MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
NFPA/IAFC METROPOLITAN FIRE CHIEFS
AND
FEDERAL LABORATORY CONSORTIUM
FOR
TRANSFER OF FEDERAL LABORATORIES DERIVED TECHNOLOGY
FOR APPLICATION TO THE FIRE SERVICE

The Federal Laboratory Consortium (PLC) is directed to provide the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning laboratory research and the results thereof. Legislation and executive orders have further directed Federal Agencies to heighten their efforts to move their new technologies into the United States private sector. The United States Policy also directs United States Government entities such as the FLC to foster the growth of private-sector commercial use of Federal Laboratories-derived technologies**.**

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1.0 The member laboratories have developed techno1ogies and possess expertise in a broad range of disciplines and have world-class facilities in which evolving technologies may be tested. The FLC member laboratories are dedicated to using these resources I the development and commercialization of products that win strengthen the United Stat economy and improve overall quality of life. The NFPA/IAPC Metro Fire Chiefs (MFC) have the sworn duty to serve and protect the citizens of the United States. Fighting fire is an inherently dangerous activity and firefighters accept a certain degree of risk eve time they respond to a fire. The MFC recognizes that the transfer of Federally-funded technology to the private sector provides potential opportunities to reduce risk and enhance the safety of the fire fighting service.

Accordingly, the MFC and FLC, operating under this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), agree to the following:

1.1 FLC and the MFC hereby commit, through issuance of this MOU, to cooperatively help transition to the private sector federally-funded technologies that can improve fire fighting safety.

1.2 It is recognized that the ability of FLC and the MFC to perform any cooperative obligations requires that the participating parties provide their own funding. Each signatory to this MOU is responsible for its own work and expenses.

ARTICLE II - RESPONSIBILITIES

2.0 The FLC and the MFC agree that the primax7 objective of this MOU is to bring together the relevant expertise of each party to address the commercial potential of federally-funded technologies. The parties will establish a working relationship through regularly held meetings during the annual NFPA/IAFC Metro Conference and the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire-Rescue Conference. These meetings will be to discuss such topics as fire fighting needs and requirements, the limitations of current fire fighting technologies, and the potential applications of federally-funded technologies.

2.1 The FLC and the MFC will work jointly to identity areas for technology transfer. To pics to be investigated include, but are not limited to:

2.1.1 An advanced tracking system for locating personnel and equipment in a burning structure;

2.1.2 Noise reduction and control technologies to develop hands-free communications between firefighters and on-the-scene command post and interoperability communications;

2.1.3 Enhanced visibility through dense heavy smoke;

2.1.4 Future Apparatus for first responders to terrorist attacks;

2.1.5 Wildland Fires smoke jumper shelters and fire suppression systems.

2.2 The FLC will work with the MFC for advice and recommendations concerning appropriate commercial partners for development and commercialization of federally-funded technologies. The MFC will be instrumental in setting the requirements for the design of any new product based on these new technologies.

2.3 Each Party will appoint a person to serve as an official contact and to coordinate the activities of each party in carrying out this MOU. The initial appointees of each Party are:

FLC: Mr. Robert Saba

MFC:

ARTICLE Ill TERM OF UNDERSTANDING

3.0 The term of this MOU is for a period of two (2) years from the effective date of this agreement, which is an extension of the first two (2) years agreement signed on April 24, 2001. A report will be submitted at the end of each year outlining the major activities and accomplishments. Either Party may terminate this MOU upon thirty (30) days written notice.

In witness whereof, the Parties have executed this MOU.

FLC Ann Rydalch, Chair	NFPA/IAFC MFC Chief Mario Trevino, Chairman
3/24/03 Date	3/24/03 Date