



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAINE TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE HELPS SIX MAINE COMPANIES WIN MORE THAN \$6 MILLION IN FEDERAL GRANT AWARDS

MTI Provided Advice and Assistance as well as Critical Funding to Help the Companies Secure the Highly Competitive Funds

BRUNSWICK, MAINE – The Maine Technology Institute (MTI) announced today that six Maine companies recently received Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) awards from various federal agencies totaling \$6,658,581. The infusion of federal grant funding into Maine will support innovative projects in four of Maine’s 16 counties and in the following technology sectors: biotechnology, composite materials technology, information technology, and precision manufacturing.

Each year, the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) program offers \$2.5 Billion in grants from eleven federal agencies for early-stage, high risk, technology-oriented research and development leading to the commercialization of new products and services.

The Maine Technology Institute provides technical assistance to Maine small businesses to help them develop competitive SBIR/STTR proposals. MTI’s Technical Assistance Program (TAP) is an ongoing program that provides 10-20 hours of support to applicants submitting proposals. The TAP team consists of experienced outside consultants who are able to provide the following assistance:

- Introduction to the SBIR/STTR program
- Proposal strategy and planning meetings
- Government accounting assistance in preparing overhead rates and budgets
- Agency specific workshops
- Critical technical editing and reviews of proposals

“Helping Maine small businesses secure critically-needed research and development funds from the federal government to help drive and grow innovation in our state is a core competency of MTI,” said Brian Whitney, the organization’s President. “The federal grant process is a tremendously complicated one so MTI is pleased to offer no-cost assistance and funding to help Maine applicants put their best foot forward.”

In addition to its Technical Assistance Program (TAP), MTI also offers funding through its Phase 0 Program. The Phase 0 Program provides up to \$5,000 in funding to help Maine small businesses cover the direct costs associated with engaging external contractors to prepare an SBIR/STTR proposal and retain market research & consultant services. Applicants are required to match MTI funding on a 1:1 basis

A Summary of Recent SBIR/STTR Awards includes:

Alba-Technic, LLC of Winthrop
Award Amount \$224,682
Federal Funding Agency: National Institutes of Health

This SBIR Phase I will support the development of a highly effective, non-stigmatizing, aesthetically pleasing hip protective wear product (called the Hip Defender™) that elderly persons, susceptible to falls, will wear on a daily basis.

Compotech, Inc. of Brewer
Award Amount \$4,402,628
Federal Funding Agency: Department of Defense - Army

Compotech will develop a rapidly deployable armor system that can provide immediate ballistic protection to critical assets within a basecamp environment using state of the art composite armor. This award led to a follow-on \$35MM production contract.

Eldertide, LLC of Dresden
Award Amount \$99,994
Federal Funding Agency: Department of Defense - Army

This SBIR Phase I project seeks to establish the technical feasibility of developing a blended juice concentrate at a bench top level utilizing a novel hybrid membrane juice concentration technology.

Home Care Business Services, Inc. of Falmouth
Award Amount \$225,000
Federal Funding Agency: National Science Foundation

This SBIR Phase I project will create a proprietary algorithm that produces a patient-specific hospital readmission-risk score.

Introspective Systems, LLC of Portland
Award Amount \$956,277
Federal Funding Agency: Department of Energy

This SBIR Phase II will develop complex software frameworks that can help small energy grids reallocate resources based on price triggers and test it in a realistic environment.

The Montalvo Corporation of Gorham

Award Amount \$750,000

Federal Funding Agency: National Science Foundation

This SBIR Phase II will develop and test modular tow tension control devices and prototype units for the composites industry to meet customer performance expectations, allowing for precise, automated, continuous control with less waste and higher quality throughput.

ABOUT SBIR/STTR

The SBIR/STTR programs provide early stage funding to small businesses each year in a wide variety of technology areas such as unmanned systems, advanced materials, health, cybersecurity and defense.

Through a competitive awards-based program, SBIR/STTR enables small businesses to explore their technological potential and provides the incentive to profit from its commercialization. By including qualified small businesses in the nation's R&D arena, high-tech innovation is stimulated and the United States gains entrepreneurial spirit as it meets its specific research and development needs. These awards have helped innovators advance new technologies and have contributed to the creation of new jobs. For more information about SBIR/STTR funding opportunities, please visit <https://www.sbir.gov/>

ABOUT THE MAINE TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE:

MTI is a publicly financed, private, nonprofit organization created by the Legislature in 1999 to stimulate research and development activity leading to the commercialization of new products, processes and services in the state's seven targeted technology sectors. MTI programs are either loans, equity investments, or grants designed to enhance the competitive position of those sectors and increase the likelihood that one or more of these sectors will support clusters of industrial activity and create quality jobs across Maine. For more information on MTI funding programs, please visit www.mainetechnology.org.

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