

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PHASE II SBIR GRANT RECEIVED
FOR HIGH-EFFICIENCY, DUAL-MODE AIR SAMPLER**

Monroe, WA – January 2 –Research International has just received Phase II funding from the HSARPA (Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency) to move from initial concept to develop a working prototype of a compact, low power, low cost wet or dry air sampler for the capture of potential biohazard particulates. The proposed hardware and collection strategy minimizes problems associated with freezing conditions in systems currently on the market and provides a high air-to-liquid concentration ratio.

This effort builds on the highly successful SASS 2000™ portable, wetted-wall air sampler, which is capable of uninterrupted operation for indefinite time periods independent of temperature or humidity, and can concentrate dilute aerosols using a constant-volume fluid maintenance system. The SASS 2000 is the only wet collector that has been shown capable of collecting multiple forms of viruses as demonstrated by agricultural researchers at the University of California, Davis.

Research International develops and manufactures leading edge products in the broad areas of physical and chemical sensing. Our target markets include medical diagnostics, chemical and biological weapons detection, and food safety. Company focus areas extend beyond sensors and their associated instrumentation and include micromachining, microfluidics and solid-state batteries.

Research International has the ability to creatively solve problems across a wide range of disciplines, and the necessary facilities to implement hardware and software solutions. Our highly skilled employees can address problems in chemistry, biochemistry, electronics, software, optics, micro-machining, mechanical design, and injection molding. An 18,000 square foot headquarters building in Monroe, Washington is well equipped and includes a Bio-safety Level 2 room for bioassay development, a large

custom aerosol chamber for testing air-sampling equipment, a micromachining lab, a full-service machine shop with state-of-the art CNC machine tools, and on-site injection molding equipment.

The company owner, Mr. Elric Saaski, is a successful entrepreneur of many years and a prolific inventor with some twenty patents to his name, including:

- Pressure sensors of his design that are used in brain surgery
- Heat transfer devices he designed that are used to stabilize the Alaskan pipeline
- The Department of Defense uses sensors developed by Mr. Saaski to qualify planes and missiles for use in high-EMI environments
- A cancer therapy jointly developed with a local medical doctor is now in clinical trials