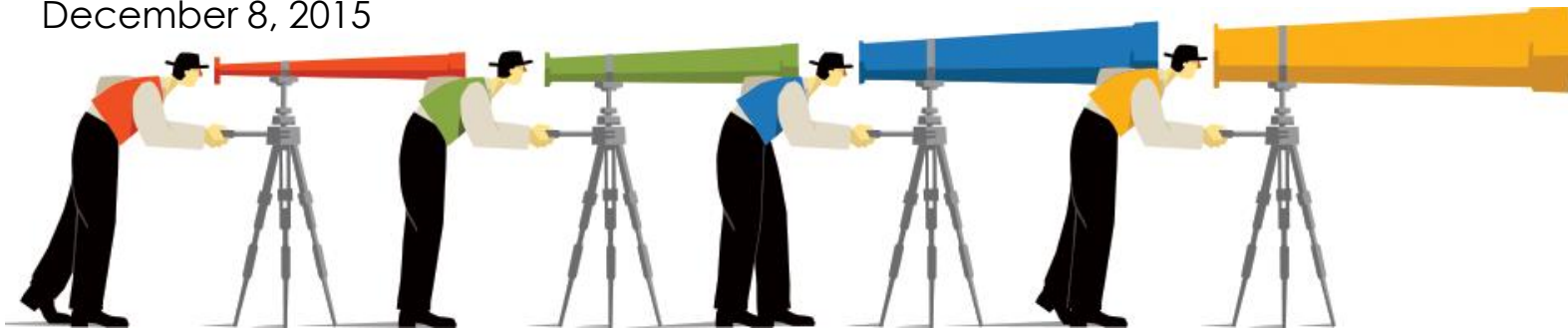
Workshop on Technical Focus and Structure



ASHRAE Headquarters, Atlanta, GA

10:00AM – 3:00PM

December 8, 2015



DISPUTES & INVESTIGATIONS • ECONOMICS • FINANCIAL ADVISORY • MANAGEMENT CONSULTING

**Navigant,**  
*on behalf of the United States Department of Energy,*  
*welcomes you to this workshop on an*  
**Advanced HVAC&R Research Effort**

## *Introductions and Logistics*

- Timing
- Restrooms
- Airport transportation

## *Breakout Discussion Groups*

### **Group Braves**

- Room 1-ABC

### **Group Falcons**

- Room 2-AB

### **Group Hawks**

- Room 3-A

### **Group Yellow Jackets**

- Room 3-B

30  
mins Vision

90  
mins Technical Focus

45  
mins Lunch

90  
mins Structure

30  
mins Closing

# Who Supports Energy Efficiency R&D (Federal)?

**Fundamental  
Research**

**First  
Commercialization**

**Market  
Penetration**



## Building Technologies Office

**Emerging  
Technologies**

Commercial  
Buildings  
Integration  
Residential  
Buildings  
Integration

Codes  
&  
Standards

<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/building-technologies-office>

ARPA-E

NSF

DOE Office  
of Science

ONR

FEMP

ESTCP

GSA Green  
Proving Grounds

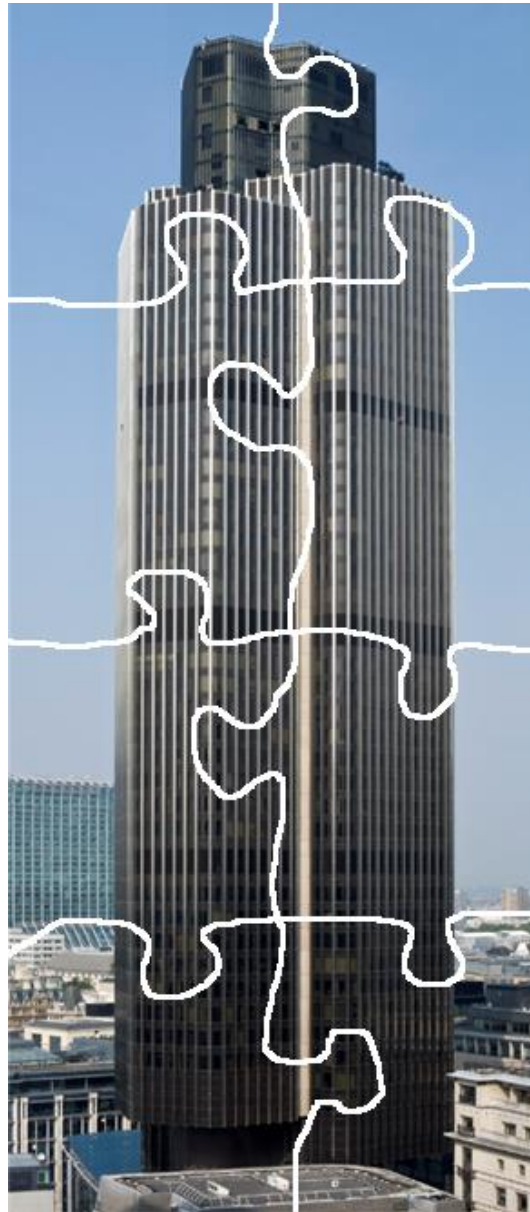
**Advanced windows**

**Advanced refrigerator technology**

**Building energy modeling**

**Low global warming potential (GWP) refrigeration**

**Heating, ventilating, air conditioning, water heating, and appliances**



**Solid state lighting**

**Sensors and controls**

**Advanced heat pump technology:**

- **Air source heat pumps**
- **Integrated heat pumps**
- **Heat exchangers**

**Building Envelope:  
Next generation  
insulation**

# DOE Building Technologies Office (BTO) has supported innovation in HVAC&R through numerous R&D initiatives.



**Residential Cold-Climate Heat Pump**



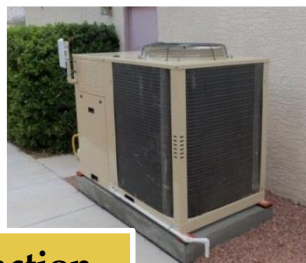
**Supercharger for Heat Pumps in Cold Climates**



