

Press Release

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Advanced Diamond Technologies Receives Third SBIR Grant from National Science Foundation for Mechanical Seals

Romeoville, IL, January 22, 2007—Advanced Diamond Technologies, Inc. (ADT), the world leader in developing and applying diamond films for industrial, electronic, mechanical, and medical applications, received a \$500,000 Phase IIB Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the continued development of diamond-enhanced mechanical seals for pumping applications.

“This additional grant ensures ADT and its partner, John Crane, Inc., continued momentum needed to develop and introduce commercially viable ultrananocrystalline diamond (UNCD[®])—enhanced mechanical seals,” said ADT president Neil Kane. “We are grateful for the NSF’s continued support,” said ADT president Neil Kane.

Phase I confirmed the effectiveness of UNCD-enhanced mechanical seals. In highly demanding pumping applications wear was virtually undetectable. ADT will use the Phase IIB funding to bring the products to market—providing pump seals with dramatically improved wear characteristics that will increase reliability and save energy by reducing friction. “The Department of Energy estimates this application would save trillions of BTUs of energy annually,” said Kane.

“NSF encourages SBIR grantees to successfully transition their funded research from Phase I and Phase II to commercialization. The success of this effort depends on having a strong technical and business development expertise, with carefully targeted market opportunities. ADT’s record in this context indicates that they have an opportunity to succeed in this endeavor, and NSF is happy to play a strong supportive role in their efforts,” said NSF’s SBIR/STTR Program Director Dr. Deepak G. Bhat who oversaw this award.

In addition to \$1.1 million in total funding from the NSF in support of this project, ADT also receives support from the Industrial Technologies Program of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

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About Advanced Diamond Technologies

Formed in December 2003 to commercialize the ultrananocrystalline diamond technology developed at Argonne National Laboratory, ADT is the exclusive licensee to Argonne's portfolio of patents for synthesizing and using UNCD. ADT is a World Economic Forum 2007 Technology Pioneer, and in 2006 ADT received Frost & Sullivan's Product Innovation of the Year award and Nanotech Briefs' Nano 50™ award, as well as being a runner-up for the *Wall Street Journal's* Technology Innovation Award.

For more information on ADT, visit www.thindiamond.com.

About John Crane Inc.

John Crane Inc. is the acknowledged technology leader and the world's largest manufacturer of mechanical seals and associated products.

For more information on John Crane Inc., visit www.johncrane.com.

About the National Science Foundation's SBIR Program

The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program encourages small businesses to explore technological potential and provides the incentive to profit from its commercialization.

For more information on NSF's SBIR Program, visit www.nsf.gov/eng/iip/sbir/.

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