



Short Biography

Masood Akhtar is an energy entrepreneur with substantial, research, development, commercialization, marketing, technology transfer, investment and management experience in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy. In 2003, he founded Clean Tech Partners (CTP).

CTP is a non-profit organization funded in part by Focus on Energy. CTP was established to help commercialize energy efficient emerging technologies by providing 1) capital in the form of loans or equity to companies not typically served by traditional financial resources, 2) business mentoring, 3) grant application assistance to the clients, and 4) other assistance critical for technology deployment, including monitoring the progress after the investment is made, serving on the board of directors/advisors if necessary, identifying partners for deployment, working with state and federal regulators to facilitate permitting related to technology deployment, etc. In October 2007, DOE selected Wisconsin as the first state in the Nation to deploy energy technologies in Wisconsin based on the successful Focus on Energy Industrial Program and the CTP's successful deployment model with the intent to duplicate these models in other states in the U.S.

In 2003, he was elected as a Fellow by the International Academy of Wood Science, UK. On U.S. Congress's request in 2004, he testified before the committee on value-added chemicals, such as cellulosic ethanol from lignocellulosic materials. In 2005, he helped organize the Governor's Summit on Biobased Industry in Wisconsin. In September 2005, he was appointed on the Forest Research Advisory Committee (FRAC) by the US Department of Agricultural Secretary to advise the Secretary concerning forestry research administered and undertaken by the USDA. In 2009, he will be serving as the Vice chairman of this committee. To promote energy efficiency and renewable energy, he organized the 2006 International Forum on Energy. In 2006, he established a Biorefinery Deployment Collaborative to build private and public institutional readiness to participate in the U.S. bioeconomy with focus is on deployment. Members include forest products industry, ethanol producers, technology developers, service providers, and several universities and federal institutions. He and his colleagues at New Page just received a \$30 million grant from the US Department of Energy to produce liquid transportation fuels at the mill site, while reducing energy cost of the pulping processes. He has received many other federal grants related to energy to his credit.