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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ...

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RIDGETOP GROUP RECEIVES \$1.38 M ELECTRONIC PROGNOSTICS CONTRACT

Ridgetop Group, Inc., a fast-growing Tucson-based high technology firm, reported that it had received an SBIR Phase II Research and Development Contract from the Naval Air System Command (NAVAIR), Lakehurst, NJ. The total amount of the award, including the base R&D plus options, is \$1,388,327 and will support Ridgetop's R&D in the fast-growing area of Electronic Prognostics.

The contract extends Ridgetop's work in electronic prognostic technology to advanced CPU/Digital Processor modules used in critical systems, such as the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF). These processor modules are the "brains" for systems that control the correct functionality of the aircraft. Ridgetop will develop techniques to determine the modules "state-of-health", remaining useful life (RUL), and rapid detection of impending failures. This electronic prognostics capability will allow the Navy to develop comprehensive Condition-Based Maintenance (CBM) strategies to improve operational readiness levels and to reduce support costs.

Ridgetop's Principal Investigator for this project is Justin Judkins, PhD. Dr Judkins and his team will apply Ridgetop's specialized knowledge of fault-to-failure technologies and detection algorithms to provide an effective solution to this requirement. According to Doug Goodman, Ridgetop's CEO, "We greatly appreciate the endorsement of NAVAIR as evidenced by this contract for critical military applications. This technology area is a great example of "dual use" where there are both military and commercial applications having critical uptime requirements. For example, we all utilize critical electronic systems included in automotive and ATM/Banking systems, so you will see these solutions appear in commercial applications in future years."

Ridgetop Group is a privately-held firm founded in 2000 that provides mission-critical electronic prognostics tools, fault-to-failure progression libraries, and semiconductor IP libraries. Customers include NAVAIR, Air Force Research Labs (AFRL), Daimler-Chrysler, ATK/Mission Research, Honeywell, NAVSEA, and DARPA.

For further information, please visit our website at www.Ridgetop-Group.com or contact Milena Thompson at milena@ridgetop-group.com.

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