United States
Department of Energy

Federal Project Director of the Year for 2008

Presented to

Mr. Scott L. Samuelson

For demonstrating exceptional leadership and project management acumen in completing the National Ignition Facility (NIF) at LLNL within the approved cost and schedule performance baseline. The NIF is a state-of-the-art experimental Inertial Confinement Fusion facility intended to achieve controlled thermonuclear fusion in the laboratory using a 192-beam laser. Mr. Samuelson was officially designated as the Federal Project Director (FPD) in 2004 and under his leadership all Level 0 and 1 milestones and deliverables were accomplished on schedule and within budget. These successes were achieved through implementation of clear performance objectives, tied to measureable deliverables and cost and schedule performance. Mr. Samuelson worked collaboratively with the project team to identify and manage challenges, share and evaluate performance data, and maintain a focus on project success. His superior performance was recently validated when NIF successfully executed the first 192beam shot, delivering 80 kJ of ultraviolet laser light to the target chamber.

Steven Chu

Secretary of Energy

March 2009