

**U.S. Department of Energy  
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# ***NETL NEWS***

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## **NETL's Ohodnicki Receives 2012 Excellence in Government Award**

**Pittsburgh, Pa. —**

The National Energy Technology Laboratory's (NETL) Paul R. Ohodnicki, Jr., has been selected by the Pittsburgh Federal Executive Board (FEB) for their Excellence in Government Award for Rookie of the Year, Gold level. The Award was presented at the 29th annual Awards Program luncheon at the Westin Convention Center Hotel in Pittsburgh on Friday, May 25.

Out of the 160 nominations FEB received from regional Federal organizations, NETL was lauded with 3 Gold Awards, 2 Silver Awards, and 5 Bronze Awards. Representatives from 16 Federal agencies, acting as an FEB awards committee, made the semi-final selections, and a panel of representatives from the business and civic community chose the final selections.

Ohodnicki has been with NETL for 2.5 years, and he started as a project manager for the Solid State Energy Conversion Alliance Program in the Power Systems Division in the areas of solid oxide fuel cells and power electronics research and development. He is a materials scientist in the Chemistry and Surface Science Division, working on high-temperature sensor materials for utility-scale power plant applications. He also interacts closely with groups working on catalysts, photocatalysts, and solid oxide fuel cells by providing electron microscopy and technical support.

Ohodnicki grew up in Pittsburgh, Pa., and went to Woodland Hills High School. He earned his bachelors degrees in economics and engineering physics from the University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, Pa.) and his M.S. and Ph.D. in materials science and engineering from Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh, Pa.). He resides with his family in Hampton Township, Pa.

NETL is a U.S. Department of Energy national laboratory that produces technological solutions to America's energy challenges. For more than 100 years, the laboratory has focused on developing tools and processes to provide clean, reliable, and affordable energy to the American people. Three NETL research sites—Albany, Ore., Morgantown, W.Va., and Pittsburgh, Pa.—conduct a broad range of energy and environmental research and development activities that support DOE's mission to advance the national, economic, and energy security of the United States.

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