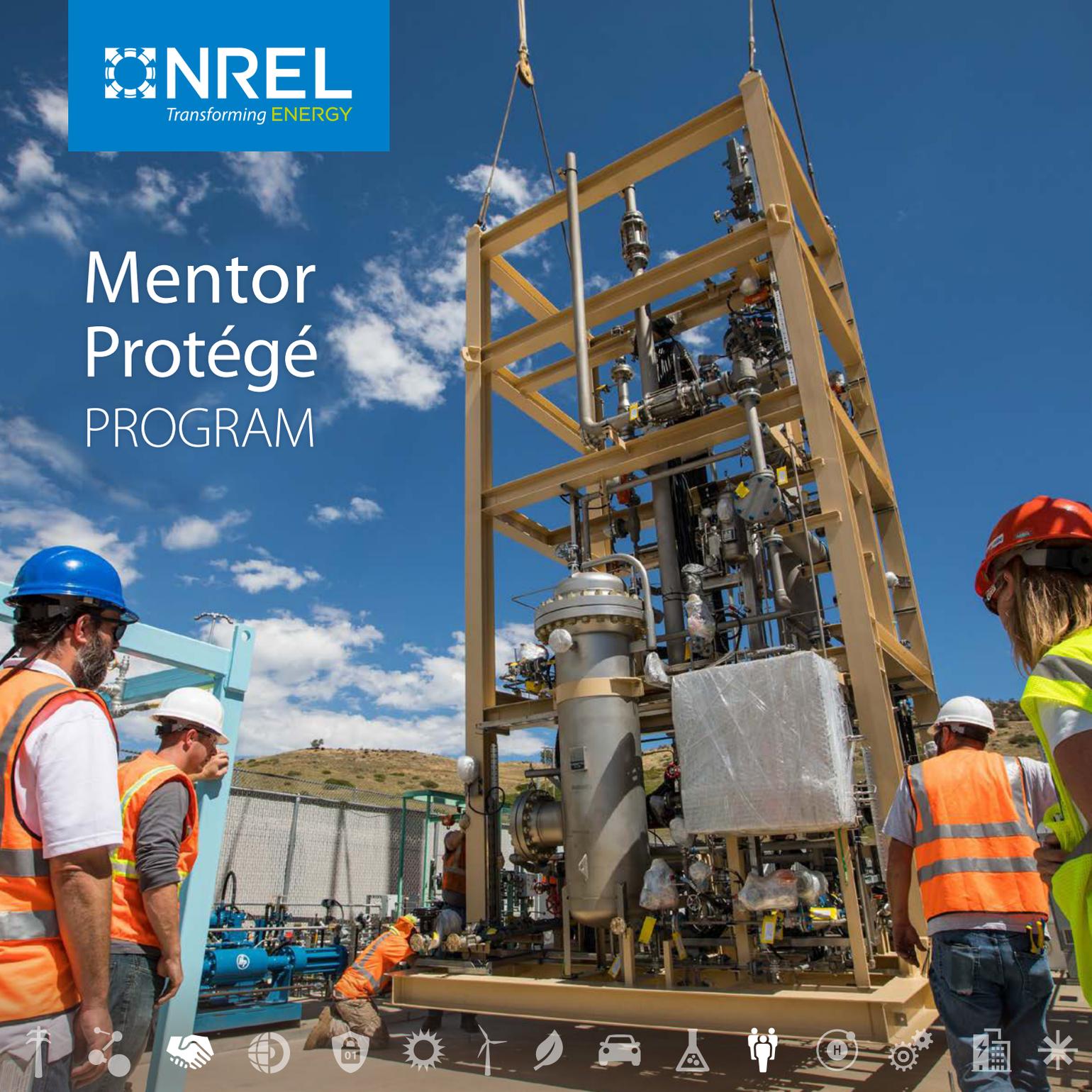
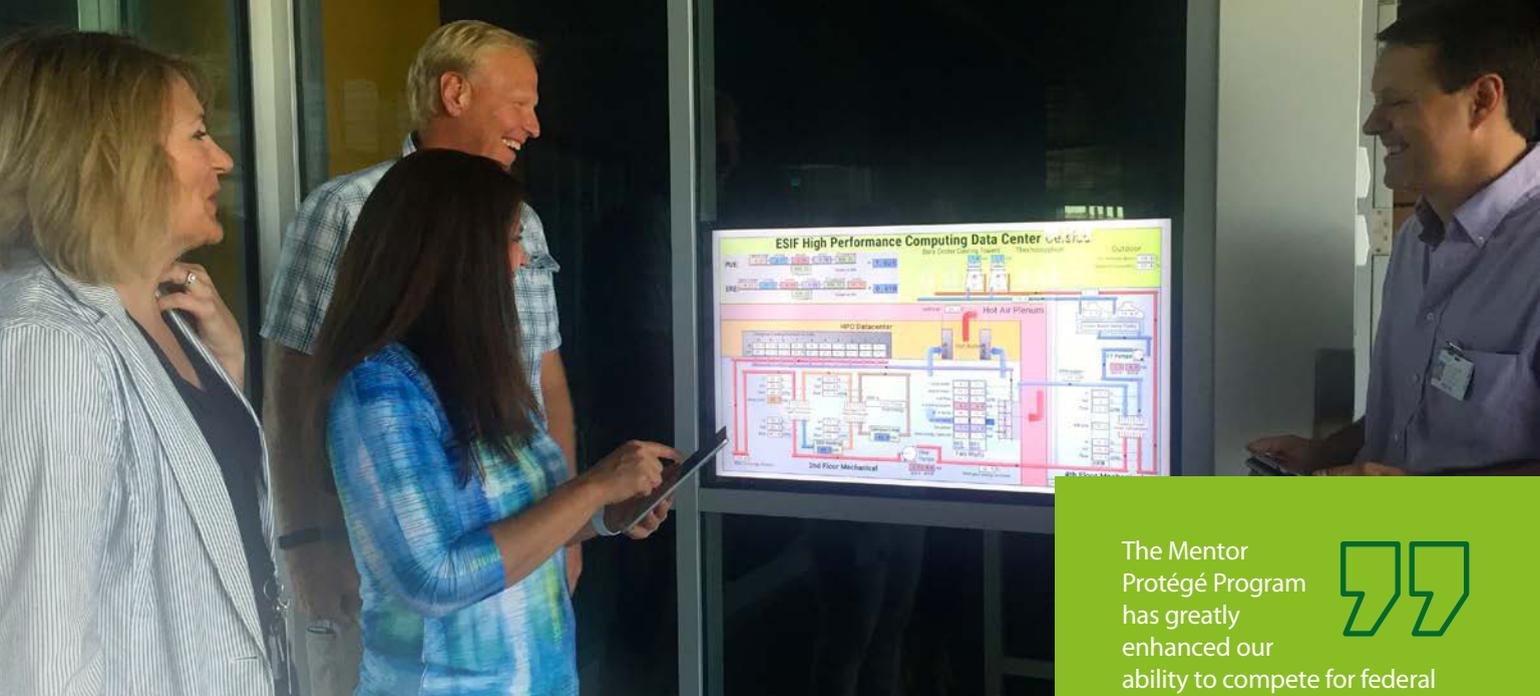