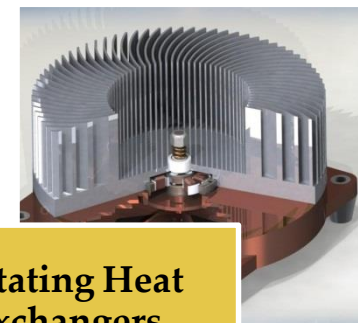
**Low-GWP Refrigerants Roadmap**



**New Low-GWP Supermarket Refrigerant**



**Multi-Function Gas-Fired Heat Pump**



**Rotating Heat Exchangers**

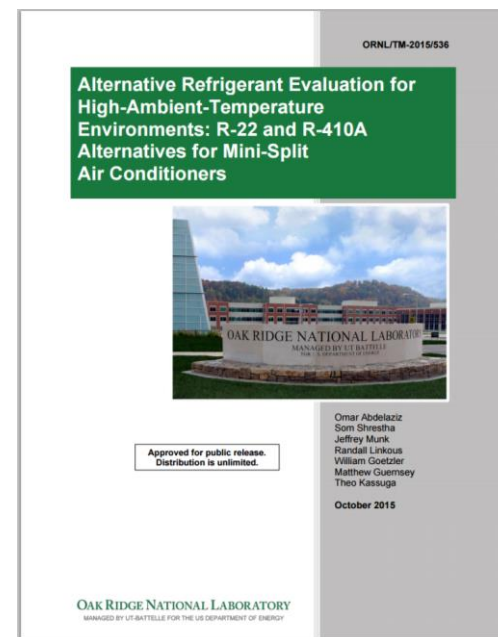
See additional projects on BTO website: <http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/hvac-water-heating-and-appliances>

- » **Low-GWP HVAC with ultra-small centrifugal compressor** – Mechanical Solutions, Inc. (MSI) (New Jersey) and Lennox Industries, Inc. (Lennox) (Texas).  
<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/low-global-warming-potential-hvac-system-ultra-small-centrifugal>
- » **High efficiency centrifugal compressor** - United Technologies Research Center (UTRC) (Connecticut) <http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/high-efficiency-low-global-warming-potential-gwp-compressor>
- » **Advanced membrane HVAC** - Dais Analytic (Florida)  
<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/membrane-based-air-conditioning>
- » **Thermoelastic cooling system (TEC)** - Maryland Energy and Sensor Technologies, LLC (MEST) (Maryland) <http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/compact-thermoelastic-cooling-system>
- » **Novel magnetocaloric A/C** – Oak Ridge National Laboratory (Tennessee). Vaccumschmelze GmbH & Co. KG., (Germany) is a key partner.  
<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/novel-solid-state-magnetocaloric-air-conditioner>
- » **Electrocaloric heat pump** - United Technologies Research Center (UTRC) (Connecticut) <http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/high-efficiency-solid-state-heat-pump-module>
- » **Electrochemical compression (ECC) A/C** - Xergy, Inc. (Delaware)  
<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/low-cost-electrochemical-compressor-utilizing-green-refrigerants-hvac>

## **Report: Alternative Refrigerant Evaluation for High-Ambient-Temperature Environments**

- » Documents test results for both R-22 and R-410A alternatives in mini-split A/C
- » Covers 10 alternative refrigerants

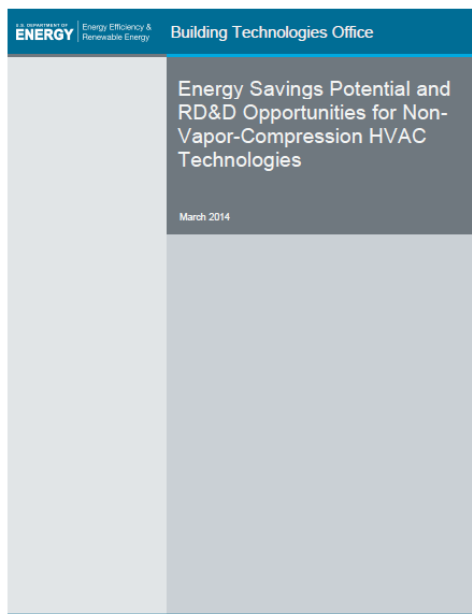
[http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2015/10/f27/bto\\_pub59157\\_101515.pdf](http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2015/10/f27/bto_pub59157_101515.pdf)



## **Report: Non-Vapor-Compression HVAC Technologies Energy Savings Potential**

- » Identifies alternatives to vapor-compression technology in residential and commercial HVAC
- » Characterizes each technology in detail, including RD&D opportunities

<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/non-vapor-compression-hvac-technologies-report>



