

Overview of the GSEP Certification Working Group

Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM)

Though the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM) was launched relatively recently (in July 2010), it has emerged as the preeminent forum through which energy ministers from countries representing over 80% of global greenhouse gas emissions cooperate to accelerate the global transition to clean energy technologies. The CEM works to accomplish this objective by combining:

- High-level policy dialogue among ministers responsible for clean energy research and deployment portfolios to better inform their own domestic policies and programs;
- Working-level cooperation to drive technical progress across a variety of clean energy fields; and
- Engagement with the private-sector to leverage its expertise, influence, and capital.

Through its 11 initiatives, the CEM is driving down the cost and accelerating deployment of renewable energy, electric vehicles, high-efficiency appliances, and smart grid technology.

Global Superior Energy Performance Partnership (GSEP)

At the July 2010 meeting of the CEM in Washington, D.C., government and corporate leaders announced a new initiative to accelerate energy efficiency improvements throughout industrial facilities and large buildings. The purpose of this initiative, called the Global Superior Energy Performance Partnership (GSEP), is to significantly cut global energy use by:

- Encouraging industrial facilities and commercial buildings to pursue continuous improvements in energy efficiency; and,
- Promoting public-private partnerships for cooperation on specific technologies or in individual energy intensive sectors.

Within GSEP, there are six working groups. More information about each can be found on the GSEP website at: <http://www.cleanenergyministerial.org/GSEP/index.html>

- Certification Working Group (U.S.-led)
- Cool Roofs and Pavements Working Group (U.S.-led)
- Combined Heat and Power and Efficient District Heating and Cooling Working Group (Finland-led)
- Power Working Group (Japan-led)
- Steel Working Group (Japan-led)
- Cement Working Group (Japan-led)

GSEP is also a task group under the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC).

GSEP Certification Working Group

The GSEP Certification Working Group will facilitate an international dialogue to share strategies and best practices to foster and accelerate energy management and continuous energy performance improvements in industrial facilities and buildings. It has three main strategic objectives:

- Increase the implementation of energy management in the industrial and buildings sectors in order to improve energy efficiency and energy performance on an ongoing basis
- Measure and verify energy performance improvements on a consistent basis
- Build a qualified workforce of professionals with expertise in the fields of energy management, energy efficiency, and measurement and verification

At the first GSEP Certification Working Group workshop in June 2011, participating governments agreed to launch three task forces that are focused on advancing each of the three strategic objectives. A brief description of the proposed activities for each of the task forces is as follows:

- **Energy Management Task Force**
 - Establish a centralized sharing platform to collect and distribute information about energy management
 - Develop a common energy savings and management tool set to be used throughout GSEP Certification Working Group countries
 - Coordinate pilot programs across countries to showcase the value proposition of energy management
 - Work toward national certification programs to recognize entities for compliance with an energy management system standard such as ISO 50001
- **Measurement and Verification (M&V) Task Force**
 - Share information related to developing M&V protocols and compile best practices and inventory resources
 - Design a standardized M&V protocol to be used across GSEP Certification Working Group countries
 - Develop a voluntary reporting mechanism to share data needed to benchmark facility performance
- **Qualified Workforce Task Force**
 - Share information related to credentialing programs, including qualification criteria, training requirements, and training materials
 - Create standardized credentialing processes, including establishing uniform qualification criteria and moving toward greater harmonization of training programs across GSEP Certification Working Group countries

The United States leads the GSEP Certification Working Group and other participating governments include: Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Commission, France, Hungary, India, Japan, Korea, Mexico, South Africa, and Sweden.

Participation in each of the Task Forces is as follows:

- **Energy Management Task Force:** Australia, Canada, Denmark, Japan, Korea, Mexico, South Africa, Sweden, and the United States
- **Measurement and Verification (M&V) Task Force:** Australia, Hungary, India, Japan, Korea, South Africa, and the United States
- **Qualified Workforce Task Force:** Australia, Japan, Korea, South Africa, and the United States