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Washington Technology Center Awards \$499,938 in Research Funding

Five companies awarded state funding for innovative commercial technology applications developed in partnership with Washington researchers.

Seattle, WA – July 24, 2007– Washington Technology Center awarded Research and Technology Development funding totaling \$499,938 to five companies working in partnership with Washington researchers.

Grant winners for July 2007 are **Artemisia BioMedical, Inc.**, of Newcastle; **dTEC Systems, LLC**, of Seattle; **Hummingbird Scientific**, of Lacey; **Kronos Air Technologies**, of Redmond; and **Magic Wheels**, of Seattle. Winning proposals outlined breakthrough research in biotechnology, materials science, defense and security, and microelectronics.

"Washington's economy is driven by creativity and innovation," said Washington Governor Chris Gregoire in support of this year's award winners. "And these companies are at the forefront of our effort to build the next Washington. Congratulations to each of you."

Washington Technology Center competitively awards around \$1 million in state funding annually as part of the Research and Technology Development program. State funding enables collaboration between companies and non-profit research institutions on technology projects that show strong potential for commercializing products and creating jobs. Since 1996, the state has funded 309 Research and Technology Development projects.

This round of funding is expected to generate more than 200 full-time technology jobs in Washington during the next five years. Washington Technology Center estimates that through its work with entrepreneurs, more than 7,000 new technology jobs have been created in Washington state, many of these from grant award recipients. New project funding is awarded twice annually.

This round of projects addresses a wide range of innovation:

Artemisia BioMedical, a privately-held biotechnology company based in Newcastle, Washington, has teamed with University of Washington researchers Tomikazu Sasaki, Narendra Singh and Henry Lai to develop improved therapeutic treatment options for cancer and other serious diseases. Research and Technology Development funding: \$100,000.

Seattle-based **dTEC Systems**, a developer of environmental monitoring systems, has teamed with University of Washington Chemical Engineering researcher Samson A. Jenekhe to develop

a novel low-cost chemical sensor technology for on-site environmental applications. Research and Technology Development funding: \$100,000.

Hummingbird Scientific, a Lacey, Washington-based developer of microscopy solutions, has teamed with University of Washington electrical engineering researcher Karl Böhringer to develop an improved high temperature heating element for use in the transmission electron microscope – a development that will lead to scientific advancements across a range of scientific fields. Research and Technology Development funding: \$100,000.

Kronos Air Technologies, a Redmond-based developer of air movement and purification products, has teamed with University of Washington electrical engineering researcher Alexander V. Mamishev to develop a novel, energy-efficient electrostatic air pump that addresses the problem of thermal management in microelectronics. Research and Technology Development funding: \$100,000.

MagicWheels Inc., a Seattle-based maker of a patented, two-gear manual wheelchair wheel, has teamed with University of Washington materials science and engineering researcher Brian Flinn to provide mechanical, endurance and environmental testing for a cost-effective wheel manufacturing process that will benefit wheelchair users. Research and Technology Development funding: \$99,938.

Washington Technology Center's Research and Technology Development grants have proved effective in helping Washington companies and researchers transition novel technologies from "good ideas" into commercially-viable ventures. Annual follow-up surveys show that assisted companies have been successful in leveraging these grants into more than \$400 million in additional funding.

Applications for the next round of funding are due October 18, 2007. More information about the Research and Technology Development grants program is available online at <http://www.watechcenter.org/?s=66>.

About Washington Technology Center

WTC is a state-chartered economic development organization focused on technology and innovation. WTC sparks ideas, forms connections between people and resources, and fosters job growth to position our state as a national technology leader. WTC has a 24-year history working with Washington companies and researchers. As an organization, WTC 1) Helps entrepreneurs develop, produce and commercialize technology products and services; 2) Connects technology companies to academic researchers and laboratory facilities; 3) Channels state and federal funding for research and business development; 4) Provides business consulting services and access to seed capital to help start-up and early stage companies become commercially successful; and 5) Fosters the growth of emerging industries that will positively impact the state's economy. The impact of WTC's work has generated \$400 million in additional investment for

Washington companies and researchers. For more information visit us online at www.watechcenter.org or contact us at 206-685-1920.

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