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## **Seven Maryland Startups Receive Nearly \$520,000 from TEDCO to Transfer Technologies from Laboratories into Marketplace**

*eClinForce.com, InfraTrac, Instant Access Networks, Powergrid Fitness, Quickpath Technologies, Signal and Storage Innovation, and SEGMA Receive Funding*

**COLUMBIA, Md.** (July 16, 2007) – **The Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO)** announced today that seven Maryland technology companies have received \$519,991 total in funding. eClinForce.com, Inc.; Powergrid Fitness, Inc.; InfraTrac, Inc.; Signal and Storage Innovations, LLC; and Quickpath Technologies, Inc., each received \$75,000 in funding. In addition, SEGMA, LLC, received \$74,991 and Instant Access Networks, LLC, received \$70,000 from TEDCO's Maryland Technology Transfer Fund (MTTF). This program is designed to help businesses transfer technology from Maryland universities and federal laboratories into the marketplace.

"The MTTF program offers technology startups the earliest stage seed funding available, providing vital support to companies that are working on advancing the development of their novel innovations," said Renée Winsky, executive director of TEDCO. "Funding these companies through MTTF exemplifies TEDCO's primary objective of fostering partnerships between new technology businesses and Maryland's abundance of university and federal research laboratories."

To date, 71 companies have received funding from MTTF and completed their projects. With an investment of \$4,078,793 these companies have gone on to receive downstream funding from angel and venture investors, federal awards and other resources exceeding \$152.4 million. This is a leverage of the state's investment through TEDCO of nearly \$37.38 to \$1.

- eClinForce.com, Inc., located in Rockville, Md., employs one person and is working with the University of Maryland, Baltimore to develop software for automatically creating and processing electronic case report forms (eCRF). eClinForce.com™ Data Module provides comprehensive clinical data collection and management functionalities to clinical trials customers. In contrast to most of the current eCRF and electronic data capture solutions, the product will allow non-IT professional to design, generate, publish and process XML-enhanced eCRFs through easy-to-use web interface.
- InfraTrac, Inc., located in Baltimore, employs one person and is working with the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy to advance its counterfeit technology, which uses patent-pending near-infrared (NIR) spectroscopy to detect and prevent counterfeiting of high-value formulated and regulated substances including pharmaceuticals, chemicals and consumer products.
- Instant Access Networks, LLC, located in Cumberland, Md., employs one person and is working with Frostburg State University to develop prototypes of new shielding systems that can be mass-produced and offer critical infrastructure protection from electromagnetic interference, such as

electromagnetic pulse (EMP) and extreme solar flares. One application breakthrough is that mobile command centers protected with EMP shields can now be light enough to be driven with drivers holding ordinary driver's licenses.

- Powergrid Fitness, Inc., located in Beltsville, Md., employs eight people and is working with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County to advance its proposed Leg Joystick, which is a practical walking and running interface for virtual reality simulations. The system uses the company's ISOCOR™ technology and features a unique low-cost, high-performance interface that allows individuals to walk, run and interact physically in virtual reality without the drawbacks of high price and complexity.
- Quickpath Technologies, Inc., located in Clarksville, Md., employs two people and is working with the United States Department of Agriculture to commercialize products in the emerging field of glycomics. Initial efforts are focused on the development of a pathogen capture and concentration technology that allows for more effective pathogen detection.
- SEGMA, LLC, located in Silver Spring, Md., employs one person and is working with NASA to develop and deploy Kaelo software, an intelligent decision support and business intelligence tool to provide near real-time information on the performance of the leadership team of public companies.
- Signal Storage Innovations, LLC, located in New Market, Md., employs one person and is working with the National Security Agency to advance its wide-band data recording and communications solutions. The company incorporates state-of-the art recording performance, large numbers of channels and deep storage capacities into systems that are smaller, lighter and require less power.

Applications for funding programs are accepted continually and reviewed monthly by the TEDCO funding review team, which includes representatives from TEDCO, the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, affiliated venture capital groups and the Johnson & Johnson Corporate Office of Science and Technology. Applicants must submit a proposal, a commercialization plan for the technology to be developed, a scope of work and a budget.

**Funding Briefings:** TEDCO also hosts a series of funding briefings to teach companies how to use TEDCO's capital programs to help transfer technology from Maryland universities and federal laboratories to the Maryland marketplace. A session will also be held in Aberdeen at the Higher Education and Applied Technology (HEAT) Center from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Friday, July 27. The briefings are free, however registration is required. To register, send an email to [info@marylandtedco.org](mailto:info@marylandtedco.org) and put "Funding Briefing Registration" in the subject line. Please be sure to indicate the date and location you would like to attend.

**The Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO)**, an independent entity, was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1998 to facilitate the creation of businesses and foster their growth in all regions of the State. TEDCO's role is to be Maryland's leading source of funding for seed capital and entrepreneurial business assistance for technology transfer and development programs. TEDCO connects emerging technology companies with federal laboratories, research universities, business incubators and specialized technical assistance. For the fourth consecutive year, TEDCO was recognized as the most active early/seed stage investor in the nation in the July 2007 issue of *Entrepreneur Magazine*. For more information on TEDCO and its programs and resources, visit [www.MarylandTEDCO.org](http://www.MarylandTEDCO.org).