

## OptTek Systems, Inc. Receives \$750,000 NIH Small Business R&D Award To Develop Data Security Software

Boulder, CO, March 29, 2010 –OptTek Systems, Inc., was awarded a \$750,000 R&D grant by the United States National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The objective of this grant is the development of an innovative technique to avoid disclosure of confidential data in public use tabular data. The proposed technique, to be delivered through a combination of software and services, called Optimal Data Switching (OS), overcomes the limitations and disadvantages found in currently deployed disclosure limitation methods.

Statistical databases for public use pose a critical problem of identifying how to make the data available for analysis without disclosing information that would infringe on privacy, violate confidentiality, or endanger national security. Organizations in both the public and private sectors have a major stake in this *confidentiality protection problem*, given the fact that access to data is essential for advancing research and formulating policy. Yet, the possibility of extracting certain sensitive elements of information from the data can jeopardize the welfare of these organizations and potentially, in some instances, the welfare of the society in which they operate.

“A primary objective of this project is to develop a practical framework for the protection of confidentiality in published tabular data. As such, it must be a framework based on efficient methods which will produce effective results. In addition, the method must be easy to use in a wide array of application settings,” said Dr. James Kelly, OptTek’s CEO and principal investigator for the grant, which is a Phase II Small Business Innovative Research award. “The work makes use of OptTek’s internationally recognized expertise in optimization methods.”

### **About OptTek Systems, Inc.**

OptTek Systems, Inc. is a Boulder, CO based optimization software and services firm. From its inception in 1992, OptTek has become the leading provider of optimization software to simulation companies and employs state-of-the-art techniques based on many years of research in the area of optimization, in which OptTek’s founders are internationally recognized leaders. OptTek specializes in developing and customizing its software to enable solutions for business problems characterized by significant uncertainty and complexity. OptTek’s software is used by hundreds of firms including Fortune 500 companies for diverse applications including strategic workforce planning, portfolio optimization, business process optimization, financial and strategic planning, logistics and transportation, and telecommunications. OptTek’s website is [www.OptTek.com](http://www.OptTek.com).

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