

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN FIRSTLINK AND THE METROPOLITAN "METRO" FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSFER OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DERIVED TECHNOLOGY FOR APPLICATION TO THE FIRE SERVICE AND FIRST RESPONDERS

FirstLink, the Department of Defense (DoD) National Center of Excellence for First Responder Technology Transfer, is directed by contractual agreement with DoD to provide Firefighters and First Responders the widest practicable and appropriate dissemination of information concerning DoD 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 DoD to foster the growth of private-sector commercial use of DoD derived technologies to First Responder needs and requirements to enhance their safety. FirstLink provides specialized support and capabilities for private sector businesses and entrepreneurs seeking a conduit with federal programs designed to enhance technology transfer for first responder technologies.

ARTICLE I - PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1.0 The DoD member laboratories have developed technologies and possess expertise in a broad range of disciplines and have world-class facilities in which evolving technologies may be tested. The DoD member laboratories are dedicated to using these resources for the development and commercialization of products that will strengthen the United States economy and improve overall quality of life.

Members of the Metro Fire Chiefs (MFC) have the sworn duty to serve and protect the citizens they serve. Fighting fires is an inherently dangerous activity and Firefighters accept a certain degree of risk every time they respond to a fire. The MFC recognizes that the transfer of DoD-funded technology to the private sector provides potential opportunities to reduce risk and enhance safety of the fire fighting service.

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

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

1.2 It is recognized that the ability of FirstLink 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 FirstLink and the MFC agree that the primary objective of this MOU is to bring together the relevant expertise of each party to address the commercial potential of DoD-funded technologies. The parties will establish a working relationship through regularly held meetings, as needed, during the annual MFC Conference, the International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire-Rescue International Conference, or the National Fire Protection Association 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** FirstLink and the MFC will work jointly to identify areas for technology transfer. Initial topics to be investigated include, but are not limited to:
 - GPS and firefighter tracking equipment
 - GIS, mapping and common operating picture
 - Search and rescue devices for locating or removing victims in collapsed structures
 - Fire suppression equipment
 - Wireless communications technology
 - Recon equipment such as robots and unmanned aircraft
 - Distance learning and training simulators
 - LP CRADA (Limited Purpose Cooperative Research and Development Agreement) to use DoD equipment (i.e: Robots, other) for trials and exercises
 - Enhanced visibility through dense heavy smoke
 - Noise reduction and control technologies to develop hands-free communications
 - Future Apparatus for first responders to address and combat terrorist attacks
- **2.2** FirstLink will work with the MFC for advice and recommendations concerning appropriate commercial partners for development and commercialization of DoD-funded technologies. The MFC will provide advisory services concerning design requirements for new products based on these new technologies and will provide the necessary and vital feed-back during the design process.
- 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:

Paul Schneider, FirstLink 724-933-3544 pschneider@dodfirstlink.com Steve Dean, MFC 251-591-5990 dean@cityofmobile.org

ARTICLE III - 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 may be extended upon mutual agreement of the Parties. It shall be reviewed after one (1) year to ensure that it is still fulfilling its purpose and to make any necessary revisions. 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.

James Rooney, President

FirstLink

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Robert Hendricks, President

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Date

Date