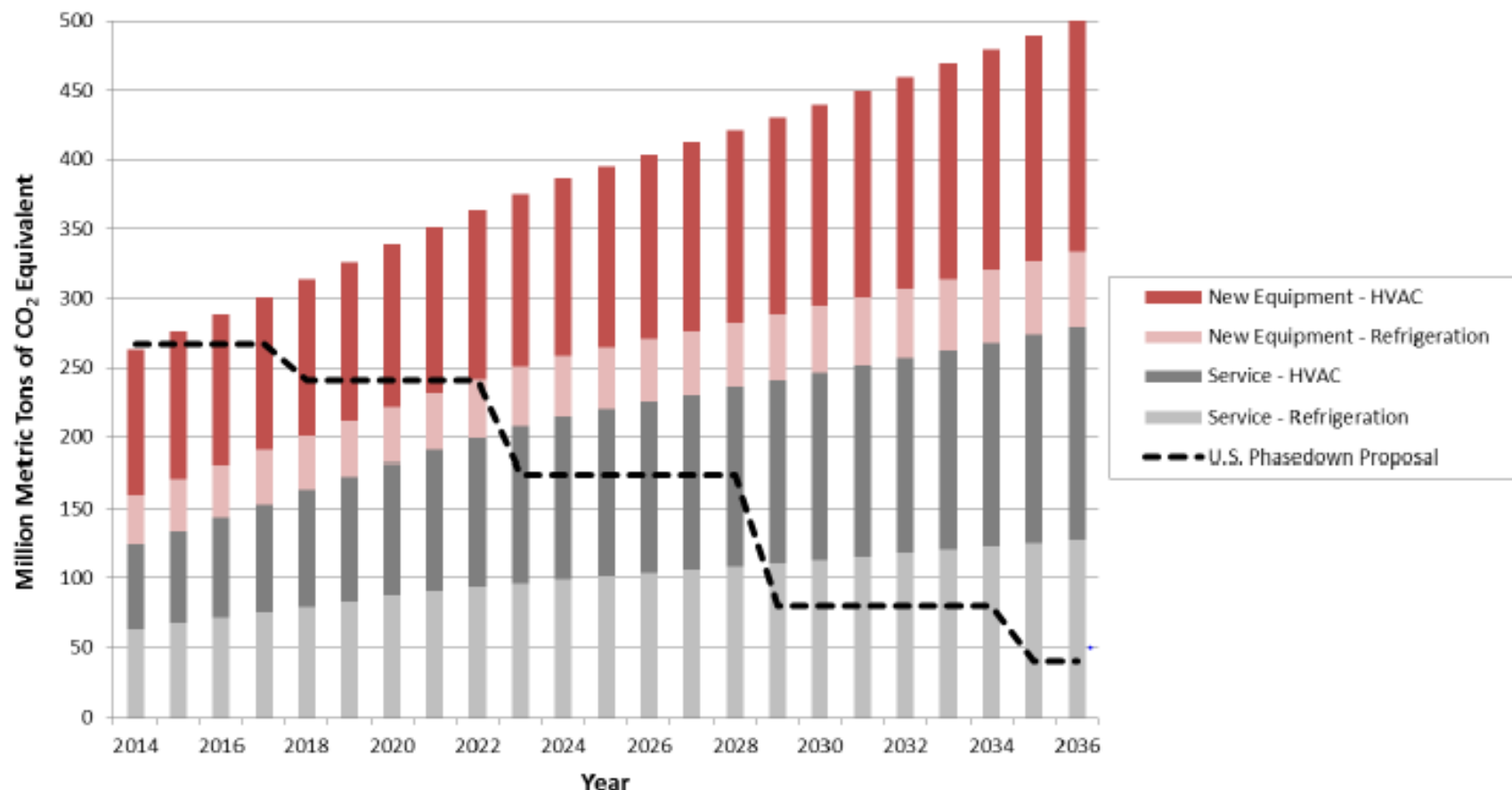


# **Today, DOE BTO is exploring the launch of a major new research effort dedicated to advanced HVAC&R.**

- » Dedicated focus area(s)
- » Centralized oversight
- » Committed partners across industry, academia, research organizations
- » Concentrated funding instead of independently funded projects
- » Long-term mission oriented
- » Open to new and innovative ideas and approaches

This effort supports the U.S. HFC phasedown proposal, which targets an 85% reduction by 2035.

## Projected GWP-Weighted HFC Consumption

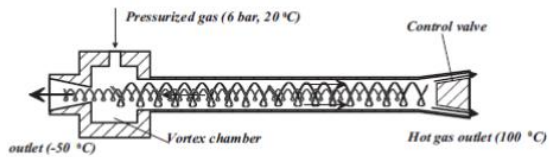


Note: Baseline = 2014-16 average consumption

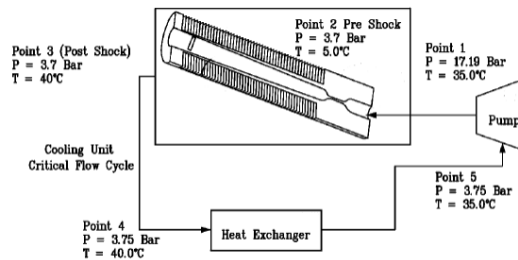
**Key Driver:** DOE's goal to develop next-generation technologies that 'leapfrog' existing technologies and result in dramatically improved efficiency with near-zero GWP cooling fluids.

**Why this major research effort?** Achieving DOE's goal will require a large, coordinated, and interdisciplinary approach in order to make transformative progress.

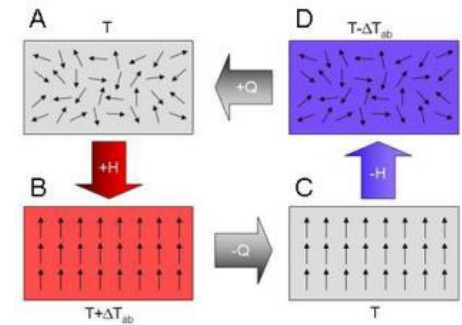
DOE envisions a future where low-GWP HVAC solutions are the new norm and non-vapor compression will be prevalent in several end uses.



