

OptTek Receives Federal Award to Develop Optimization Technologies

U.S. Army Research Office Grants Small Business Innovative Research Award

Boulder, CO, November 29, 2007 –OptTek Systems, Inc., was awarded a Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) contract by the United States Department of Army's Research Development and Engineering Command's Army Research Office to develop optimization methods and enabling software for agent-based modeling. "Agent-based models, which are models developed using a specialized simulation modeling technique, are being used to formulate and analyze a wide variety of military, government, and commercial problems. Recent applications of agent-based simulations in the commercial realm include modeling of financial markets, supply chain and logistics, marketing and consumer behavior, social networks and information flow, distributed computing, diversity and workforce planning, and traffic management. As agent-based models become more prevalent in the government and commercial arenas, the opportunity to enhance their usefulness with optimization and distributed computing grows," said Dr. James Kelly, OptTek's CEO. The total value of the first phase award is \$70,000 over a six to nine month duration with a \$50,000 option.

For the military, agent-based modeling represents the latest in computer simulation technology and provides a simulation environment in which small-to large-scale joint war fighting scenarios are being constructed and explored. Agent-based simulation tools are being used increasingly by analysts to represent networked reactive and adaptive military units and platforms. By modeling and quantifying the effectiveness of military systems in a dynamic theater environment these agent-based simulations provide the building blocks for computing the design of agents, the systems they employ, and predicting the response of adversaries. However, current agent-based simulations suffer limitations that restrict their ability to generate viable decisions for real world applications. To see these models reach their full potential, an integrated software environment that intelligently couples them with optimization and analysis is needed.

The proposed software, which is called OptAgent™, will advance the development efficiency and design quality of military systems and their operational use. If OptTek is successful with the first phase of the project, the company will be eligible for an additional \$500,000 to commercialize the applications. "We trust that our experience in optimization technologies will lead to delivering highly valued software to the Army and subsequently to other interested organizations." said Dr. Jay April, OptTek's Chief Development Officer.

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 customer relationship management, financial and strategic planning, logistics and transportation, and telecommunications. OptTek's website is www.OptTek.com.

About The U.S. Army Research Office

The U.S. Army Research Laboratory's Army Research Office (ARO) mission is to serve as the Army's premier extramural basic research agency in the engineering, physical, information and life sciences; developing and exploiting innovative advances to insure the Nation's technological superiority. Basic research proposals from educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, and private industry are competitively selected and funded. ARO's research mission represents the most long-range Army view for changes in its technology.

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