

Contact:**E-Mail:**

msachs@fraunhofer.org

Office: 617-575-7255

Mobile: 617-415-3895

**Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems Honored by Boston Mayor Tom Menino**

Greenovate Award recognizes Fraunhofer's contributions to Boston's clean energy and greenhouse gas emission goals

Boston, MA – May 14, 2013 – The Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE) was selected by Mayor Tom Menino as a 2013 Greenovate Boston Award recipient at a ceremony held at Boston University earlier today. Launched in 2007, the Greenovate awards honor outstanding achievements in sustainability in the City's residential, business, and sustainable food sectors. In receiving this distinction, Fraunhofer CSE joins a slate of past awardees that includes Zipcar, Staples, Northeastern University, the Boston Museum of Science, and Harvard Business School.

CSE was recognized in particular for its recently completed retrofit project, the Building Technology Showcase – an energy-efficient renovation of a 50,000 square foot historic building in Boston's Fort Point Channel district. The Showcase incorporates sustainable technologies, materials, and measures donated by more than 30 industry partners, including hydronic heating and cooling, LED lighting, innovative insulation, and automated building management. In addition, the building supports a variety of research laboratories committed to furthering the development and deployment of sustainable technologies.

The Center was recently awarded an \$11.7M grant through the US Department of Energy's Sunshot Initiative, which will finance a five-year project to develop new technologies and

standards for residential solar installations. The ultimate goal is to reduce the “soft” costs of residential solar by making panels cheaper and easier to install, as well as improving their ability to connect to local utilities.

In addition to recognizing companies who are helping to contribute to the city’s greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, the award event also marked the official launch of Boston’s new sustainability brand and initiative, Greenovate Boston, with ambitious new community engagement goals and a citywide sustainability advertising campaign.

In order to advance the City toward meeting its greenhouse gas reduction goals, the Mayor announced that Greenovate Boston would aim to:

- Reach every Boston resident and business through its programming and outreach efforts, in order to have them understand how their individual actions affect a sustainable future for Boston.
- Engage one-third of Boston residents to take one new, daily climate action per year, examples of which include driving one day a week less, unplugging the television at night, or using cold water when doing laundry.
- Engage businesses constituting one third of Boston’s employees to form their own in-house sustainability teams, or to participate in existing sustainability initiatives.

“Greenovate Boston’s engagement goals will help ensure that the commitment to our environment and the innovations demonstrated by Fraunhofer and the rest of today’s award winners become the norm in Boston,” said Brian Swett, Chief of Energy and Environment. “We are proud to honor these award winners today.”

About Fraunhofer CSE

The Fraunhofer Center for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSE) is a not-for-profit applied R&D laboratory dedicated to the commercialization of technologies for a sustainable energy future. CSE engages in collaborative research with private companies, government entities, and academic institutions, and works with emerging sustainable energy startups to help develop their technologies, bridging the gap from laboratory to production.

In 2013, CSE moved into a state-of-the-art facility in the Boston Seaport District. The new facility – known as the Building Technology Showcase – is a living laboratory for R&D of advanced building technologies and houses CSE’s advanced laboratories for building energy efficiency, solar photovoltaics, and distributed electrical energy systems as well as the TechBridge early-stage commercialization program. Fraunhofer CSE is a subsidiary of Fraunhofer USA, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit contract R&D organization, affiliated with Fraunhofer Gesellschaft, Europe’s largest contract R&D group.

Further Information

- [Greenovate Boston Homepage](#)