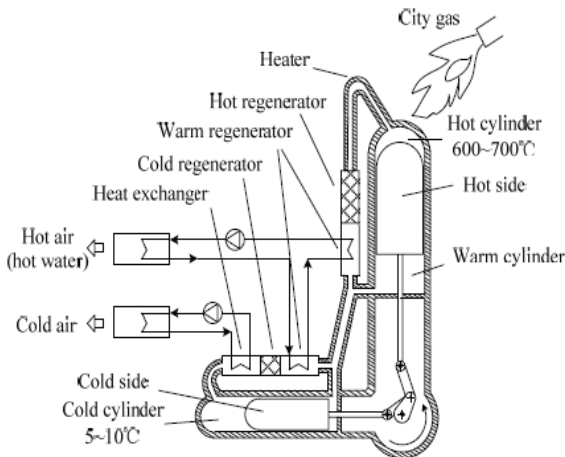
**VORTEX TUBE CHILLER**



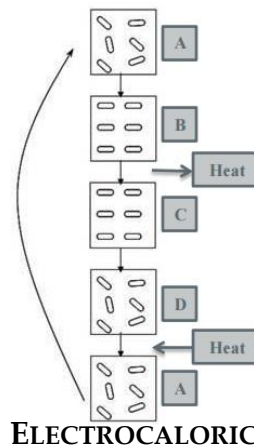
**CRITICAL FLOW REFRIGERANT CYCLE**



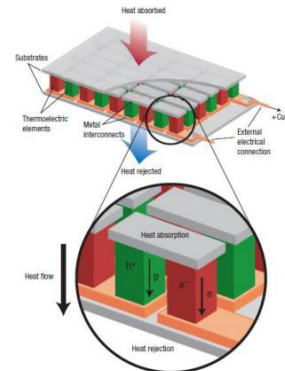
**MAGNETOCALORIC COOLING**



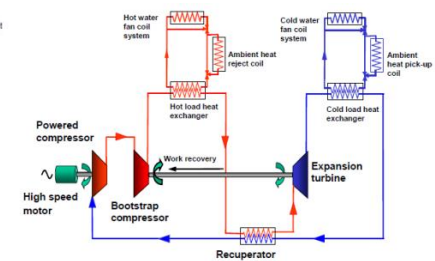
**VUILLEUMIER HEAT PUMP**



**ELECTROCALORIC**



**THERMOELECTRIC**



**BRAYTON HEAT PUMP**

## Illustrative Examples

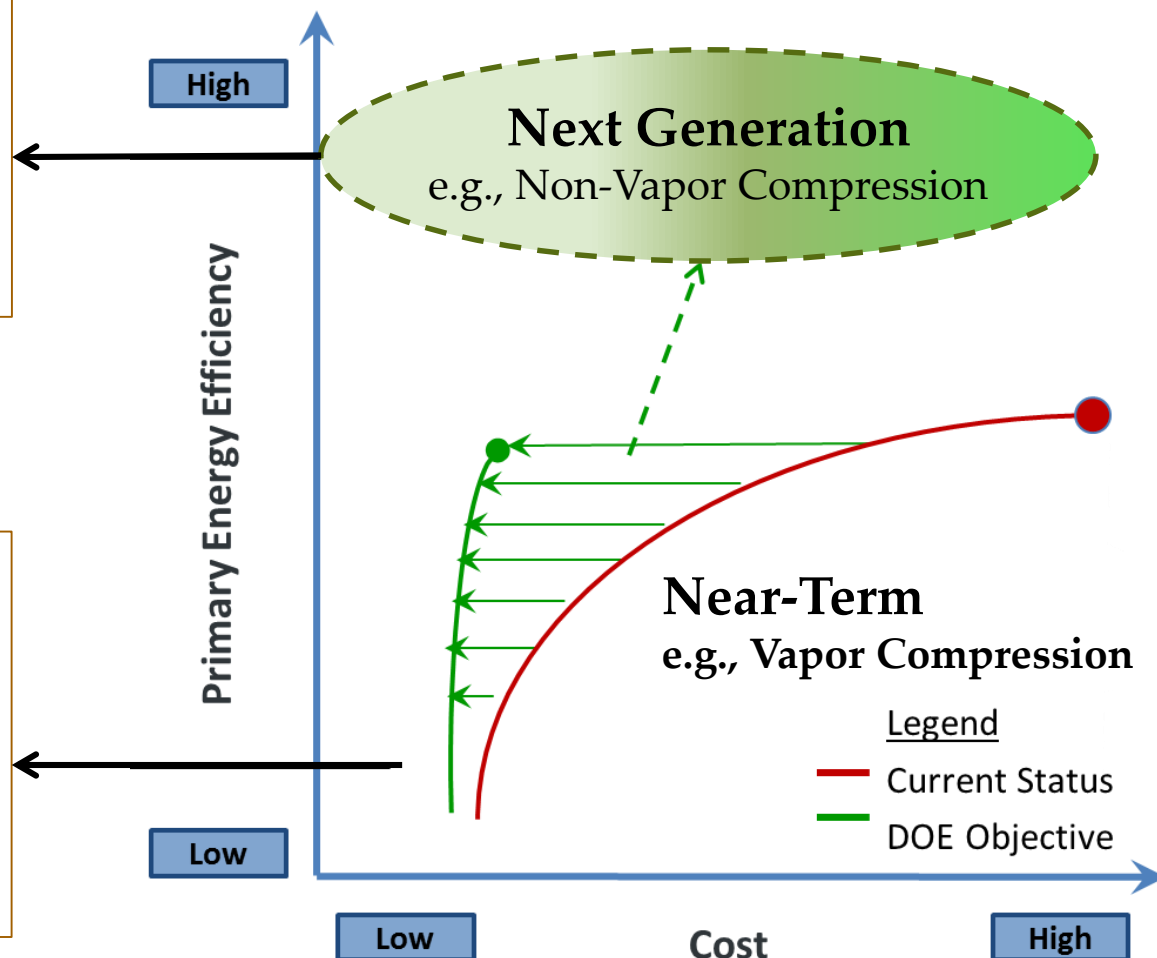
**This effort will build on existing work on near term improvements and strive for transformational advances.**

