
ISPQ:



Third Party Accreditation of Renewable Energy Training Programs For Practitioner Certification

UPEX 2002, Austin, Texas

What is ISP?

- International Non-Profit, Incorporated in 1996, Offices in US and UK
- Standards Making and Standards Coordinating Body
- Third-Party Accrediting Body for Training Programs
- Specific to Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, and Distributed Energy

Accreditation, Certification, and Licensing Defined

- **Accreditation:** Qualifying Training and Trainers
- **Certification:** Qualifying Practitioners (or Hardware, or Practices): Voluntary
- **Licensing:** Government Requirement

Why Accreditation and Certification

- Promoting Quality and Safety
- Mitigating Liability
- Professional Credibility and Recognition
- Better Access to Financing, Insurance, and Markets
- Portability and Reciprocity
- Efficiency of Process (Cost and Time) Through Coordination

What Does ISP Do?

- Accredit Renewable Energy Training Programs
- Maintain International Accreditation Committee and Standards
- Coordination with National Bodies for Developing Certification Framework
- Coordinate Technical Standards Committees

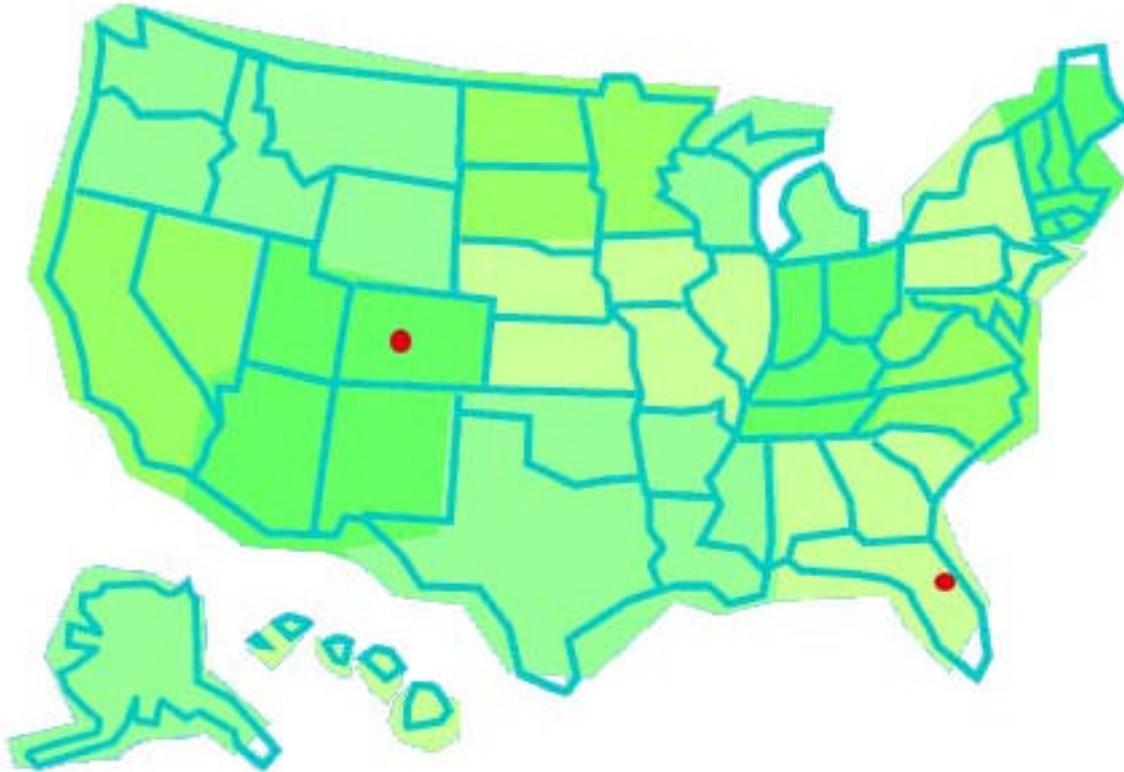
Where is ISP Working?



