

Iowa SBIR/STTR Newsletter

Iowa State University
Office of Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer

BioForce Nanosciences Wins Phase II

BioForce Nanosciences has been awarded a Phase II SBIR grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support the second phase of commercial development for surface patterning tools (SPT™). SPT molecular ink cartridges are used in the Company's core technology, the Nano eNabler™ benchtop molecular printing system.

BioForce will use this funding in the next stage of its SPT cartridge development program. The ultraminiaturized SPT cartridges are manufactured using micro-fabrication techniques that allow the user of the Nano eNabler system to readily modify the design, materi-

als, and processing steps to enhance tool printing performance. When BioForce's SPT portfolio is complete, their customers should be able to print spots, lines, and complex paths of one or many different molecules or compounds.

BioForce Nanosciences, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of BioForce Nanosciences Holdings, Inc. (OTC BB: BFNH.OB). BioForce Nanosciences is a unique development stage company entering into commercialization with over a decade of research and accomplishment in the field of bionanotechnology. The Company has demon-

strated the ability to take a product from concept to commercial sale.

For more information about BioForce Nanosciences, visit <http://www.bioforcenano.com>.



9th Annual NIH SBIR/STTR Conference

The Ninth Annual NIH SBIR/STTR Conference will be held February 26-27, 2007 at the Tuscany Suites & Casino, Las Vegas, NV.

This year's conference will focus on the NIH SBIR/STTR process from start to

finish. Sessions will include advice and guidance from experienced participants, what's new in the SBIR/STTR program, business development and commercialization, an in-depth look at the NIH review

process, and a hands-on practice session for electronic grant submission. Registration fees are \$120.

For more information, see: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/SBIRConf2007/index.htm>.

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Up-Coming Events

- InvestMidwest Venture Capital Forum, April 10-11, 2007, Overland Park, KS
- Spring National SBIR/STTR Conference, April 30-May 2, 2007, Research Triangle Park, NC
- 2007 Fall SBIR Conference, October 29-November 1, 2007, Richardson, TX

GAO Report on SBIR Award Data

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) recently issued a report that is critical of the way the Small Business Administration (SBA) and agencies participating in the SBIR program provide data on SBIR awards.

The report found that the agencies do not consistently submit all the required information for each award they make to the SBA. In addition, not all the award data complies with formatting requirements, making it difficult to use in program evaluation and reporting. The GAO report also noted that the SBA is five years behind schedule in

creating a congressionally-mandated, restricted government-use database. The SBA plans to meet this requirement by expanding its Tech-Net database to include a restricted government use section. Finally, the report indicates that tracking data on commercialization success of SBIR funded projects varies among agencies. Collecting this type of data is challenging in part because there is no clear definition of what constitutes commercial success.



The report includes a recommendation that the SBA Administrator and the participating SBIR agencies work together to increase efforts to assure that complete, consistent and accurate data are collected for the SBA's Tech-Net database.

The complete report is available at: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d0738.pdf>.

NIH Omnibus Solicitation to be Released

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) of the Department of Health and Human Services anticipates releasing its 2007 Omnibus SBIR and STTR solicitation on or about January 11, 2007. Participating organizations will include NIH, the Centers for Disease Control, and the Food and Drug Administration.

Closing dates for non-AIDS related topics will be April 5, August 5, and

December 5, 2007, while closing dates for AIDS-related topics will be May 1 and September 1, 2007, and January 2, 2008. Note that all applications must be submitted electronically through

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Grants.gov, and that proposers must be registered on [Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov) and the [eRA Commons](http://www.eRA Commons). Information on important checkpoints for electronic submission can be found at: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/electronic_checkpoints.htm.

For more information, see: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/sbir.htm>.

DoD 2007 STTR Solicitation

The Department of Defense 2007 STTR solicitation will be released January 22, 2007. Proposals will be accepted beginning February 20, and the solicitation will close on March 21, 2007. All proposals must be prepared and submitted electronically through the DoD SBIR/STTR Electronic Web Site (<http://www.dodsbir.net/submission/SignIn.asp>). Proposers must also be registered in the Central

Contractor Registration (<http://www.ccr.gov/>).

Between January 22 and February 19, 2007 proposers may talk directly with Topic Authors. Direct communication between proposers and Topic Authors is not permitted beginning February 20,



2007. However, proposers may submit written questions regarding solicitation topics through the [SBIR/STTR Interactive Topic Information System](http://www.SBIR/STTR Interactive Topic Information System).

