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Ridgetop Group Delivers Innovative IT Network Prognostics to Navy / SPAWAR

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Ridgetop Group Inc. has successfully delivered, to the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR), its final contract software tool for the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program, “Prognostics and Health Management (PHM) for Afloat Information Technology (IT) and Network Services.” SPAWAR, the U.S. Navy's Information Dominance Systems Command, awarded Ridgetop multiple Phase I and Phase II SBIR contracts to create a unique and effective Network Health Management (NHM) software tool, Sentinel Network™. This tool is able to remotely monitor and predict problems in a network before they occur, then troubleshoot and assist in resolving the problems.

At SPAWAR, Ridgetop worked directly with the Navy’s Tactical Networks Program Office, PMW 160, and the Program Executive Office of Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence (PEO C4I), whose interest in developing this tool was based on a need to address the IT network problems that occur on board ships. While working directly with SPAWAR, Ridgetop found that a key driver of IT network health was the ships’ power delivery systems, including uninterruptible power supplies (UPS), which condition power to the network and extend uptime during power disruptions. As repair or replacement of a shipboard UPS during an extended mission could prove problematic, ensuring UPS uptime and performance was the main focus of this SBIR program. Ridgetop accurately addressed that problem by developing an advanced detection method, including a prognostic algorithm to retrieve real-time data from the UPS and calculate the current state of health (SoH) and then apply a predictive model to forecast the remaining useful life (RUL) period without intervention. With this information, maintenance can be scheduled at opportune times during a mission.

The demonstration of Ridgetop’s tool took place at the Lockheed Martin Technology Collaboration Center-West (TCC-West) in San Diego. During the demonstration, Sentinel Network successfully discovered and predicted the uptime of four UPS devices.

According to Sonia Vohnout, Ridgetop’s Director of Business Development, Advanced Diagnostics and Prognostics, “Ridgetop is working with Clary Corporation, a leading provider of UPS products to the Navy, to continuously improve Sentinel Network’s ability to address the Navy’s critical needs. We believe that working with Clary will allow us to continue to develop advanced prognostics technology for maintaining the performance of critical network systems.”

About Ridgetop Group

Based in Tucson, Arizona, Ridgetop Group is the world leader in providing advanced electronic prognostics and health management (PHM) solutions, semiconductors for harsh environments, and built-in self-test (BIST) solutions for critical applications. The company maintains business divisions for advanced radiation-hardened microelectronics and electronic PHM solutions for



critical electronic sensing and control applications. Founded in 2000, Ridgetop has built an impressive list of aerospace, automotive, and medical systems customers in North America, Europe, and Asia. For more information, please contact Sonia Vohnout at +1 520-742-3300, or visit our website at www.RidgetopGroup.com.

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