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## National Instruments Green Engineering Grant *2012 Application Form*

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*Many of the most innovative advances in renewable energy and clean-tech fields over the past twenty years have been developed by small, entrepreneurial technology companies and individuals. To support and further this progress, National Instruments has created the green grant program to allow engineers and scientists easier access to the world's most advanced graphical system design technology. By significantly enhancing development productivity, NI embedded hardware and software tools help green entrepreneurs bring their ideas from prototype to commercialization stages and provide a reliable path to high volume deployment.*



### Grant Program

The National Instruments Green Engineering Grant Program is designed to provide start-up assistance for companies planning to use National Instruments reconfigurable embedded systems hardware platforms such as NI CompactRIO and NI Single Board RIO as an embedded component of their clean energy, energy efficiency, or smart grid system. Eligible parties will be granted up to \$25,000 USD equivalent in software and training.

In addition, recipients of the grant may be listed on the National Instruments website with a company logo and brief quote describing the significance of the technology under development. To help raise awareness of the innovation, awardees are also encouraged to apply to the NI Graphical System Design Achievement Awards, submit a case study paper, and provide a 3-minute narrated presentation to be featured on ni.com.

For more information, visit [ni.com/greengrant](http://ni.com/greengrant) or email [greenengineering.grant@ni.com](mailto:greenengineering.grant@ni.com)

### Application

Brief responses are recommended. Please include the following information in your application.

**Contact Information:** Applicant name, job title, mailing address, email and phone

**Organization:** Organization name, year founded, number of employees



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**NI Sponsor:** Who is your National Instruments sponsor? This is usually your local field engineer. Please contact your NI sponsor before submitting your application. If you do not know your local engineer, please call 1-888-280-7645 or visit [ni.com/niglobal](http://ni.com/niglobal).

**Application and Impact:** Please provide a short executive summary of your product or technology and its potential impact when successful. Briefly describe the nature of the development, the current status, technology involved, and the target market. Do you plan to deploy the system commercially in high volume?

**Project Management:** What are your goals for the next stage of the project? What NI hardware platform do you already have or plan to purchase? Does your team have any prior experience with NI hardware/software? What NI software and training do you wish to be granted? If you are seeking training, how will it be used to increase your development team productivity?

**Use of NI Graphical System Design Tools:** How do you plan to use NI hardware and software? What NI hardware are you evaluating for embedded deployment in your application? Will the granted training and tools significantly increase your likelihood of success?

## FAQ

### ***Who is eligible?***

To be eligible, grantees must be developing systems with the potential to make a significant contribution towards a clean energy future using graphical system design techniques and reconfigurable embedded systems hardware for rapid development and commercialization. *To be considered a strong candidate, the system under development must have the potential for wide scale commercial deployment and impact and the granted training and tools must significantly increase the likelihood of success.*

### ***What is the special focus area for 2012?***

The 2012 program has a special focus on the advancement of the smart grid, energy storage, electric vehicles, and grid-tied power electronics control systems due to their importance as foundational technologies for clean energy adoption. The grant committee extends a special invitation to renewable energy companies developing smart grid monitoring, analysis and control applications based on LabVIEW and NI reconfigurable I/O (RIO) hardware platforms for networked, distributed sensing, analytics and control.



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Examples include smart grid analyzers, synchrophasor measurement units (PMUs), smart distribution reclosers and switches, grid adaptive power inverters, distribution fault anticipation systems, electric power real-time simulators, and more. Special preference is given for companies who provide worldwide sales and support for their smart grid systems.

Renewable and clean energy systems, as well as systems that optimize energy efficiency are also eligible.

**What hardware purchases make me eligible for a grant?**

In order to be eligible, you must be evaluating one of the NI hardware platforms for deployment such as NI CompactRIO or NI Single-Board RIO.

***How do I apply?***

Step 1. Find a sponsor. Visit [ni.com](http://ni.com) to find your local field engineer or call (888) 280-7645. Step 2. Email the completed application to <mailto:greenengineering.grant@ni.com>.