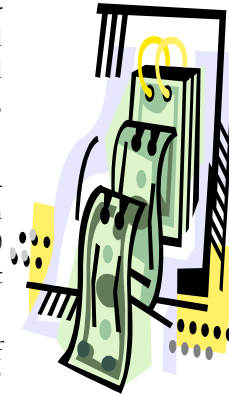
For more information, go to: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/osbp/sbir/>.

Key Solicitation Dates

- The deadline for AIDS-related topics for NIH SBIR/STTR grants solicitations is January 2, 2007.
- The Department of Education's SBIR contract solicitation will be released opened on November 6, 2006. The solicitation will close on January 8, 2007.
- The Department of Defense 2007.1 SBIR Solicitation opens December 6, 2006 and closes January 10, 2007.
- The Department of Commerce's National Oceanographic and At-

mospheric Administration 2007 SBIR opened October 3, 2006 and will close on January 17, 2007.

- The DoD 2007 STTR solicitation will open on or about February 20 and close on or about March 21, 2007.
- The Department of Transportation 2007 SBIR solicitation will be released on or about February 15, 2007. The



solicitation deadline will be on or about May 1, 2007.

- The deadline for non AIDS-related topics for NIH SBIR/STTR grant solicitations is April 5, 2007.

For more information on these solicitations, visit: www.sbirworld.com.

NBIA's 21st Conference on Business Incubation

The National Business Incubation Association (NBIA) will host its 21st Conference on Business Incubation April 1-4, 2007 at the Seattle Sheraton Hotel in Seattle, WA.

Conference highlights include keynote addresses by Kathy Wilcox, former president and CEO of WSA, and Glen Hiemstra, founder of Futurist.com, as well as networking events and awards luncheon. Preconference workshops

include International Trade Forum; The Fundamentals of Incubator Management; Developing a Successful Incubator; Serving Client Companies; Start-

ing an Angel Organization; Accelerating Innovation: Tools for Commercialization; Help Your Clients Succeed – and Help Yourself Too; Cultivating a Sustainable Innovation and Entrepreneurial Ecosystem; and A Measured Approach to Incubator Best Practices.

For more information, go to: http://www.nbia.org/nbia_events/conf2007/.

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NIH Funding Opportunity Announcement

NIH has issued a request for proposals entitled Environmental Sensors for Personal Exposure Assessment. Under this Funding Opportunity Announcement, NIH is soliciting SBIR proposals for the development of field-deployable or wearable personal sensors that can produce quantitative, near real-time measurements of multiple analytes for monitoring exposure to a broad range of airborne chemical

and biological agents, for monitoring internal exposures using biosamples, and/or for developing and refining panels of biomarkers of biological response to environmental stressors.

Letters of intent for this FOA are due January 22, 2007, and the application



deadline is February 20. Up to \$300,000 per year for up to two years may be requested for Phase I, and up to \$750,000 per year for up to two years for Phase II.

Details can be viewed at: <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-ES-07-001.html>.

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About OIPTT:

OIPTT was formed in 1990 to provide support services to the university community in matters related to intellectual property, to be the first contact related to new innovations, and to market the innovations and negotiate the agreements for transfer of the technology for the Iowa State University Research Foundation's signature. OIPTT reports to the office of the Vice Provost for Research

OIPTT's mission is to serve the university as the primary resource for intellectual property and related matters and facilitate the disclosure and utilization of university innovations for the benefit of society, the university and its faculty and staff, and contribute to economic development in Iowa when possible.

Iowa State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, sex, marital status, disability, or status as a U.S. Vietnam Era Veteran. Inquiries can be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity and Diversity, 3680 Beardshear Hall, (515) 294-7612.

Technology Spotlight

Intermetallic Compounds with Room Temperature Ductility for Making "Black Gold"

(ISURF #3887)

Gold in colors such as purple gold, blue gold, green gold or black gold has become an increasingly popular trend in the designed jewelry industry. Black gold can be produced by electrodeposition of black rhodium or ruthenium, by a chemical vapor deposition process using amorphous carbon, or by a controlled oxidation process of carat gold containing chromium or cobalt. However, these methods produce black gold that is susceptible to wear; rubbing, scratching, or abrading can cause the underlying gold color to show

through. In addition, black gold produced by these techniques can be brittle. To overcome these drawbacks, ISU researchers have developed a method for producing black gold using intermetallic compounds with compositions including AuSc, AuLu, AuNd, and AuY, and AuPr that have high room temperature ductility. A black oxide forms on these compounds after exposure to air, making them attractive for use in custom jewelry. If the black surface layer is

damaged by scratching or abrasion, a new black layer regenerates within a few days.

For more information on this and other technologies available for licensing, go to: www.techtransfer.iastate.edu

