

# Foreword

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I am pleased to provide you with this revised version of the *ATP Proposal Preparation Kit*. This kit provides all the necessary requirements and guidelines for developing an ATP proposal during fiscal year 2004. All individuals who are currently on the ATP mailing list will receive a copy of this kit as well as any competition announcements. If you are not on our mailing list and wish to be added, call us at 1-800-287-3863 or submit an electronic request at <http://www.atp.nist.gov/atp/atpform.htm>. To learn more about ATP, I encourage you to visit the ATP website at <http://www.atp.nist.gov>. The ATP website offers general information about ATP, a searchable database of previously funded ATP projects, and much more.

As U.S. industry vies for position in the global markets of the 21st century and faces unprecedented challenges from foreign competitors, it is more important than ever to emphasize our strengths. Innovation and entrepreneurship are and will remain our best strategies in this contest—our essential edge on the competition. ATP was established to leverage those strengths, to encourage entrepreneurship in research and development, and to foster technological innovation. The path-breaking new ideas that are the essence of ATP projects can come from any industry, any company. We look forward to working with you to dramatically change the future direction of technology.

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