Purdue News

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Midwest Superconductivity Consortium to meet on campus

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. -- Researchers from around the Midwest will meet at Purdue University next week to discuss the latest developments in high-temperature superconductivity.

The Midwest Superconductivity Consortium, or MISCON, will hold a three-day meeting Wednesday through Friday (7/23-25) at the University Inn in West Lafayette. The meeting, which includes several technical sessions, is open to the public.

The consortium, based at Purdue, is comprised of more than 30 scientists, engineers and students from six universities who collaborate with industry and federal labs on superconductivity research. The goals of the research are to increase the basic understanding of superconductivity and to develop industrial applications and commercialization of the technology.

When cooled to extremely low temperatures, superconducting materials can conduct electric current with little or no resistance. One purpose of the consortium's work is to develop superconducting materials that operate at higher temperatures. Such materials could be used for more efficient power lines, super-fast computers, and better magnetic shielding to prevent malfunctions in medical equipment.

Some of the research to be discussed at the meeting includes: high-temperature superconducting tubes for magnetic shielding applications; superconducting quantum structures; high-power applications of high-temperature superconducting wire; and high-temperature superconducting composites, arrays and crystals.

The consortium members, in addition to Purdue, are: Indiana University, University of Missouri-Columbia, University of Nebraska, University of Notre Dame, and The Ohio State University. The consortium was established in 1989 by the federal government and receives funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. Information about MISCON can be found at http://mse.www.ecn.purdue.edu/~miscon/Welcome.html

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To the Purdue News and Photos Page