

October 1, 2010



**The Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC) receives SBA award for Federal and State Technology Partnership (FAST) funding to help strengthen the technological competitiveness of Nebraska small businesses and entrepreneurs**

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The University of Nebraska at Omaha's Nebraska Business Development Center (NBDC) has received the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Federal and State Technology Partnership (FAST) Program award for the federal fiscal year 2011. The one-year award amount is \$100,000. Eligibility included endorsement from the Governor for the awarding organization in each state.

Twenty (20) states were selected for funding to strengthen the technological competitiveness of small business concerns. Congress has found that there is much variance within state technology programs that foster economic development among small high-technology firms. Therefore, this program intends to improve the participation of small technology firms in the innovation and commercialization of new technology; thereby ensuring that the United States remains on the cutting edge of research and development in the highly competitive arena of science and technology. The FAST Program will be administered by the SBA's Office of Technology.

Goals of the FAST Program are to:

- Foster technology research and development by small business concerns;
- Encourage technology transfer from university research to technology-based small business concerns;
- Commercialize technologies being developed by small business concerns;
- Increase the technological capabilities of small business concerns

Funding will be used for outreach, technical assistance and financial support provided to technology-based small business concerns in Nebraska interested in participating in the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program, including initiatives:

- To make grants or loans to companies to pay a portion or all of the cost of developing SBIR proposals;
- To establish or operate a mentoring network within the FAST Program to provide business advice and counseling that will assist small business concerns that have been identified by FAST program managers as good candidates for the SBIR and STTR Programs, and that would benefit from mentoring, in accordance with section 35 of the Small Business Act (15 USC § 657c);
- To create or participate in a training program for individuals providing SBIR outreach and assistance at the state and local levels; and
- To encourage the commercialization of technology developed through SBIR program funding.

NBDC is a cooperative program of the US Small Business Administration (SBA) and the College of Business Administration of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Through the Small Business

Development Center program, NBDC provides direct business management and technical assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs in Nebraska. NBDC operates centers throughout the state in Omaha, Lincoln, Wayne, Norfolk, Kearney, North Platte and Scottsbluff. In 2009, NBDC served over 3000 Nebraska businesses in over 300 communities with \$270M in economic impact and over 1400 jobs created or saved.

### **2010 SBA FAST Award Recipients**

- 1) Idaho (Idaho Department of Commerce)
- 2) Arkansas (University of Arkansas-Little Rock)
- 3) Georgia (Georgia Tech Research Corp)
- 4) Wisconsin (Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System)
- 5) Connecticut (Connecticut Innovations, Inc.)
- 6) North Carolina (North Carolina State University)
- 7) Pennsylvania (Ben Franklin's Technology Partners Corp.)
- 8) Missouri (Curators of the University of Missouri)
- 9) Kentucky (Kentucky Science and Technology Corp.)
- 10) Puerto Rico (Interamerican University of Puerto Rico)
- 11) South Dakota (South Dakota Department of Tourism and State Development)
- 12) Nebraska (University of Nebraska at Omaha)
- 13) Texas (Texas Tech University)
- 14) North Dakota (University of North Dakota)
- 15) Louisiana (Louisiana State University and A&M College)
- 16) California (California State University-Chico)
- 17) Virginia (Center for Innovative Technology)
- 18) Tennessee (University of Tennessee)
- 19) Montana (Montana Department of Commerce)
- 20) Wyoming (University of Wyoming)

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