



THE MILLENNIUM
TECHNOLOGY
PRIZE

2008

Finland's tribute
to life-enhancing
technological
innovation





Living conditions and sustainability as the touchstone

The Millennium Technology Prize recognizes and celebrates technological innovation striving to improve peoples' quality of life while also supporting sustainable development.

Solutions are urgently needed to global challenges of our time, such as

- availability of clean and abundant energy
- shortage of clean and potable water
- threats posed by climate change
- health care issues
- services for aging population

Without new technologies those challenges may never be met.



Finland's tribute to life-enhancing technological innovation

- At the one million euro level, the Millennium Technology Prize ranks among the world's most prestigious awards in its class.
- Awarded every second year for a technological innovation that has the potential of significantly improving the quality of life today and in the future.
- Awarded by the Millennium Prize Foundation, an independent fund established by Finnish industry and Finnish state in partnership.



Unique goals

The Prize and the fame it carries is intended to

- steer the course of technological development in a more humane direction.
- increase people's awareness of the opportunities technology may offer for sustainable development of the society.
- make the work of researchers and technology developers widely known and closer to people.
- stimulate further discussion and exchange of ideas between researchers, enterprises and political decision makers.
- catalyze cutting-edge research as well as pave the way for successful introduction of new technologies and innovations.



Two outstanding winners

In 2004, the inaugural Millennium Technology Prize was awarded to Professor Tim Berners-Lee, who revolutionized the electronic communication by inventing the World Wide Web.

In 2006 the Prize was awarded to Professor Shuji Nakamura for developing new, revolutionary sources of light - bright-blue, green and white LEDs and a blue laser.



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Prize winner 2004

The man who began a new era in communication

Tim Berners-Lee – Inventor of the WWW

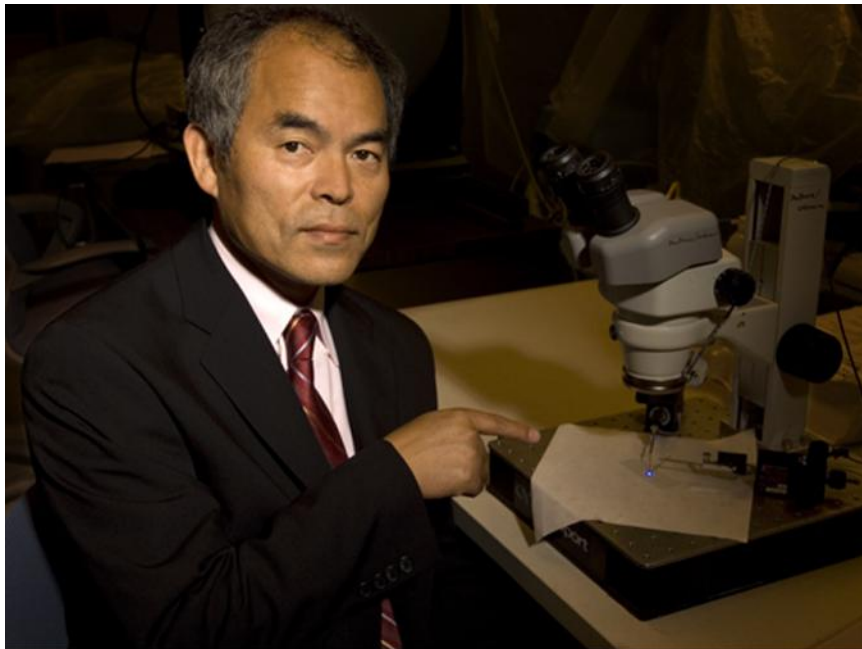


The World Wide Web has significantly enhanced peoples ability to obtain information central to their lives. It encourages new types of social networks supporting transparency and democracy, and opens up new ways of managing information and businesses

Prize winner 2006

The man who began a new era in lightning

Shuji Nakamura – the inventor of bright-blue LEDs and the blue laser



Nakamura's innovation can lead to significant global energy savings by enabling highly efficient illumination systems both in industrialized countries and developing countries. The technology can also be applied to sterilize drinking water more efficiently and economically.



Who will be the prize winner 2008?

- The new nomination period for candidates ends on October 1, 2007.
- Candidates are sought from across the world, and from all fields of technology.
- Citizens of all nations are eligible.
- Nominations can be made by science and engineering academies, universities, research institutes and industrial enterprises or associations.
- The nomination guidelines can be found at www.millenniumprize.fi
- The list of selected Finalists will be published in April 2008.
- The Winner will be announced, and the Winner and all Finalists will be awarded at the festive Award Ceremony on 11th of June, 2008, in Helsinki.



Members of the 2008 International Selection Committee

Chairperson Professor Marja Makarow, Finland

- Professor of Applied Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, and Vice-Rector of the University of Helsinki.

Professor Jean-Claude Charpentier, France

- President of the European Federation of Chemical Engineering and Director of CNRS.

Professor Mikko Hupa, Finland

- Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Technology at the Åbo Akademi University in Turku.

Dr. Bob Iannucci, Finland

- Senior Vice President and Head of Nokia Research Center.

Professor Risto Nieminen, Finland

- Academy Professor at Helsinki University of Technology and directs COMP.

Professor Bengt Nordén, Sweden

- Professor of Physical Chemistry at Chalmers University of Technology.

Professor V. S. Ramamurthy, India

- Indian nuclear scientist with several research contributions in the areas of

Professor Henry T. Yang, U.S.A.

- Chancellor of the University of California, Santa Barbara.



Members of the Foundation

- Academy of Finland
- Confederation of Finnish Industry and Employers – EK
- Finnish Academies of Technology – FACTE
- Finnish Academy of Technology – TTA
- Finnish Association of Graduate Engineers – TEK
- Technological Foundation – TES
- Foundation of Finnish Inventions
- Swedish Academy of Engineering in Finland – STV
- Walter Ahlström Foundation
- Tekes – Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation
- The Federation of Finnish Technology Industries
- The Finnish Innovation Fund – Sitra



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