## Next Generation

- Potential to “leapfrog” existing technologies
- Entirely new approaches

## Near-Term

- Improve efficiency of current technologies
- May include cost reduction activities



Source: Refined from BTO Presentation:  
[energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/05/f15/HVAC\\_Overview\\_Bouza\\_042314\\_and\\_042414.pdf](https://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/05/f15/HVAC_Overview_Bouza_042314_and_042414.pdf)

**Research goals will include successful demonstration of both vapor compression and non-vapor-compression technologies.**

### Preliminary/conceptual goals

Near  
Term

Demonstrate emerging technology prototypes with **significantly lower lifecycle GWP and energy consumption** with **same high-volume cost**


Demonstrate full-scale **non-vapor compression systems with higher efficiencies** than today's vapor compression systems

Long  
Term

Demonstrate full-scale **non-vapor compression** prototypes that reduce energy with **high-volume cost similar to today's state-of-the-art.**


- » BTO workshops:
  - ASME IMECE (Nov 17<sup>th</sup>)
  - ASHRAE HQ (today)
- » Request for Information (RFI) – spring of 2016
- » Intending to lead to a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), pending availability of funds

Please join the



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**


for a workshop exploring the launch of a  
**MAJOR ADVANCED HVAC RESEARCH EFFORT**

Workshop hosted in Atlanta, GA at  


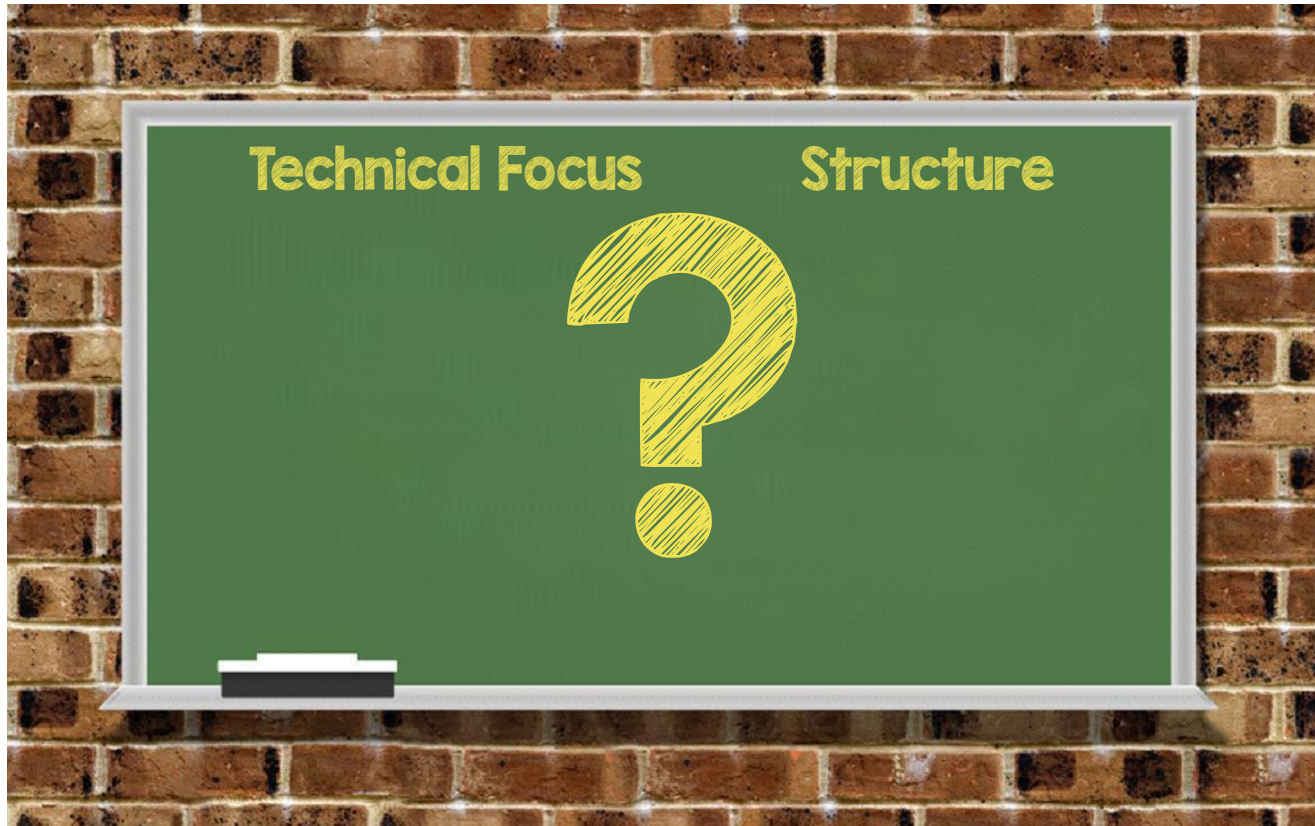
**TIME & PLACE**  
December 8<sup>th</sup>  
11 am – 3pm  
ASHRAE Headquarters  
Room 1-ABC

**OBJECTIVES**  
Exchange ideas on  
**TECHNICAL FOCUS:** long-term research needs in low-GWP and non-vapor compression systems  
**STRUCTURE:** organizational and management approaches

Please RSVP [here](#) by Nov 16. For more information please contact Adam Weiner at [adam.weiner@Navigant.com](mailto:adam.weiner@Navigant.com)

 In collaboration with DOE's Building Technologies Office

The objective of this workshop is to gather ideas on technical focus areas and best practices in structuring the research effort.





