

Dr. Masood Akhtar is an energy entrepreneur with substantial, research, development, commercialization, marketing, technology transfer, investment and management experience in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy. He serves as the President of CleanTech Partners (CTP) that was founded by the Focus on Energy in 2003 to help commercialize energy efficient emerging technologies by providing capital, business mentoring, grant application assistance, and other assistance critical for technology deployment. In October 2007, DOE selected Wisconsin as the first state in the Nation to deploy energy technologies in Wisconsin based on the successful Focus on Energy Industrial Program and the CTP's successful deployment model with the intent to duplicate these models in other states in the U.S.

In 1996, Dr. Akhtar founded Biopulping International (BPI), a for profit company, to develop and deploy energy saving technologies. BPI has developed a process of treating wood chips with a mild chemical that saves significant electrical energy in the mechanical pulping process. The technology once adopted by all magazine and newsprint companies worldwide, has the potential to save about 2.8 billion kilowatts per year in the United States and approximately 20 billion globally, while reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 2.9 million metric tons per year in the United States and 21 million metric tons globally.

In 2003, Dr. Akhtar was elected as a Fellow by the International Academy of Wood Science, UK. On U.S. Congress's request in 2004, Dr. Akhtar testified before the committee on value-added chemicals, such as cellulosic ethanol from lignocellulosic materials. In September 2005, Dr. Akhtar was appointed on the Forest Research Advisory Committee (FRAC) by the US Department of Agricultural Secretary to advise the Secretary concerning forestry research administered and undertaken by the USDA. In 2009, Dr. Akhtar will be serving as the Vice chairman of this committee. In 2006, his organization, CTP, established a Biorefinery Deployment Collaborative, a national initiative, to build private and public institutional readiness to participate in the U.S. bioeconomy with focus on deployment. Recently CTP also helped New Page and Flambeau River Paper each receive a \$30 million grant from the US Department of Energy to produce liquid transportation fuels at the mill site, while reducing manufacturing cost of the pulping processes which would ultimately lead to job retention and job creation.