



Research & Development

Utah State University Research Foundation (USURF) was established in 1967 to contribute to the fundamental strength of research and development within Utah State University by transforming knowledge into products and services.

Two agile business units, Space Dynamics Laboratory (SDL) and Energy Dynamics Laboratory (EDL), are currently supported by USURF's comprehensive infrastructure.

Space Dynamics Laboratory

SDL serves customers in military, academic, civil, and industrial sectors developing electro-optical sensors; in sensor test, evaluation, and characterization; data compression, visualization, fusion, and exploitation; developing small/micro-satellites and components; phenomenology and sensor modeling and simulation. Now operating in locations across the United States, SDL was established in 1959 and has been part of USURF since 1981.

Energy Dynamics Laboratory

EDL develops solutions to America's most intractable energy problems through scientific and technological innovation. Areas of research include biofuel development, particle and aerosol measurement, and terrain mapping and wind profiling based on light detection and ranging (LIDAR) technology. Established in 2009, EDL brings sustainable and advanced energy research to market.

USURF is committed to fostering entrepreneurial activities and interests, serving as a crossroads of technology and business, invention and innovation, new concepts and new products. In conjunction with the USU Technology Commercialization Office, USURF serves as an incubator to accelerate the growth of potential spinout businesses, an initiative that recently resulted in two new for-profit companies: Thermal Management Technologies, LLC (TMT) and EcoAirtec, LLC.

Thermal Management Technologies

TMT provides expertise and develops commercial products based on extensive thermal management heritage and ongoing cutting-edge research. Products include flexible thermal links and switches, fiber support technology, and an emerging technology, channel panel heat transfer. TMT is a strategic partner of SDL, which uses its products in numerous space-based sensor applications.



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EcoAirtec

EcoAirtec provides solutions to some of the most daunting problems petroleum companies encounter, including disposal of contaminated production water and reduction of air-polluting emissions. The modular, low-maintenance, and cost-effective evaporation and scrubbing technologies developed by EcoAirtec significantly reduce or eliminate both expensive challenges and are highly adaptable to custom applications.

USURF is a nonprofit corporation owned by USU. As a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt corporation, USURF performs sponsored research for industry, private organizations, and government agencies with the intention of strengthening society and benefiting the public. USURF conducts research in areas deemed appropriate by its governing board of trustees, consistent with the charitable, scientific, literary, research, educational, and service goals of USU. Contracts are conducted under the direction of the subject agencies and finances are audited to conform to OMB Circular A-122, Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations. USURF is also structured to accommodate for-profit businesses, with policies and procedures in place that enable full and proper recovery from any for-profit or commercial venture.

Through its administrative flexibility, creativity, and ability to bring together the resources of organizations with different legal or management systems, USURF builds strategic partnerships with government, business, industry, and other institutions of higher education. USURF leads the Utah Research Institute (URI), a university/industry consortium. URI's mission is to provide technological, scientific, and engineering solutions for military, industrial, and academic customers. Current members are USURF, Brigham Young University, the University of Utah, Utah State University, Weber State University, and the Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development.

USURF provides the following management and physical support:

- Accounting and payroll
- Communications
- Contracting and subcontracting
- Cost accounting and pricing
- Human resource services
- Information technology services
- Property management
- Public relations
- Purchasing
- Security
- Shipping and receiving