

The HFIR Center for Neutron Scattering at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory is the highest flux reactor-based source of neutrons for condensed matter research in the United States. The Center is a national user facility operated by ORNL for the United States Department of Energy. Thermal and cold neutrons produced by the High Flux Isotope Reactor (HFIR) are used to study physics, chemistry, materials science, engineering, and biology. Recently, a reactor upgrade project was completed during which bigger beam tubes were installed in the reactor. A new cold-source and an instrument guide hall are currently under construction as part of this project. The first of the upgraded thermal beam instruments (three triple-axis spectrometers) are operational and in the user program. The coming year will see the installation of two diffractometers, a residual stress instrument and a reflectometer. Calls for proposals will be issued on a regular schedule for the neutron scattering instruments in the user program. At the heart of the user program is an external, peer-reviewed, proposal system for determining beam time allocations.

*Supported by the Division of Materials Sciences, U.S. D.O.E. (contract DE-AC05-00OR22725 with UT-Battelle, LLC).