Quarterly Narrative Progress Report
Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge

General Grant Information
SGA Type: Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge
Grantee Name: Wichita State University (WSU), Center for Innovation and Enterprise Engagement (CIEE)
Project Name: South Central Kansas Advanced Manufacturing Initiative
Award Number: 05-79-05209
Report Quarter Ending: March 31, 2012
Date of Submission: May 15, 2012
Program Contact Information: Debra Franklin, WSU CIEE, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, Kansas 67260-0044, phone: (316) 978-5209, email: debra.franklin@wichita.edu

A. Summary of Grant Activities – EDA Innovation Accelerator

Administration: During the second quarter (Jan-Mar 2012) of the two-year Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge award, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) Denver Office coordinated efforts with Wichita State University (WSU) to enact the grant agreement; craft a scope of work and execute a contract in January 2012.

The CIEE Board of Directors met on January 10, 2012, Board of Directors and Executive Committee member roster, meeting agendas, minutes and attendees can be found at the following web link.

Competitive Solicitations – Announced January 10, 2012
  • Nitride Solutions, development of a high-volume, low-cost platform process to produce single-crystal nitride substrates – contract executed on March 27, 2012
  • Dr. Michael McCoy/Cessna, Development of Airborne Thermal Electric Generation to Lessen Emergency Battery Weight for Decreased Lifetime Fuel Consumption, progress toward objectives include developing budget and staffing plan, coordinating with KBOR and industry partners regarding intellectual property

http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=ciee&p=/Board of Directors/Board of Directors/

IA.1 Industry Roundtable: The second quarter industry roundtable was held on March 6, 2012. The purpose of the meeting was to learn more about funding opportunities available to innovators, specifically SBIR and STTR programs. Invitation were sent to 200 members of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, 44 disadvantaged manufacturing and R&D companies of the Small Business Administration, regional clients of the Wichita Technology Corporation, WSU
Kansas Small Business Development Center, Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition, county level economic developers, Wichita Manufacturers Association, WSU composites manufacturers database, Kansas Department of Commerce, Mid-America Manufacturing Technology Center (MAMTC, Kansas Manufacturing Extension Partnership, MEP) etc. Thirty-eight people attended.

The meeting had three sections, a primary speaker, panel presentation and web searches for potential program opportunities for innovators in attendance.

Primary Speaker
Suman Saripalli, from Lawrence, Kansas, has a strong track record in the SBIR program, having won 30 SBIR awards from the Department of Defense, NASA, the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, Department of Transportation and the Department of Education over the past fifteen years. Several of these projects went on to Phase II and Phase III as well, valued at several millions of dollars.

Panel Members
1. Suman Saripalli, Owner, KalScott Engineering, Inc.
2. Brian L. Clothier, CEO, TSI Technologies, LLC
3. Patricia (Trish) L. Brasted, President and CEO, Wichita Technology Corporation / Wichita Technology Ventures
4. Michael (Mike) McCoy, Visiting Assistant Professor, WSU College of Engineering
5. Becky Hundley, Projects & Training Manager / Intellectual Property, WSU Office of Research Administration
6. Fred McLean, Independent Grant Writer, Past President Kansas Professional Grant Association, WSU Continuing Education Instructor

Announcement, agenda and pictures of the event can be found at the following web link. http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=ciee&p=/SBIR_STTR/SBIR_STTR_Menu/

Outcomes:
- Roundtable meeting (Jan-Mar 2012):
  o Theme: inform industry of potential SBIR STTR funding options available as well as strategies for successful applications and highlights of common pitfalls.
  o Purpose: provide information on the SBIR STTR funding opportunities and to highlight the CIEE competitive solicitation
  o March 6, 2012 at WSU Marcus Welcome Center
  o 38 participants attended
- 38 participants networked at the event

