

Washington, DC - The House of Representatives earlier this week approved legislation including \$13 million for several Oregon-based organizations, including Oregon Ironworks, HemCon, Oregon Nanoscience and Microtechnologies Institute (ONAMI), and Providence St. Vincent Medical Center's Oregon Medical Laser Center. The funding was requested by Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.), along with several other members of the Oregon Congressional delegation, and included in the Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2006 Appropriations bill.

Included in the legislation was:

- \$5 million for the purchase of chitosan hemorrhage control dressing for U.S. troops from HemCon, a company located in Tigard, Oregon. According to military physicians, 90% of soldiers killed in war die before they reach a medical facility, most often of blood loss. Wounds to the extremities are considered the main preventable cause of death in military action. Three years ago, the FDA approved a chitosan hemorrhage control dressing, manufactured by HemCon Inc., and the dressing has already saved the lives of dozens of U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

- \$2 million for the Oregon Medical Laser Center for research and testing to develop an internal chitosan based hemorrhage control dressing that can treat severe, life-threatening hemorrhage injuries in Afghanistan and Iraq. Battlefield trauma often leads to serious damage of internal organs and support structures because they cannot be repaired using today's technology. Even if repair is feasible, combat injuries treated with sutures, staples and synthetic materials often result in life threatening complications from rejection, bleeding, infection and organ failure.

- \$1 million for ONAMI's Safer Nanoelectronics and Nonometrology initiative which will develop nanomaterials and nanomanufacturing methods to meet the military's need for high performance materials, protect human health, and minimize harm to the environment. Examples of the importance of nanomaterials and manufacturing for military technology include nanoelectronics and nanophotonics, thermoelectric coolers, medical diagnostics and therapeutics, and environmental monitoring and remediation systems. ONAMI is a joint research institute operated by Oregon State University, the University of Oregon and Portland State University.

- \$2 million for ONAMI to develop Miniature Tactical Energy Systems for a wide range of military applications. Examples include: 1) battlefield energy systems such as personal power systems for the dismounted war fighter, 2) light weight transportable battlefield support energy systems, and 3) energy systems that minimize the logistics requirements of forces in the field.

- \$3 million for a joint project between Oregon Iron Works in Clackamas, OR and Geneva Aerospace in Carrollton, TX to research, test and develop an advanced unmanned ariel vehicle (UAV). Oregon Ironworks employs over 300 people in its Clackamas, Oregon and Vancouver, Washington facilities.

The Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2006 Appropriations bill passed the House on

House Defense Budget Includes Funding for Oregon-Based Organizations

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Monday, June 20th and must now be approved by the United States Senate.