

11 companies in area get grants or services for anti-terrorism work

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A consortium created to encourage technologies related to crisis and consequence management will support 11 companies with market research services and mini-grants intended to accelerate development of their products.

A panel representing the partners that make up the Center for Commercialization of Advanced Technology chose the firms from a solicitation process that ended Oct. 31.

The program, based near San Diego State University, received about \$5.8 million in Pentagon funding for development of new technologies for crisis management and homeland defense.

The technologies selected represent San Diego's leading anti-terrorism products, said Sarah Huyett Benson, a spokeswoman for the center.

The consortium consists of the SDSU Foundation and Entrepreneurial Management Center, UCSD's Jacobs School of Engineering, UCSD Connect, Orincon Corp. and the Navy's Space and Warfare Systems Center. A list of the winners:

- ◆ Quantum Magnetics was awarded \$65,000 for prototype development, testing and evaluation of its walk-through weapons detector and imaging system.
- ◆ GeoPerception got staff services to conduct a market feasibility study for a body-worn device that provides a visual display of geographic information system data.
- ◆ Bio-Quant received \$75,000 for prototype development, testing and evaluation of its diagnostic testing technology for exposure to anthrax.
- ◆ EyeTracking received staff services to do market analysis of its system, which is intended to provide critical information about the cognitive effort required by technology users in crisis situations.
- ◆ DigiVision got services needed to perform a market analysis of its real-time image enhancement technology.
- ◆ The Biochemistry Department at the University of California San Diego received \$65,000 for market analysis, prototype development, testing and evaluation of a silicon-based sensor that measures nerve warfare agents in air.
- ◆ Clarity BioSciences got \$65,000 for market research and development of diagnostic tests needed to detect fungi that might be used as biowarfare agents.
- ◆ Intecon Systems Inc. received staff services for market research of its binary ionization technology, developed for rapid decontamination and removal of biological organisms.
- ◆ Plexus Vaccine got \$65,000 for market research and development of its technology, which is intended to create vaccines for deadly germs, either known or man-made.
- ◆ Pixon received staff services for market research related to three related video-processing and image-enhancement technologies.
- ◆ SCS Corp. got \$75,000 for market research and prototype development of radio frequency identification technology intended for aviation security.

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