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Congressman Jay Inslee Visits Research International

Monroe, Washington- Research International, Inc., a supplier of innovative equipment in the fight against terrorism was visited by Congressman Jay Inslee on March 20, 2006. It was an opportunity for Mr. Elric Saaski, CEO of Research International, to tell the congressman about ongoing counter-terrorism initiatives at Research International, and to showcase new pathogen monitoring and detection technologies under development. Monroe mayor, Donetta Walser, was also in attendance.

A tour of the 18,000 square foot facility and its on-site machine shop, laboratories and manufacturing areas gave the congressman a first-hand understanding of Research International's capabilities. Following the tour, the Congressman was briefed on an advanced man-portable biowarfare monitoring system under development for the U.S. Marines.

This product integrates aerosol collection and biodetection technologies in a small size that can be worn like a backpack and which can detect up to 8 different hazardous agents at one time. The fully automated system can operate for up to several days with re-useable optical waveguide biosensors that can perform over 30 pathogen assays with a single disposable assay pack. Results are provided in less than 20 minutes.

Congressman Inslee expressed concern that the U.S. needs to take a proactive role in combating the threat of viral-based epidemics. Mr. Saaski briefed the Congressman on leading-edge developments in that area at Research International, including an air sampling product that has proven to be highly effective at capturing airborne viruses. A major university agricultural program has been using this device to collect exotic viruses in a range of settings from poultry farms to wildlife refuges. He was also briefed on an exciting patent-pending method for rapidly identifying individual viral particles that complements the air sampling technology.

About Research International

Research International is a 16-year old, locally owned, high-technology company specializing in the development and manufacture of sensing systems. It has provided equipment for counter-terrorism applications worldwide for over 10 years. Research International emphasizes total solutions that span biochemistry, optics, electronics, fluid dynamics and physical packaging. The company also provides R&D services in the broad areas of medical, environmental and industrial sensing. For more information visit www.resrchintl.com.



Image 1 from left to right: Congressman Jay Inslee, Elric Saaski (President of Research International, Inc.), Lou Hayner (Research Machine manager). Photo taken in company owned machine shop used in prototype development and production.



Image 2 from left to right: Dr. David McCrae (Vice President at Research International), and Congressman Jay Inslee. Photo taken in chemistry lab.



Image 3: Jay Inslee and Elric Saaski discuss new product development in company conference room.



Image 4 from left to right: Monroe Mayor Donetta Walser, Jack U'ren (Saigene Corp.), Adam Bartz (congressional liaison), Congressman Jay Inslee, Elric Saaski, Dr. David McCrae, Stan Barnes (Barnes & Associates).