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Ohio Investing in Start-Ups and Innovation *Third Frontier Advancing New Technologies and Products*

Today the Ohio Third Frontier Commission approved \$12.5 million to support start-ups and commercialize technologies, while also helping more established companies develop innovative products.

“Taking ideas and getting them to the marketplace strengthens Ohio’s technology economy,” said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. “In addition, moving the state’s companies to the next level with new products will keep them competitive, ensuring jobs for Ohio’s future.”

2014 Ohio Third Frontier Technology Validation and Start-Up Awards

The Ohio Third Frontier Technology Validation and Start-Up Fund provides grants in two phases. The program’s first phase involves demonstrating that a technology can be commercialized, through activities such as testing and prototyping. The second phase supports Ohio start-up companies that will license and ultimately commercialize technology developed at Ohio higher education and nonprofit research institutions.

Akron Ascent Innovations LLC, located in the city of Akron (Summit County), was awarded \$100,000 to commercialize a dry, reusable adhesive that is easily removable without damaging surfaces or leaving sticky residue.

Cincinnati Children's Hospital, located in the city of Cincinnati (Hamilton County), was awarded \$50,000 to further develop, test and validate a second generation prototype of a medical device. The device links imaging technology with robotic precision to enable more accurate needle access to central arteries or veins.

Cleveland Clinic, located in the city of Cleveland (Cuyahoga County), was awarded \$50,000 to validate a rapid eye-tracking method for detecting social attention deficits. The technology will help identify individuals at-risk of Autism Spectrum Disorders and track treatment progress.

iRxReminder LLC, located in the city of Cleveland (Cuyahoga County), was awarded \$100,000 to commercialize a pill dispensing device that reminds patients to take their medication and tracks usage.

Kent State University, located in the city of Kent (Portage County), was awarded two \$50,000 grants for: technology to improve the energy efficiency of certain types of LCD’s and new thin film materials to improve the quality of OLED displays.

Miach Medical Innovation, Inc., located in the city of Shaker Heights (Cuyahoga County), was awarded \$100,000 to prototype and test a feeding tube with embedded sensors. The tube can be inserted more accurately and monitored more closely.

The Ohio State University, located in the city of Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$50,000 to build a prototype battery aimed at the electric bike market.

OsteoNovus, Inc., located in the city of Holland (Lucas County), was awarded \$100,000 to commercialize a synthetic bone graft substitute that is easier to use and less expensive to manufacture than existing products.

Rekovo, LLC, located in the city of Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$100,000 to commercialize a system that will greatly assist people who are in rehabilitation for central nervous system injuries.

University of Akron, located in the city of Akron (Summit County), was awarded five \$50,000 grants for: a new low-cost, reliable technology for hybrid car engines; imaging goggles to make cancer surgeries less expensive; new technology to prevent cell phone screens from cracking; a 3D-printed socket for prosthetics to reduce discomfort; and software for faster graphics processing in computers.

2014 Ohio Third Frontier Innovation Platform Awards

The Ohio Third Frontier Innovation Platform Program provides grants to link established research at the state's colleges, universities or other nonprofit research institutions to the needs of Ohio companies. These collaborations leverage the existing expertise, facilities and other institutional strengths to help companies with near-term product innovation and commercialization.

Cleveland Clinic, located in the city of Cleveland (Cuyahoga County), was awarded \$2,999,936 in collaboration with Renovo Biosciences, Renovo Neural, Juventas Therapeutics, ImagenIQ and ChanTest. The project will develop a rodent imaging center at the Cleveland Clinic. Rodent models are a critical element to understanding human diseases.

The Ohio State University, located in the city of Columbus (Franklin County), was awarded \$2,200,000 in collaboration with Owens Corning, OMNOVA Solutions and Nanomaterial Innovation Ltd. The project will develop new insulating foams, a coating resin for manufacturing and a nano-paper for electromagnetic shielding.

Ohio University, located in the city of Athens (Athens County), was awarded \$1,450,000 in collaboration with Babcock & Wilcox, RF Advanced Technologies Group, Utility Technologies International, Steel Warehouse and Watershed Management. The project will develop a wastewater treatment system for shale well sites, enabling wastewater from drilling to be reused rather than stored in disposal wells.

University of Akron, located in the city of Akron (Summit County), was awarded \$3,000,000 in collaboration with PolyOne, Lubrizol, SNS NanoFiber, Viscus Biologics and Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron. The project will enable the development of numerous products including novel polymers, X-ray shielding materials, protective coatings for medical devices and catheters and antimicrobial materials for wound healing.

University of Akron, located in the city of Akron (Summit County), was awarded \$1,744,192 in collaboration with Exacter, Inc. and Jacco & Associates. The project will develop a smart sensor platform for mitigating electrical grid outages, and an HVAC sensor system to regulate airflow and improve system efficiency.

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