**Today's discussion will focus solely on HVAC&R R&D.**

**Our discussion excludes:**

- » Policy issues
- » Regulatory actions, such as efficiency standards
- » Market transformation activities

30  
mins Vision

90  
mins Technical Focus

45  
mins Lunch

90  
mins Structure

30  
mins Closing

## DOE has identified broad research opportunities in advanced HVAC&R through past workshops.











### Roadmap: Low-GWP Refrigerants








### Roadmap: Emerging HVAC Technologies








# Technical Focus » HVAC Roadmap » Direct Impact Initiatives







Activity/Initiative	Topic	Activity/Initiative	Topic
Direct-current (DC) HVAC to utilize solar PV w/o inverter losses and to facilitate microgrid integration	 <b>Renewables &amp; Storage</b>	Material advances to reduce the cost of small absorption systems	 <b>AC/HP</b>
Separate sensible and latent control and quantify the energy savings	 <b>AC/HP</b>	Hybrid ventilation systems to combine mechanical & natural ventilation techniques (aka mixed-mode conditioning)	 <b>Ventilation &amp; Humidity</b>
Raise HP performance (all fuels) at low-ambient temperature	 <b>AC/HP</b>	Ground-source heat pump (GHP) ground-loop cost and performance	 <b>AC/HP</b>
Develop electrochemical compression systems	 <b>AC/HP</b>	Alternative non-solid-state, non-thermally activated HPs with suitable efficiency, cost, and performance	 <b>AC/HP</b>
Seasonal energy storage for residential and commercial	 <b>Renewables &amp; Storage</b>	Solid-state cooling systems	 <b>AC/HP</b>

# Technical Focus » HVAC Roadmap » Enabling Initiatives





Activity/Initiative	Topic
Analysis on energy impacts of incorrect commissioning, installation, operations, and maintenance	 <b>Installation O&amp;M</b>
Open-source, open-architecture platform that enables smart grid connectivity for DR transactional communications	 <b>FDD Controls</b>
Low-cost sensor networks and control schemes	 <b>FDD Controls</b>
Standardized methods of data acquisition and data storage for equipment sizing at end of life	 <b>Tools &amp; Software</b>
Renewable-integrated district heating, cooling, and power systems	 <b>District Systems</b>




Activity/Initiative	Topic
Open-source building automation system	 <b>Tools &amp; Software</b>
Standardized building metric to incorporate energy, health, etc.	 <b>Analysis, Education, Demonstration</b>
New solutions for simultaneous heating and cooling in buildings	 <b>Zoning Distribution</b>
Energy analysis tools for homeowners to aid in purchasing new equipment	 <b>Tools &amp; Software</b>
Compile lessons learned from NREL's high performance buildings database	 <b>Tools &amp; Software</b>

# Technical Focus » Refrigerants Roadmap

Tier 1 Initiative/Activity		Category
Expand NIST modeling research to identify and explore theoretical properties of new low-GWP blends, particularly azeotropes.		Modeling and Evaluation Tools
Characterize the heat transfer and thermodynamic properties and efficiency performance of new refrigerants and blends.		New Refrigerant Development
Techniques for detecting and reducing refrigerant leakage in currently installed systems.		Equipment Development
System-level evaluations of newly identified fluids for specific applications.		Modeling and Evaluation Tools
Techniques for improving temperature control and operational efficiency of secondary loops in installed supermarket refrigeration systems.		Equipment Development
Improve LCCP models by conducting studies on average annual versus peak season performance in large systems.		Modeling and Evaluation Tools

# Technical Focus » Refrigerants Roadmap (cont.)

Tier 2 Initiative/Activity	Category	
Public repository for risk assessments, performance data, material compatibility data, and fire incidents for alternative refrigerants		Industry Collaboration
Prototype systems that demonstrate leak detection with high-reliability, inexpensive sensors		Equipment Development
Materials compatibility and stability of new refrigerants and blends		New Refrigerant Development
Additional A1 refrigerants or blends as drop-in options for servicing existing equipment		New Refrigerant Development

Tier 3 Initiative/Activity	Category	
Improve flammability test methods and prediction tools for blended compounds		Safety Risks
Flammability risk assessments on additional A2L, A3, and B2L fluids for a wider range of applications		Safety Risks
Investigate alternative system architectures that would inherently mitigate flammability risks with A2L and A3 fluids		Safety Risks

--60 minutes of discussion--

Group Braves



Room 1-ABC

Group Falcons



Room 2-AB

Group Hawks



Room 3-A

Group Jackets



Room 3-B

What are the R&D technologies or initiatives that you think best support the research effort's vision?



Assign one person to report back to the larger group after the breakout; you will have 3 minutes each to share the major points.



### 1. Research decisions

How should the research agenda be determined?

### 2. Topics and technologies

What research *areas and/or specific technologies* should be addressed?

