This year as you know the EXPO theme is "Future Energy." I cannot imagine any science and engineering project with a greater potential impact on the future than harnessing the power of the sun and the stars: nuclear fusion, a safe and environmentally friendly source of energy with enough fuel here on earth to serve humankind for millions of years.

The effort for humans to harness fusion has been ongoing for more than six decades. But what is unique about this field of science and engineering is that nuclear fusion, from its earliest roots, has been collaborative. Unlike the competitive engineering of the historical EXPOs, the project you are seeing today represents the collective resources—financial, technological, and intellectual—of 35 countries working together.