

Direct Dimensions Wins Extension for U.S. Navy Project

Direct Dimensions, Inc. and its partner, Sensics, each receive Phase II continuation funding for 3D technology development

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (May. 8, 2006) – The Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO), in collaboration with The Patuxent Partnership and the Naval Air Warfare Center – Aircraft Division (NAWCAD), announced today that Direct Dimensions, Inc. and Sensics, Inc. received follow-on Phase II funding from TEDCO's NAVAIR Technology Commercialization Initiative (NTCI). The NTCI is a federal program that facilitates the transfer of advanced technology being developed by the private sector to meet the technology needs of the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR).

"NTCI enables the U.S. Navy to gain access to new resources that can enhance our efforts to create innovative products or offer new technologies, helping us to meet the needs of today's warfighter," said Ed Greer, executive director of NAVAIR's Aircraft Division. "Innovation is vital to the U.S. Navy and we're pleased to be involved with this partnership."

The NTCI program is a collaborative effort of TEDCO and the Patuxent Partnership, a Lexington Park, Md., strategic alliance of Southern Maryland aerospace and maritime technology industries, government laboratories, and academia. NTCI was initially funded in 2001 with \$800,000 and a renewal for \$1.5 million was announced in 2003 by Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes, Sen. Barbara A. Mikulski and Rep. Steny Hoyer (MD-5th District).

"Tech transfer is important to the continued development of partnerships between Maryland's research labs, local tech companies and the U.S. Government," said Bob Allen, president of The Patuxent Partnership. "The state and federal funding programs for start-up companies are very valuable for economic development and company success."

The NTCI program provides seed funding to companies developing technologies that meet the long-range needs of NAVAIR programs. The principal NTCI support mechanism is a pre-commercialization fund (PCF) that can award funds to for-profit companies in support of technology development projects that fall within the scope of NTCI.

"Through this technology transfer program, we are working to drive the development of new innovations for the U.S. Navy, as well as create technologies with commercial appeal," said Renee Winsky, interim executive director of TEDCO. "Enabling tech transfer between the state's labs and entrepreneurs keeps Maryland at the forefront of technology growth."

Owings Mills-based Direct Dimensions, Inc. will continue Phase II development of its advanced sensor fusion technology to rapidly capture 3D digital imagery from existing U.S. Navy aircraft. These high-accuracy/high-resolution 3D digital models can then be used for a variety of purposes including virtual flight simulation, pilot ergonomic studies, maintenance planning, and for the re-engineering of aircraft modifications to extend the useful life of aging aircraft.

To further the virtual experience, this 3D data can also be displayed using the highly immersive virtual reality system developed by partner Sensics using its innovative lightweight head-mounted display system called "piSight." Sensics received Phase II funding to further develop the interface software for display of DDI's 3D models.

The Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) was established by the General Assembly to facilitate the creation of businesses and foster their growth in all regions of the State through the development and transfer of technology. TEDCO connects emerging technology companies with federal laboratories, research universities, business incubators and specialized technical assistance. For the second consecutive year, TEDCO was recognized in the July 2005 issue of Entrepreneur Magazine as the leading backer of seed and early stage companies in the country. For more information on TEDCO and its programs and resources, visit www.MarylandTEDCO.org.

About Direct Dimensions, Inc. (DDI)

Direct Dimensions, Inc. is a technology company with primary focus on the sales and use of advanced 3D laser scanners and related imaging equipment including software for the creation of high resolution 3D digital models of physical objects. For over 11 years, DDI has performed thousands of projects ranging from airplanes and automobiles to art, sculpture, monuments and virtually any other object. DDI is a privately held company with headquarters in Owings Mills, MD and a website with hundreds of projects at www.directdimensions.com.

About Sensics, Inc.

Sensics, Inc., is the panoramic virtual reality display company. Based on patented technology developed over nearly a decade of research, Sensics delivers lightweight panoramic head-mounted displays that combine ultra-wide field of view and high resolution, thus enabling a new generation of virtual prototyping, training and simulation, visualization, remote presence and education applications. Sensics is a privately held company headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland. For additional information, visit www.sensics.com