

United States
Department of Energy

Secretary's Improvement Award

Presented to:

The Office of Science's Modernization of Laboratory Facilities (MLF)

The MLF team successfully used the “Construction Manager at Risk” acquisition strategy at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. This strategy allowed the project to separate the design and construction into two phases which allowed construction to start four months early. In addition, the construction manager executed an early build-out of a typical laboratory module. This provided researchers a “hands-on” verification of user requirements reducing change orders and resulting in significant improvements to the remaining laboratories. The project team also utilized Building Information Modeling (BIM) software significantly improving construction performance by creating virtual 3D mock-ups of piping and structural components resolving numerous interferences before they became a problem. The successful implementation of these innovative methods resulted in the project finishing six months ahead of schedule and set a precedent for project management techniques at ORNL. The project team is to be commended for a job well done.

Dr. Steven Chu
Secretary of Energy

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