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TWO AZ COMPANIES AWARDED FEDERAL GRANTS Focus on Homeland Security & Military Software Systems

Two Arizona companies, recipients of the AZ FAST Grant administered through the Arizona Department of Commerce have been awarded federal grants. The FAST grant program (Federal and State Technology Partnership Program), equally funded by the US SBA and the Arizona Department of Commerce, is earmarked for education and grant programs that will help technology entrepreneurs in Arizona commercialize their technology through the federal Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) & Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs.

Engineering Science Analysis Corporation (ESACORP), located in Tempe specializes in Product Development and Research & Development including engineering design, advanced simulation, manufacturing, testing and advanced software tools for CAD/CAE applications. ESACORP was awarded \$100,000 from the Department of Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (DHSARPA). The funds will be used to develop a new vehicle stopping technology that can be utilized by Civilian Police Departments, Border Patrol Agencies, and the Military.

"We are very excited and honored to have this opportunity to work with the Department of Homeland Security in the efforts to increase the safety for all Americans," said Martín Martínez, President. ESACORP used the AZ FAST Grant to engage the mentoring and coaching services of Dan O'Neill and Sharon Ballard. For further information, visit www.ESACORP.com.

The U.S. Navy awards Tucson Embedded Systems Inc., located in Tucson a \$100,000 Phase I SBIR grant to develop reusable "plug and play" software systems. TES will create a modular Mission Package Infrastructure (MPI) to support the seamless integration of common capabilities across the U.S. Naval fleet. TES specializes in the development and certification of safety / mission critical embedded software systems for the aerospace, transportation, military, scientific, and medical marketplaces. Tucson Embedded Systems Inc (TES) is certified ISO 9001:2000.

"We are very pleased with the AZ FAST GRANT TO SBIR process. Tucson Embedded Systems won its first Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) grant on its second proposals submission", says Michael Lupien, Director of Business Development. "The winning proposal was a direct result of using Arizona FAST Grant funds to retain the grant writing services of Mathias Hecht. His experience was invaluable to our success, helping us structure our software strategy in a beneficial way. For further information, visit www.tucsonembedded.com

Other AZ FAST grant winners that have seen results with SBIR grants include Kutta Consulting, Paragon Space Development Corporation, GW Medical Technologies, Crawdad Technologies, and Kinetic Muscles, Inc.

Since spring 2005, 20 AZ FAST Grantees applied for \$3,039,147 and so far, \$1,080,000 federal grants were awarded. Unfortunately, the Administration's \$593 million FY 2006

request for the Small Business Administration (SBA) represented a 3 percent decrease from the FY 2005 appropriation, and no FY 06 funds were requested for the Federal and State Technology Partnership (FAST), whose authorization expired this year.

Keep updated on the AZ FAST grants program by visiting the Innovation and Technology section of the Arizona Department of Commerce website: www.azcommerce.com.

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