30  
mins Vision

90  
mins Technical Focus

45  
mins Lunch

90  
mins Structure

30  
mins Closing

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mins Closing

**There is no single performer that can bring together all the necessary broad expertise and perspectives to succeed.**

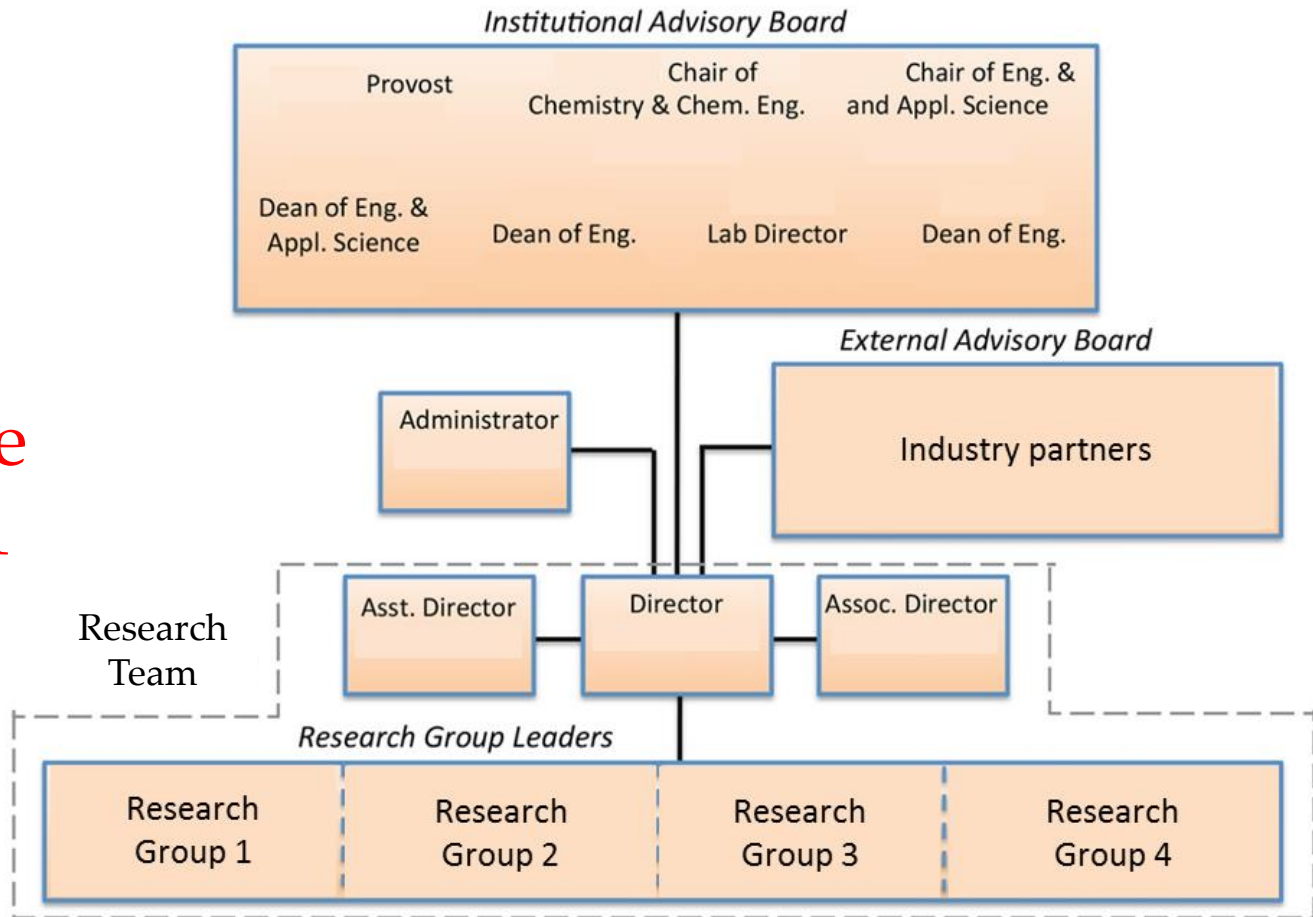
BTO anticipates that this effort will include:

- » **Active** BTO project management
- » Detailed annual **reporting** on progress, successes, challenges
- » **Tangible** outcomes, i.e., actual hardware
- » Strong **cooperation** from a broad array of contributors
- » Comprehensive **evaluation** of effectiveness in reaching goals
- » **Publicized** outcomes and lessons learned

**BTO needs an interdisciplinary team, including resources in chemistry, materials science, electronics, and mechanics.**

