



International Superconductivity Industry Summit (ISIS)

ISIS Background: The International Superconductivity Industry Summit (ISIS) was created in 1991 when Japan, through its International Superconductivity Technology Center (ISTEC), approached the U.S. trade association, now the Coalition for the Commercial Application of Superconductors (CCAS), with the suggestion that we form an international superconductivity organization. At that time, the major development efforts and research and technology leadership were in the U.S., Japan and Europe. Upon invitation, Europe established a similar organization and the U.S., Japan and Europe founded ISIS with a mission to promote international cooperation and information exchange between industry, governments, and academic institutions worldwide in order to stimulate product development using superconductor technology. Members of ISIS are required to be the major organization in their nation or region representing superconductivity and to have their own members derived from industry and academia and strong ties to government.

The first meeting, ISIS-1, was held in the Wyndham Bristol Hotel in Washington, D.C. in May 1992, with subsequent meetings rotated annually among ISIS members.

As ISIS has a strong commercial focus centered on applications, a substantial number of delegates attending ISIS meetings represent industrial companies. This commercial focus is coupled with an understanding of the critical role that academic research and government support has played, and must play in the future development of superconductor based products and systems. ISIS therefore represents a forum for open discussion of successes, challenges and needs and brings together decision makers and influence brokers, facilitating opportunities for relaxed business discussions and the exploration of closer individual collaborations outside of the formal ISIS meeting setting and auspices.

ISIS Expansion: In recognition of the rapidly expanding worldwide interest and major activity in superconductivity, ISIS established a formal structure in 2007. New Zealand (2008), South Korea (2010), and Russia (2011) all formed the requisite organizations to comply with the ISIS membership requirements and were accepted as members. Attendance at meetings is by invitation only and is restricted to members of the six organizations comprising ISIS. An average of 50 delegates attend the Summit meeting.

ISIS Mission and Vision: The mission of ISIS today remains as it was 20 years ago - to promote international cooperation and information exchange between industry, governments and academic institutions. The vision of ISIS is that continued research, development and demonstrations of superconductor based products will, over the next several decades, lead to the commercial emergence and broad utilization of such products in electric power generation, transmission, distribution and storage; communications; computing; transportation; science; and medicine; resulting in transformational societal advances worldwide that are both cost effective and environmentally friendly. Furthermore, it is the long range goal of ISIS to add new organizations sharing this vision that are representative of other national and regional interests, so that ISIS will expand and remain the leading organization in superconductivity dedicated to the promotion of international trade, business development, international cooperation and economic benefit for all member nations.

Additional Information: For additional information please contact Dr. Alan Lauder, Chairman ISIS Council and Executive Committee, at +1-610-388-6901 or alauder@comcast.net

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