Mentor Protégé PROGRAM





NREL HELPS SMALL BUSINESSES WORK WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Mentor Protégé Program is designed to help small businesses obtain mentoring from DOE prime contractors. The program is meant to foster long-term business relationships between small businesses and DOE prime contractors while increasing the overall number of small business entities that receive DOE contract and subcontract awards.

The program is open to all small business, including:

- Small disadvantaged businesses
- Small Business Administration-certified 8(a) small businesses
- HUBZone
- Woman-owned
- Veteran-owned
- Service-disabled veteran-owned.

The Mentor Protégé Program has greatly enhanced our ability to compete for federal contracts. Success with the program has effectively vetted us as a proven vendor in the eyes of government partners.

— Janet Roucis, BrainJuice Mobile CEO



I was impressed with BrainJuice. They were motivated, flexible, competent, and they now have a great institutional understanding.



— Eric Manuel, NREL Campus Tour Project Leader

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Small businesses interested in participating in the Mentor Protégé Program must:

- Be eligible for receipt of government contracts
- Have been in business for at least two years prior to applying for enrollment in the program
- Be able to certify as a small business according to the standard industrial code for the service or supplies to be provided
- Not have an existing DOE Mentor Protégé Program agreement in place.

HOW LONG DOES THE PROGRAM LAST?

When a small business applies for and is approved to participate in the Mentor Protégé Program, it will sign a two-year commitment. Within this time frame, the small business is eligible to receive sole-source subcontracts.

Mentor Protégé Program Graduate: BrainJuice Mobile

BrainJuice Mobile is a software and services company that, as a protégé at NREL, helped bring the renowned Energy Systems Integration Facility (ESIF) to life. And it's a replicable success.

BrainJuice Mobile created an interactive digital tour for ESIF, NREL's premier partnership facility. The software provides up-to-the-minute talking points about each lab on the ESIF tour, delivered to a hand-held tablet device that displays content based on location-aware technology.

Up-to-date information on lab capabilities, current equipment, and experimental progress are at tour guides' fingertips with the BrainJuice technology. The digital tour greatly improves the visitor experience and provides NREL guides a tool to lead customized tours for the large number of visitors to NREL.

It's always difficult to break new ground on projects at national laboratories; there can be untold legal challenges and cyber delays. BrainJuice Mobile always came up with solutions and they were creative when faced with roadblocks.



— Sonja Berdahl, NREL Technology Manager



Get more information on DOE's Mentor Protégé Program:

www.energy.gov/diversity/services/supporting-small-businesses-mentor-prot-g-program



WORK WITH US



Rexann Dunn

NREL Small Business
Program Manager
rexann.dunn@nrel.gov
303-275-4322

Tonya McCabe

NREL Mentor Protégé
Program Administrator
tonya.mccabe@nrel.gov
303-275-3038



National Renewable Energy Laboratory
15013 Denver West Parkway, Golden, CO 80401
303-275-3000 • www.nrel.gov

NREL is a national laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
Operated by the Alliance for Sustainable Energy, LLC

NREL/BR-6A42-76565 • June 2020

Cover photo by Werner Slocum, NREL 47275; page 2 from Rexann Dunn; page 4 by Dennis Schroeder, NREL 52687