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Governor

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Director

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For Immediate Release
June 23, 2010

OHIO THIRD FRONTIER AWARDS SUPPORT THE STATE'S GROWING BIOMEDICAL INDUSTRY

Columbus, Ohio – The Ohio Third Frontier Commission today recommended more than \$4.9 million in funding through the Ohio Third Frontier Biomedical Program. The companies receiving awards are expected to leverage nearly \$11 million of additional investment in Ohio. The awards are contingent upon State Controlling Board approval.

The Ohio Third Frontier Biomedical Program supports research and development to help Ohio companies make progress toward commercializing biomedical related products for future applications. The biomedical sector includes historic Ohio industry strengths such as cardiovascular, regenerative medicine, and orthopedics.

“Growing Ohio’s biomedical industry is an important part of our plan to create good jobs and lay a foundation for long-term growth,” said Governor Ted Strickland. “The Ohio Third Frontier is central to that effort.”

“Ohio is on the path to becoming one of the most notable states with significant investment capital to support the creation and growth of biomedical companies,” said Governor Ted Strickland. “The Ohio Third Frontier’s investment in this important sector helps to grow the state’s economy and improve the overall health and well-being of our citizens.”

“Ohio is a leader when it comes to the research and commercialization of medical products that save lives,” said Eric Fingerhut, Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents and Chairman of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. “These critical dollars are being wisely invested into biomedical companies around the state and will ensure that this life-saving technology continues to have a home in Ohio.”

The Ohio Third Frontier Biomedical Program accelerates the development and growth of the biomedical industry and its supply chain in Ohio. It is helping those entities with near-term specific commercial objectives with new products including diagnostics, therapeutics, and medical devices. The program supports the adaption or modification of existing devices or diagnostics in order to address one or more issues, including cost, safety, or efficacy; addresses technical and commercialization barriers; or demonstrates market readiness.

For example, Ohio Third Frontier awarded \$59 million to the Cleveland Clinic to help establish the Global Cardiovascular Innovation Center in 2007. The Center has helped create jobs in the cardiovascular and biomedical industry by facilitating and driving partnerships between government, industry, and higher education and providing direct support to new companies developing new innovative technologies that help save lives.

“More than \$358 million in Ohio Third Frontier investments have gone into the state’s biomedical industry and have created more than 3,000 new jobs for Ohioans,” said Lisa Patt-McDaniel, Director of the Ohio Department of Development and member of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission.

Fiscal Year 2010 Ohio Third Frontier Biomedical Program Awards

Cardiox Corporation, located in the City of Dublin (Franklin County), in collaboration with Nottingham Spirk Design Associates and QTest Labs, was awarded \$986,373 for its *Validation and Commercialization of Non-Invasive Detection of Cardiox Shunts* project. The project will finalize designs and clinical protocols for a new method for detecting congenital right-to-left shunts or “holes in the heart”. The presence of right-to-left shunts significantly increases the danger of strokes. Recently developed minimally invasive procedures can close the hole, however current detection requires expensive equipment and highly trained personnel. The Cardiox technology provides a low-cost alternative method of detecting and quantifying the shunt.

Case Western Reserve University, located in City of Cleveland (Cuyahoga County), in collaboration with Athersys, Inc. was awarded \$1 million for its *Clinical Development of MultiStem for Treatment of Spinal Cord Injury* project. The project will advance the use of Athersys’ MultiStem as a treatment for regenerating nerve growth in spinal cord injuries through the preclinical stage. MultiStem is a proprietary adult stem cell based therapeutic that has shown the ability to promote nerve growth in model systems. Phase I trials in humans are expected at the end of the project period.

Lanx, Inc., currently located in the City of Broomfield, Colorado, in collaboration with The Ohio State University, OrthoNeuro, Cleveland Clinic, Ohio Spine Network, American Medical Management, KB Medical, and RBK Spine LLC, was awarded \$1 million for its *Lumbar Motion Monitor Commercialization in Ohio* project. The project will form a new Ohio-based division located in the City of Columbus to finalize the design and commercialization of a device to measure range of lumbar motion in patients with back injuries. The new device will provide physicians with more detailed, objective information to more accurately diagnose the location and extent of injury to enable more effective treatment.

OrthoHelix Surgical Designs, Inc., located in the City of Medina (Medina County), in collaboration with Hudak, Shunk & Farine Co. LPA, and Orthopedic Research Laboratories, was awarded \$1 million for its *Mini/Mega MaxLock Extreme Orthopedic Implants* project. The project will finalize design for a variable angle locking technology and incorporation into extremity plating systems designed specifically for the foot, ankle, and hand. The technology improves options available to orthopedic surgeons inserting screws and plates to treat trauma and reconstruction in extremities.

SpineForm LLC, located in the City of Cincinnati (Hamilton County), in collaboration with Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center, University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Reynolds Consulting, and E-Prime Group, was awarded \$999,250 for its *Clinical Study and Commercialization of an Idiopathic Scoliosis Growth Modulation System* project. The project will support clinical studies of SpineForm’s HemiBridge System, which addresses the need for non-fusion treatment of progressive scoliosis (deformity of the spine during juvenile and adolescent growth).

For more information about Ohio Third Frontier, please visit www.OhioThirdFrontier.com.

Ohio Third Frontier, an unprecedented and bipartisan commitment to create new technology-based products, companies, industries, and jobs, has commercialized or created more than 630 companies, attracted more than \$4.76 billion in private investment to Ohio, and has a nearly 9:1 return on investment since its inception.

Working with our partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works at the speed of business to accelerate and support the teamwork that is absolutely necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio’s future.

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