

Auburn University Partners with Los Alamos National Laboratory

AUBURN, AL – Auburn University has partnered with Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to enhance collaboration in research, education, and workforce development via the Weapons Production–Technology and Nuclear Training Program (WP-TNT).

Through the WP-TNT initiative, Auburn University will collaborate with LANL and its partner, TechSource, Inc., to introduce advanced Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tracking and analytical data processing techniques aimed at optimizing inventory management in LANL's secure environment. This partnership will enable Auburn to explore new avenues of collaborative research with LANL and enhance curriculum and educational opportunities for Auburn students. "The WP-TNT partnership with LANL will advance RFID technology for precision location systems, and hopefully open up many paths of opportunity for Auburn students to work with a premier government technology lab," Justin Patton, Director of the Auburn RFID Lab, said.

LANL will also gain the opportunity to outreach within the Auburn University community. Auburn is at the forefront of sensor technology and is empowering students to have hands on experience with RFID applications. The partnership with LANL will allow students to expand their knowledge of RFID systems implementation in adverse environments.

Through the WP-TNT partnership, Auburn students and LANL subject matter experts will expand their knowledge of RFID inventory tracking, collaborate to advance sensor technology innovation, and foster connections between students and LANL professionals. "This partnership is very timely in addressing some of LANL's immediate workforce development needs and is a significant step towards Auburn and LANL's mutual goal of building a long-term relationship, as formalized in the memorandum of understanding the two institutions signed in June 2022," said Daniel Tauritz, Auburn's Director for National Laboratory Relationships.

About the Auburn RFID Lab

The Auburn RFID Lab is an academic institute committed to sensor technology advancement. The lab employs over 100 students who work on various projects ranging from the creation of optimized supply chain and retail experiences to the optimization of RFID tag placement and performance. The lab works with our many partners to create an RFID system specific to their needs through discovery, data analysis and reporting, and

guidance on best practices. Although the lab has a strong focus on RFID, we also have experience in Bluetooth, Wi-Fi, barcode, and other technologies. For more information about the partnership between Auburn RFID and LANL or general lab operations, please contact the lab at rfidlab@auburn.edu.

About WP-TNT

WP-TNT is an innovative collaboration developed by LANL and TechSource, Inc. that effectively bridges the gap between academic institutions and innovative-technological advancements, fostering the cultivation of talent essential for maintaining LANL's leadership in innovation. Through its impressive 32% interview-to-hire success rate, the initiative has enhanced efficiency by eliminating obstacles and creating direct relationships with universities, allowing for swift project kickoff and funded work within 60 days. WP-TNT is not merely about internships and mentorships; it is a critical pathway for career advancement, significantly enriching the educational journeys of students from a variety of fields.

"Even though our relationship with Auburn is still very new, the collaboration has already been very fruitful. LANL is excited to be working with Auburn."

-Ray Ferry, Program Manager, ALDWP-TAO





