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Welcome to the ITER WWW Site.

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ITER
INTERNATIONAL THERMONUCLEAR EXPERIMENTAL REACTOR

Worldwide collaboration for the next step in fusion energy development

Nuclear fusion is the energy source that powers the sun and stars.

Confined and heated through compression under massive gravitational forces, light atomic nuclei fuse together in thermonuclear reactions, releasing large amounts of energy. Harnessing this power on Earth could be one of the best options for long-term energy supply since the required fuels are abundant and essentially inexhaustible, and the fusion process is inherently safe, and has favourable environmental characteristics.

Scientists and engineers from Europe, Japan, Russia, and the United States are working in an unprecedented International collaboration on the next major step for the development of fusion-ITER, the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor.

ITER's mission is to demonstrate the scientific and technological feasibility of fusion energy for peaceful purposes. To do this, ITER will demonstrate controlled ignition and extended energy production, demonstrate essential fusion energy technologies in an integrated system, and perform integrated testing of key elements required to use fusion as a practical energy source.

ITER will be the first fusion reactor to produce thermal energy at the level of a commercial power station. It will provide the next major step for the advancement of fusion science and for the development of fusion as a practical source of energy.

ITER?	key technologies, and underlying physics.
ITER Collaboration	...outlines the ITER organisation and structure
Fusion Research	...introduces nuclear fusion and gives information about the fusion programmes and links to other fusion-related sites.