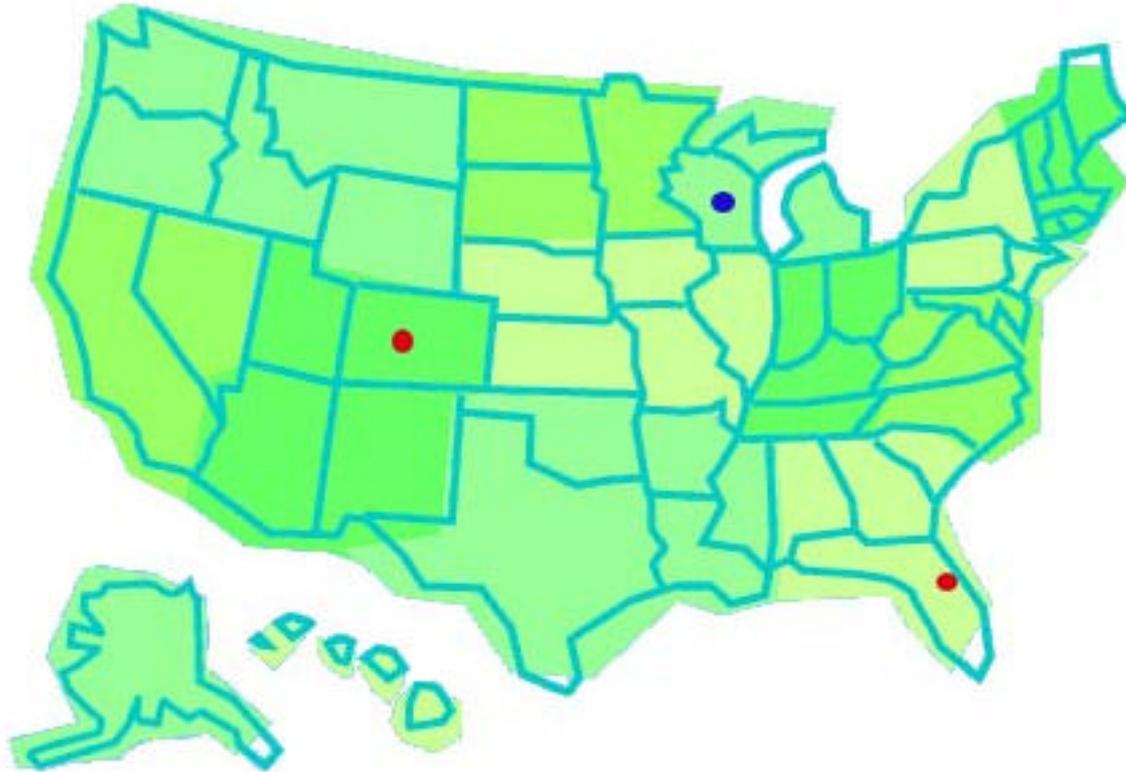
ISP's Work With National Programs

- Assist Coordination/Development of National Programs
- Provide Experience, Recommended Practices
- Provide Standards/Committee Guides
- Accreditation of Training and Auditors

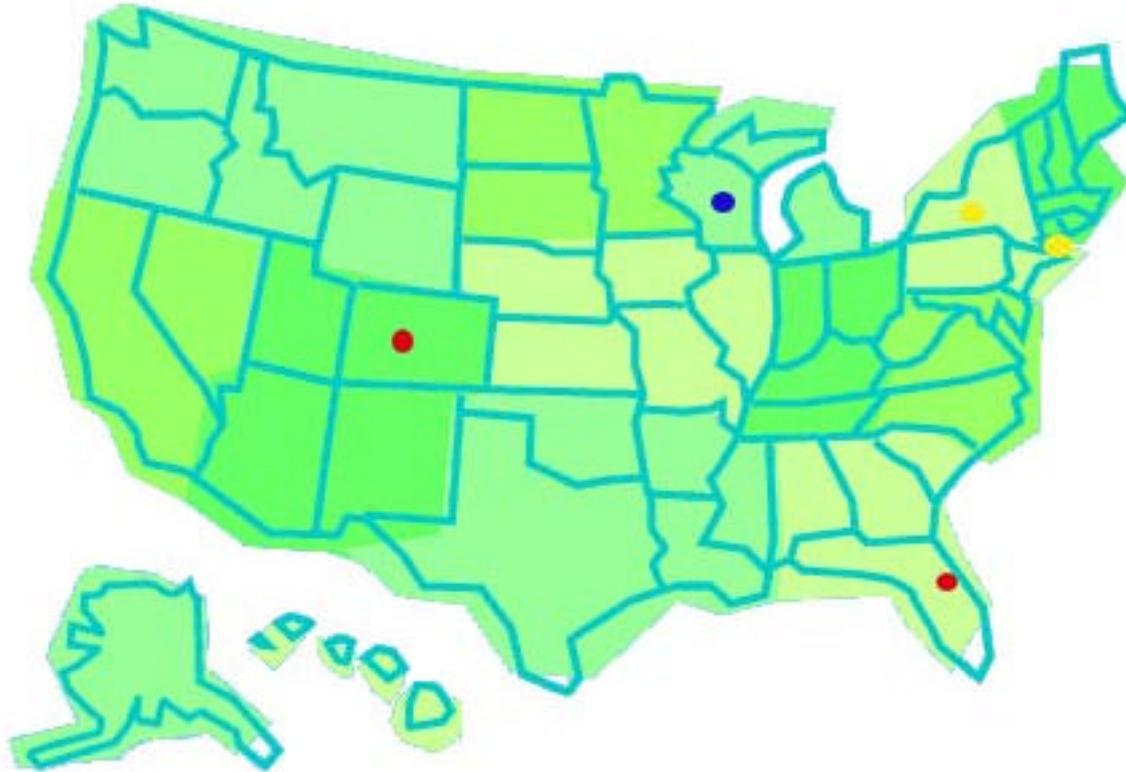
US Activities: October 2002



US Activities: November 2002



US Activities: January 2003



Who Has Supported ISP's Work?

- European Commission/ALTENER
- US DOE/Sandia/NREL
- The World Bank
- US AID
- IEA PVPS Task 9
- APEC
- NEDO/UNESCO

Opportunities and Responsibilities of Accreditation

- Mitigation of Liability
- Best Practices
- Professional Resources
- General Recognition
- Access to Students, Markets, Funding
- Evaluation Against Third-Party Standards

Concerns vs. Benefits

- Burdensome?
- Bureaucratic?
- Expensive?
- Exclusionary/
Elitist?
- Quality
- Consistency
- Consensus
- Portable
- Broadly
Recognized

Summary & Discussion

- ISP Accredits Training Programs based on the Policies & Procedures and Standards set by of Accreditation Committee
- ISP Works with Country Programs but is not a Certifying Body for Practitioners
- ISP Coordinates International Standards
- Discussion