- **Roundtable meeting (Oct-Dec 2011):**
  - Theme: inform industry and collect input on Kansas Manufacturing Strategic Plan (K MSP)
  - Purpose: strengthen and accelerate critical advanced manufacturing cluster development
  - December 12, 2011 at WSU Marcus Welcome Center
  - 73 participants provided input to the K MSP
  - 73 participants networked at the event

- **IA. 2. Competitive Faculty-Business Partnership** – The second round of the competitive Faculty-Business Partnership was held during the January to March 2012 quarter. Proposals were received between February 1, 2012 and March 23, 2012. Three proposals were received and reviewed by the Technical Advisory Panel using the scoring rubric provided in the solicitation. The Center for Innovation and Enterprise Engagement Board of Directors funded one proposal on April 10, 2012, for development of nanocomposite spheres for application of self-healing composite materials for wind turbine blades.

  Outcomes:
  - One competitive faculty-business project was selected for funding in April 2012.
  - One competitive faculty-business project was selected for funding in January 2012.

- **IA. 3. Competitive Innovation Accelerator** – The second round of the competitive Faculty-Business Partnership was held during the January to March 2012 quarter. Proposals were received between February 1, 2012 and March 23, 2012. Ten proposals were received and reviewed by the Technical Advisory Panel using the scoring rubric provided in the solicitation. On April 10, 2012, the Center for Innovation and Enterprise Engagement Board of Directors funded three proposals.
  - Ocianna International for development of a mooring and/or anchoring product for shallow water and deep water based vessels
  - Fairmount Technologies for development of a parametric study of stretch roll forming processes using experiments and finite element analysis
  - Mid-Continent Composites for accelerated fabrication of a full scale prototype of a unique Light Sport Aircraft (LSA)

  Outcomes:
  - Four competitive private enterprise innovation projects were selected for funding in January 2012.
Three competitive private enterprise innovation projects were selected for funding in January 2012.

### B. Status Update on Cost Match

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<tr>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Jan-Mar 2012</th>
<th>To Date</th>
<th>Committed</th>
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<td>Wichita State University</td>
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50% 70%

### C. Status Update on Strategic Partnership Activities

Partners have been engaged in extending invitation to their small and medium-sized manufactures to the industry roundtable and facilitating the industry roundtable discussions. Furthermore, partners distributed the competitive solicitations, nominated members for the Technical Advisory Panel that reviews proposals and assisted by provided technical assistance and business counseling to applicants. To date, the challenges that the awardee has encountered involve delays in getting contract and funding established to operate the award and fund initiatives. During the second quarter (January-March 2012), additional partners were added through the competitive solicitation.

### D. Status of Deliverables

To date the grant implementation is flowing smoothly with some delays due to development of Scope of Services. Because the award was received later than anticipated, development of project contracts has been delayed and the start time for the project activities will also be delayed.

### E. Key Issues and Technical Assistance Needs

Due to the retirement of initial project officer and the resulting delay in development of Scope of Services, some first, second and third quarter outcomes may be delayed to subsequent quarters. Additional challenge in project implantation involved disrupted email communication with EDA. EDA staff and WSU staff worked diligently to minimize this disruption.

### F. Best Practices and Success Stories
The competitive solicitation process went very well and the response to the solicitations was substantial with three faculty submission and 10 business submissions in the second competitive round and seven faculty submission and 15 business submissions in the initial competitive solicitation.

Members of the Technical Advisory Panel enjoyed the opportunity to review and score the proposals. The CIEE Executive Committee added an additional level of proposal analysis with semifinalist presentations including questions posed by the committee members and technical experts in the meeting. In the second competitive round of the Innovation Accelerator, the Board of Directors expanded the number of Technical Advisory Panel reviews from four reviews to eight reviews per application.

The CIEE Board of Directors is pleased to have the Jobs and Innovation Accelerator funding, and they believe that this grant award is a vital economic development tool to accelerating the research to market development of innovation in advanced manufacturing and to support innovation-fueled job creation and economic prosperity.