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Federal Lab Consortium Honors Los Alamos National Lab

University grant makes award possible.

SAN BERNARDINO, CA – November 27, 2006 – The Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) has recognized Los Alamos National Laboratory with a 2006 FLC Regional Award, a prestigious and much sought-after recognition in the technology transfer field. Dozens of federal laboratories submit applications for these awards each year, and winning one generates a great feeling of accomplishment for the labs and government agencies involved, as well as, in this case, for the Cal State San Bernardino Office of Technology Transfer and Commercialization (OTTC).

The specific technology that has been recognized is known as “Handheld Apparatus for Multipurpose Sample Collection & Registration” or “HAMPSCR.” The HAMPSCR allows investigators at the scene of a crime or bio-hazard event to use a fast-acting, hand-held, automated sampling device that can collect liquids, solids and gases, while itself remaining free of cross-contamination in either indoor or outdoor environments. HAMPSCR is a “hands-off” technology that insures sample integrity. At the same time, the chain of custody for evidence is securely maintained, thanks to the ways that data are collected with the samples. The HAMPSCR has now proven its ability to detect hazardous materials in a variety of in-field situations and is poised for widespread adoption.

Los Alamos received two CCAT grants (Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology) from Cal State San Bernardino’s Office of Technology Transfer and Commercialization in 2004. One was \$16,075 for a market study and the other was \$75,000 for prototype development, testing & evaluation (PDT&E). Los Alamos successfully completed both grants by the end of 2004 and OTTC has remained in contact, continuing to assist with efforts to move the technology to full commercialization.

Torsten Staab, Homeland Defense Technologies Team Leader for the Los Alamos project, said, “You wouldn’t think that a national federal laboratory like Los Alamos would be looking for help from a small grant program like the Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology [CCAT]. But in fact there are lots of ‘gaps’ in our funding and we often need to look outside the agency, especially when it comes to commercializing technologies that we’ve already proven to work in the lab.

“When the Office of Technology Transfer and Commercialization opened the solicitation for the grants we ended up winning, we were pleased to submit an application. Perhaps more valuable than the money we received, however, was the way that the OTTC people helped all along the way with advice and contacts. Even though the grant period is over, they continue to provide valuable service. Indeed, without OTTC’s initial investment in this technology, we wouldn’t be here today.”

[PHOTO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.]

About the Office of Technology Transfer and Commercialization (OTTC)

OTTC (<http://ottc.csusb.edu>) is the management office for a grant program known as CCAT, Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology, funded by the Office of Naval Research (ONR) through Congressman Jerry Lewis's office. The Foundation for California State University, San Bernardino hosts and oversees OTTC. CCAT provides grants intended to be used in two ways: (1) to help companies develop commercial applications for technologies that have been developed in government laboratories; and (2) to help the government find technologies it needs for defense and homeland security needs and help them along so they can enter government procurement channels. OTTC is a two-way conduit that acts as a virtual incubator for advanced technology.

About the Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology (CCAT)

The Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology (CCAT) is supported by Congress and funded by the Department of Defense as a public-private collaborative partnership among academia, industry, and government. With Centers located at California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) and San Diego State University (SDSU), the CCAT program provides funding and business development support services to small entrepreneurs, small businesses, and government/university research scientists that have developed technology for use in the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security, as well as the commercial marketplace. Additional program partners include the University of California, San Diego (UCSD) Jacobs School of Engineering, von Liebig Center and The Security Network with support from the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, San Diego. For more information about CCAT, visit <http://www.ccatsocal.org>.