

2020 TIBBETTS AWARD WINNER

Imre Gyuk, Ph.D.



Dr. Gyuk's leadership and curiosity has driven technical and commercial development and innovation in energy storage technology through meaningful relationships with small business, industry, academia, and government.

LOCATION

DC
Washington

ORGANIZATION

U.S. Department of Energy



Impact & Achievement

Dr. Imre Gyuk has spent his professional life passionately tackling important problems as a researcher, a teacher, and as a program manager. He is recognized as an international leader in the energy storage field. Dr. Gyuk currently serves as the Director of Energy Storage Research at the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity where he focuses on energy storage technologies.

His professional mission and strategy is "to accelerate the development and adoption of energy storage as a necessary and critical buffer between generation and demand, thus enabling greater grid flexibility and resiliency." Dr. Gyuk supervised the \$185 million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 stimulus funding for Grid Scale Energy Storage Demonstrations and was instrumental in partnering with states such as Vermont, Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and Massachusetts on storage projects for grid resilience.

A major part of Dr. Gyuk's success relates to the community of people he has worked with in the Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) programs, the National Laboratories, Government, Utilities, Industry, and Academia - all of them bringing creativity, energy, and enthusiasm for advancing the growing field of energy storage. Throughout his career, Dr. Gyuk has made it a priority to meet, engage, and partner with community leaders in these groups - and to engage them in the SBIR/STTR programs - with the goal of modernizing the electric grid.

This dedication and focus have led to pioneering developments in energy storage and power electronics recognized by 12 R&D 100 Awards for projects under Dr. Gyuk's leadership. He has also received Lifetime Achievement Awards for energy storage from the Energy Storage Association (ESA) and the National Alliance for Advanced Technology Batteries (NATTBatt). Dr. Gyuk has leveraged the SBIR/STTR programs, guided small businesses, and helped drive development and commercialization of cutting-edge energy storage technology. SBIR/STTR firms that have actively worked with Dr. Gyuk have gone on to generate millions in revenue, be acquired by major players, grow their footprints, win awards, and make important contributions to the modernization of the electric grid. Dr. Gyuk is currently working with 30 large-scale demonstration projects in 13 states across the Nation.

Dr. Gyuk has devoted over three decades to the innovation and advancement of energy storage technologies; connecting diverse, small businesses with federal objectives and resources with a remarkable record of success supporting development and transition of technologies from the early R&D stages to commercial success in the marketplace.