

Ames Laboratory Science into Action

Ames Laboratory
Creating Materials and Energy Solutions
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The Ames Laboratory puts our science into action for the nation by deploying technologies through licensing innovations developed by Ames Laboratory scientists. Over the past five years, Ames Laboratory inventions provided an estimated economic contribution of \$626 million, representing \$11 of economic activity for every dollar of the Ames Laboratory's average annual budget over the same period.

Over the last 34 years, 27 spin-off companies have been formed based on scientific discoveries made at Ames Laboratory. Two of these companies are:

Advanced Analytical Technologies Inc.: AATI manufactures chemical analytical tools initially based on Ames Laboratory's multiplexed capillary electrophoresis technologies. The biotech company is located in Ankeny, Iowa.

Iowa Powder Atomization Technologies: IPAT's goal is to create titanium metal powders that can be formed into industrial parts for military, biomedical, and aerospace applications. Using gas atomization nozzles and pour tubes developed at Ames Laboratory, the titanium powder making process is more efficient and, thus, lowers the cost of the powder. IPAT was sold to Praxair Surface Technologies in 2014.

Did you know? The lead-free solder developed at Ames Laboratory has generated nearly \$59 million in royalty income, making it the top all-time royalty generator for Ames Laboratory and Iowa State University and one of the top for the U.S. Department of Energy. It is the only invention in the national laboratory complex that has returned revenue to the U.S. Treasury (approx. \$6 million). The initial patents expired in 2013 and 2014. Lead-free solder is an environmentally-friendly material that made history as the first cost-effective, broadly useable alternative to tin-lead solder, a toxic but necessary ingredient in a range of popular consumer electronics.