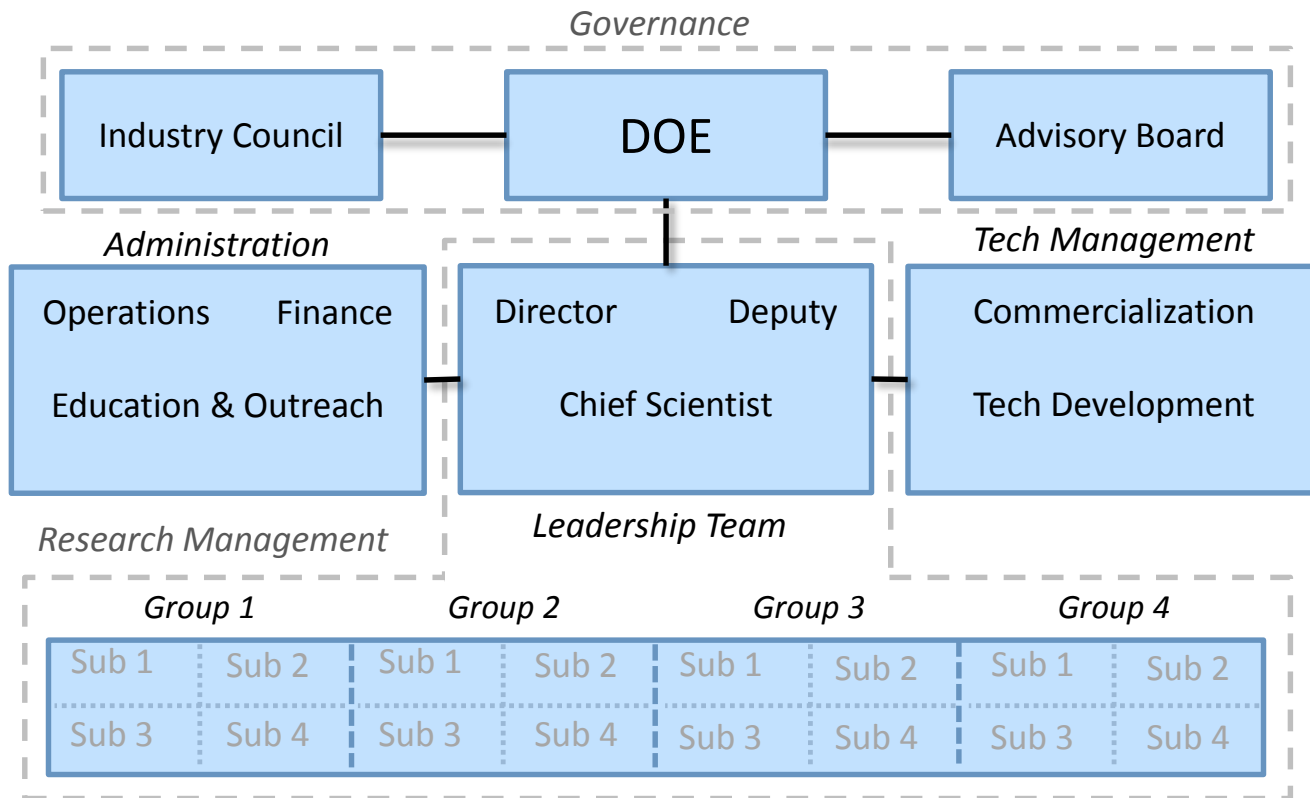
Various organizational structures have been used for similar research efforts.

## Illustrative Example 1



Each organizational structure provides different challenges and benefits in working towards their objectives.

## Illustrative Example 2



--60 minutes of discussion--

**What are the best (and worst) practices in research management?**



**What works best to:**

- Evaluate outcomes?
- Peer review?
- Build research partnerships?

**Group Braves**



**Room 1-ABC**

**Group Falcons**



**Room 2-AB**

**Group Hawks**



**Room 3-A**

**Group Jackets**



**Room 3-B**

**Assign one person to report back to the larger group after the breakout; you will have 3 minutes each to share the major points.**

## 1. Players

**Roles** - Where should key players be involved? Leadership? R&D partners?

**Advisors** - Should research director report to advisors? Or only to DOE?

**Structure** - What should partnerships look like? with industry? others?

## 2. Evaluation

**Characteristics** - What form should evaluation take?

**Independence** - Are 3<sup>rd</sup>-party evaluators needed? Who could play this role?

## 3. Research approach

**Team Quantity** - How many parallel research teams? With how much interaction?

**Topic Quantity** - How many research areas and/or technologies for each team?

## 4. Other best practices

What other factors are important?

What else should DOE consider?



30  
mins Vision

90  
mins Technical Focus

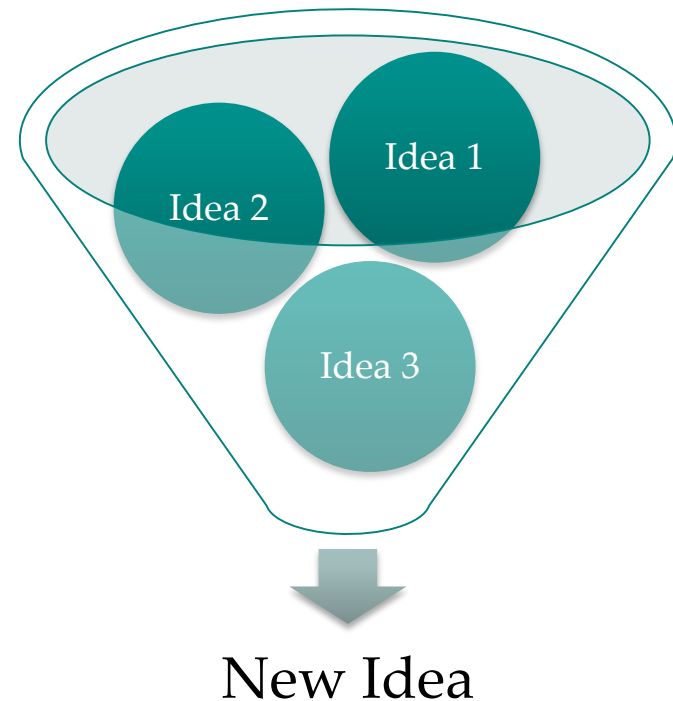
45  
mins Lunch

90  
mins Structure

30  
mins Closing

Have the discussions today sparked any additional thoughts or ideas that we have not yet discussed?

- Combinations of existing ideas?
- New ideas?
- New twists?
- Important but missing details?
- New perspectives?



# Key CONTACTS



## Thank you for your inputs

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DOE BTO Website for Emerging Technologies:  
<http://energy.gov/eere/buildings/emerging-technologies>

**Please make sure that your name, email, and organization are on the sign-in sheet!**