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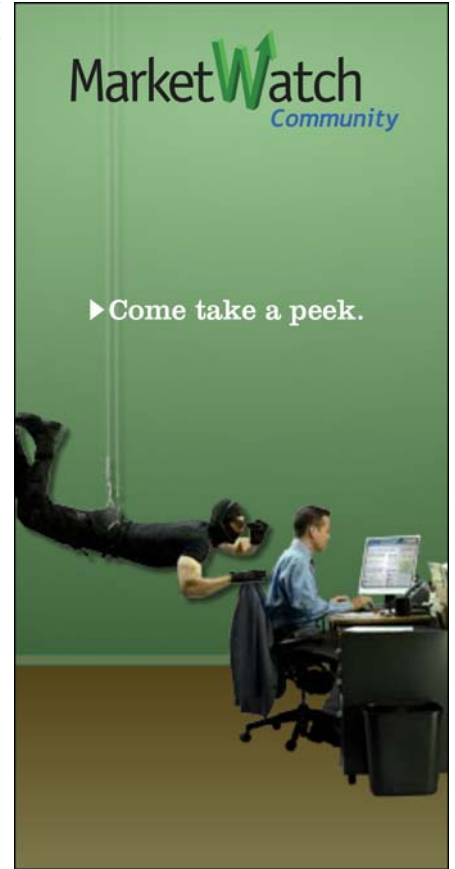
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## Mtech's MIPS Program Announces 22 Research Projects, Worth \$3.6 Million, Teaming Maryland Companies With University Faculty to Develop Commercial Products

Last update: 11:21 a.m. EDT July 9, 2008

COLLEGE PARK, Md., July 9, 2008 /PRNewswire-USNewswire via COMTEX/ -- The Maryland Industrial Partnerships Program (MIPS) today announces the approval of 22 research projects partnering Maryland companies with university researchers to develop high-tech products.

Worth \$3.6 million, the projects combine \$1.8 million from participating companies and \$1.8 million from MIPS, an initiative of the Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute (Mtech) at the University of Maryland. Funding supports work in the laboratories of participating university system faculty, who work closely with companies to advance their product development. All funding goes to the university researchers.

Eleven approved projects are in the field of biotechnology, three are in the area of homeland security and four are related to energy.

Five institutions are participating: the University of Maryland, College Park, with nine projects; the University of Maryland, Baltimore, with seven projects; the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, with three projects; the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute, with two projects; and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, with one project.

Four participating companies are in Baltimore; five are in Montgomery County; two are in Annapolis, and three are on the Eastern Shore. One company is medium-sized, four are small and 17 are startups.

Projects are listed below by company, participating campus, project title and funding amount.

- A&G Pharmaceuticals Inc. (Columbia) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore: Serum GP88 as Predictor of Breast Cancer Outcome; \$184,000.
- AHPharma Food Safety Products Inc. (Salisbury) and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore: Solar LED Lighting Systems for Poultry Houses; \$165,614.
- American Dynamics Flight Systems Inc. (Jessup) and the University of Maryland, College Park: AD-150 VTOL UAS Flight Dynamics Modeling; \$135,021.
- Aparna Biosciences Corp. (Rockville) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore: Therapy of Candida with HK-Fluconazole Conjugates; \$136,849.
- AviTech LLC (Salisbury) and the University of Maryland, College Park: Automated Vision Sex Separation of Poultry Chicks; \$407,685.
- axonX LLC (Sparks) and the University of Maryland, College Park: Outdoor Video Smoke and Fire Detection; \$147,244.
- Cellex Inc. (Rockville) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore: A Novel Bacterial Vaginosis Test; \$152,247.
- Encore Path Inc. (Baltimore) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County: TREADTRAC Device for Gait Training; \$138,701.
- Gliknik Inc. (Baltimore) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore: Recombinant Stradomers to Treat Autoimmune Disease; \$135,000.
- Maxion Technologies Inc. (College Park) and the University of Maryland, College Park: High Power Interband Cascade Lasers; \$105,000.
- Neuronascent Inc. (Clarksville) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore: Neurogenic Agent's Effect on Ischemic Injury; \$121,560.
- Ocean Equities LLC (Annapolis) and the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute: Recirculating Aquaculture System for Oysters; \$183,348.
- Pharmathene Inc. (Annapolis) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore: Mechanism of Action Studies for Valortim III; \$281,454.
- Rafagen Inc. (Rockville) and the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute: Super Promoters for Therapeutic Protein Production; \$147,236.

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-- Refractory Composites Inc. (Glen Burnie) and the University of Maryland, College Park: Gel Fuel Development; \$28,796.

-- RegeneRx Biopharmaceuticals Inc. (Bethesda) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore: Combination Therapy for Myocardial Infarction; \$232,146.

-- Remedium Technologies Inc. (Rockville) and the University of Maryland, College Park: Self-Assembled Dressings for Active Wound Care; \$103,950.

-- Semantic Labs LLC (Baltimore) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County: Detecting Opinions and Sentiment in Social Media; \$306,717.

-- Sensics Inc. (Glen Burnie) and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County: Video Processor for Panoramic Head-Mounted Display; \$135,000.

-- TRAFFAX Inc. (Centreville) and the University of Maryland, College Park: TRAFFAX Traffic Detector Design and Testing; \$135,000.

-- UMRobotics Inc. (Chantilly, Va.) and the University of Maryland, College Park: Autonomous Undersea Structural Inspection Robotics; \$135,500.

-- Zymetis Inc. (College Park) and the University of Maryland, College Park: Pentose Fermenting Strain of Brewer's Yeast; \$117,373.

This is the 42nd round of MIPS funding. The program has supported research projects with more than 400 different Maryland companies since 1987. Groundbreaking products such as Martek Biosciences' infant formula additives, Hughes Network Systems' HughesNet(TM), MedImmune Inc.'s Synagis(R), and Black & Decker's Bullet(R) Speed Tip Masonry Drill Bit have benefited from MIPS-supported research. These products have collectively generated more than \$14.4 billion in revenue and led to the creation of thousands of jobs in Maryland.

Projects announced are approved although contracts may or may not be signed. MIPS' requested contract signing deadline is July 18. Some projects may have requirements before contracts are signed by both parties; for instance, a company currently based outside of Maryland must establish operations in Maryland before the project contract can be signed.

About MIPS ( [www.mips.umd.edu](http://www.mips.umd.edu))

The Maryland Industrial Partnerships Program, an initiative of the A. James Clark School of Engineering's Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute (Mtech), brings university innovation to the commercial sector by supporting university-based research projects to help Maryland companies develop technology-based products.

SOURCE Maryland Technology Enterprise Institute

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