



GOVENERGY SEES A GROWING DEMAND FOR TRAINING IN FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Federal, civilian, and military energy professionals register in record numbers to learn how to reduce their energy use.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (August 18, 2011)—GovEnergy, the nation's premier energy training workshop and trade show for federal energy professionals, was held August 7–10, 2011 at the Duke Energy Convention Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. Embracing the theme *A River of Energy Solutions*, the 14th year of GovEnergy saw record registration numbers reach 4,174 participants. The workshop offered more than 130 training sessions within 15 educational categories, and the trade show featured more than 285 companies and organizations, a notable increase from the 226 participating companies and organizations in 2010.

GovEnergy's workshop presented seasoned professionals and newcomers a technical program designed to help federal employees better meet their sustainability, energy security, and energy assurance goals. Session experts shared best practices and lessons learned, and attendees discovered practical solutions for common problems facing federal building performance. The training sessions offered details for maximizing energy efficiency without sacrificing productivity and methods for program development, implementation, reporting, and data integrity. Attendees learned how to diagnose problems in federal facilities and techniques for improving building performance through operations and maintenance, energy audits, metering, and commissioning. Comprehensive details were offered on compliance requirements for federal facilities, greenhouse gas emissions and renewables. Sessions also explored how behavior and attitudes impact energy consumption and what practices are used to communicate, influence, and promote energy efficiency. In an era of increased mandates, continuing resolution, and reduced funding, GovEnergy's attendees were able to see the how the successful completion of critical energy projects is more important than ever, while exploring strategies for overcoming various project hurdles. GovEnergy continues to offer professional development and education credits for its training through the American Association of Engineers, and recently became a U.S. Green Building Council education provider.

The GovEnergy trade show featured the capabilities of three electric vehicles, and complimentary trade show access was provided on Tuesday, August 9, during a two-hour open house event. Several trade show exhibitors participated in the new Technology Theater, allowing them to deliver brief presentations about their products and services. Exhibitors were also encouraged to attend the expanded two-day exhibitor-focused workshop, *Doing Business with the Federal Government*.

GovEnergy Chairman Joe Sabel asserts GovEnergy was a great success and participation was enthusiastic right through the closing luncheon. "We have received great feedback that our attendees and exhibitors felt this was the best GovEnergy in years. We had a number of new exhibitors and products. Some of the latest technologies were showcased. And some of our new workshops were very well attended; for example, *Energy Roundtable* allowed a small audience to have in-depth conversations with several experts."

Mr. Sabel added, "Attendees have indicated that our theme about people taking action was well received and much appreciated. The focus on culture and human behavior is becoming ever more apparent as a source for permanent and lasting change towards energy efficiency, improved sustainability, and a reduced environmental footprint."

Forward-thinking speakers from the public and private sectors provided valuable insights and compelling considerations. Opening remarks were presented by Martha Johnson, the U.S. General Services

Administration (GSA) Administrator; Dr. Dorothy Robyn, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment; Craig E. Hooks, the Assistant Administrator for the Office of Administration and Resources Management, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Larry Falkin, the Director of Cincinnati's Office of Environmental Quality (CEQ); and Dr. Timothy Unruh, Program Manager for the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The closing luncheon included remarks by noted environmental psychologist Dr. Doug McKenzie-Mohr and Henry Kelly, the Acting Assistant Secretary for the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. Army Secretary John M. McHugh also spoke, announcing the launch of the Army's Energy Initiatives Office Task Force, which is charged with developing large-scale renewable energy projects for Army facilities.

Attendees benefitted from a host of new features. The training workshop offered five new educational categories: *GovEnergy Roundtable*, *Complying with Federal Directives*, *Energy Projects A-Z*, *Energy 501*, and *Utility Infrastructure*. New eTools, such as smartphone apps and interactive kiosks were introduced as a way to streamline communication efforts and reduce paper waste. On Sunday, August 7, GovEnergy offered five technical tours, illustrating how energy-saving technologies are currently used throughout the Cincinnati metro region.

A number of GovEnergy attendees elected to take advantage of the event's pre-and post-training opportunities and agency meetings. Serving to maximize training and travel budgets, over 80 events were held in conjunction with GovEnergy, hosted by experienced professionals and trainers. While they are not part of the official program, these sessions offered resources to leverage the overall learning experience.

The GovEnergy Workshop and Trade Show attained Cleaner and Greener® Platinum Certification from the Leonardo Academy through the quantification and offset of emissions related to both climate change and human health. GovEnergy has been calculating and certifying its event emissions since 2004. GovEnergy also promoted event sustainability by offering its trade show exhibitors the opportunity to assess the sustainability of their exhibiting process by filling out an Exhibitor Sustainability Scorecard.

Michael Arny, President of Leonardo Academy, said, "The GovEnergy Workshop and Trade Show is demonstrating its leadership by offsetting both the greenhouse gas emissions and emissions that affect health caused by this event and by encouraging exhibitors to reduce the environmental impacts of their exhibits. Leonardo Academy believes these actions are core components of sustainability good practice for conferences, organizations, companies, and government agencies."

The 2012 event will be held August 19-22, at the America's Center Convention Complex in St. Louis, Missouri. For more information about GovEnergy, visit www.govenergy.gov.

About GovEnergy

For 14 years, GovEnergy has brought together the nation's leading experts in policy, technology, and facility operations to address the challenges of federal energy management. GovEnergy is dedicated to delivering thought-provoking insight and serving to develop the skills of federal employees and stakeholders working to meet mandated energy goals.

GovEnergy is sponsored by the Department of Energy Federal Energy Management Program (DOE-FEMP), the General Services Administration (GSA), the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), the Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

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