

News Release

Seacoast Science, Inc. Awarded \$744K DOD Marine Corps Contract for Badge Chemical Warfare Agent Detector Development.

Carlsbad, CA March 2, 2004 –

Seacoast Science, Inc. (SSI) announced today that it has received a \$744,000 contract from the U.S. Marine Corps Systems Command's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program. The two-year program will further develop SSI's proprietary chemical sensing technology, which will enable users to detect and identify Chemical Warfare Agents (CWAs) and Toxic Industrial Chemicals (TICs). SSI's novel microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) based chemical sensor will provide an inexpensive, portable alternative to traditional sensing systems in both government and civilian sectors.

The specific focus of this two-year program is to continue development of SSI's existing microsensor system to provide a low power, lightweight and small chemical detector system. This system under development will ultimately be portable enough for clandestine operations and light enough to be worn by military personnel as a badge. This work will complement SSI's ongoing work with the Army Research Office begun in December of 2003.

"We are committed to the development of chemical sensing technology to improve chemical sensor effectiveness while reducing costs. The goal of these new chemical sensing systems is to help save lives by alerting soldiers of possible harmful chemicals before damage can be done," said Dr. Todd Mlsna, president and chief technical officer at Seacoast Science, Inc. "We are excited about working with the Marines on this SBIR program because it will enable us to explore new ideas and develop leading edge technology. We are extremely optimistic that this will lead to important advances in the field of chemical detectors."

About Seacoast Science, Inc.

Seacoast Science, Inc. (www.seacoastscience.com) is a privately held R&D company located in Carlsbad, California. SSI is best known for its innovative research and development in the area of chemical microsensors, sensor fabrication and test systems for chemical sensors. SSI's technologies focus on chemical and biological sensing systems and solutions for homeland security, military, civilian first responders, environmental compliance, and many other markets. SSI was recently profiled as one of San Diego's hot prospects in the December 11, 2003 issue of *Nature* **426**, 709 - 711; According to the article, Seacoast Science is a hot prospect that is "helping San Diego to assert itself on the global stage."

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