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10 Firms and UCSD Get Anti-Terror Tech Grants

Cymer Technology Gets Record Intro Selling Price

HIGH TECH

by Brad Graves
Staff Writer

Weapons detectors. Image enhancers. Pathogen finders.

It's locally cultivated technology that might one day stand up to terror.

That potential moved judges affiliated with the new Center for the Commercialization of Advanced Technology to throw the new organization's support behind 10 companies.

The center will also support a project in UCSD's chemistry department.

By supplying both mini-grants and non-monetary support, center leaders want these entities to keep developing their technologies, bring them to market and work for the domestic good.

The winners:

- Quantum Magnetics, Inc. of San Diego, for a walk-through weapons detector archway that locates concealed weapons on a person. The location of the weapon is displayed on a digital image of the body.
- GeoPerception Inc. of Poway, for a wearable heads-up display showing computerized map information.
- Bio-Quant of San Diego, for advanced diagnostic testing for anthrax antigen.
- EyeTracking, Inc. of San Diego, for a device that monitors eye movements of technology users. The device should show whether the technology under review is appropriate during a crisis situation.
- DigiVision, Inc. of San Diego, for a low-cost, image-enhancing microchip.
- UCSD Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, for a handheld, silicon-based sensor to detect chemical warfare agents and hydrocarbons in the air.
- Clarity BioSciences, Inc. of San Diego, for a diagnostic test to identify fungal pathogens that may be biowarfare agents.
- Intecon Systems, Inc. of Carlsbad, for its Binary Ionization Technology. Using off-the-shelf hardware, the technology rapidly decontaminates organisms suspended in the air or attached to surfaces. It also removes submicron particles from surfaces. It may be used as a glove or hand sanitizer.
- Plexus Vaccine, Inc. of Rancho Bernardo, for technology that can quickly create vaccines for known or bioengineered pathogens.
- Pixon LLC of San Diego, for various video processing and image-enhancing technologies.
- SCS Corp. of Rancho Bernardo, for radio frequency baggage tags for aviation security.

The Center for the Commercialization of Advanced Technology is a partnership between San Diego-based Orincon Corp. International, the SDSU Foundation and Entrepreneurial Management Center, UCSD's Jacobs School of Engineering and UCSD Connect, and the Space and Naval Warfare (Spawar) Systems Center San Diego.

A two-year, \$5.2 million appropriation by Congress funds the center's work.

The center will officially recognize its 11 winners in February.

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Almost a Million: Executives from San Diego-based Cymer Inc. covered a lot of ground at a Needham & Co. investor conference early this month in New York City.

Cymer makes laser light sources for microchip manufacturing. Nikon, Canon and ASML use Cymer products in their chip-making machines.

In a Webcast of the New York event, Cymer executives said as their products advance, they are able to command higher prices. Their Nanolith 7000 model has an all-time high introductory selling price for a Cymer Inc. product. It's \$950,000.

In other Cymer news, the company promoted Nancy J. Baker to chief financial officer and senior vice president Jan. 1.

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