



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Triton Awarded Contract by US Air Force to Develop Aviation Life Raft Materials**

**Chelmsford, MA/July, 2008** - Triton Systems, Inc. (Triton), announces it has received an award for \$750,000 from the U.S. Air Force to further develop materials used for aviation life raft materials. This award supports the continued development of materials that will enable the manufacture of advanced aviation life rafts that are up to 10% lighter, come in smaller packing cases and overcome the performance limitations of current versions at extreme temperatures such as hot and dry environments.

The US Air Force uses inflatable life rafts for protection of aircrew downed over water. As US Air Force operations in the Middle East continue, service life expectancies of existing life rafts have been reduced due to fabric/coating degradation under the extreme hot and dry conditions. Furthermore, space and payload limitations in aircrafts necessitate life rafts that are lighter in weight and that fit into smaller enclosures. Therefore, a need for new life rafts exists that not only address the weight and packing volume reduction, but also improve durability in extreme environment operations.

Triton's novel fabric is made by applying a proprietary coating onto a base fabric. The coating will provide improved gas barrier (for extended use times), abrasion and temperature resistance (improved durability) at thinner coating thicknesses (lighter weight).

Earlier work done by Triton for the U.S. Air Force successfully demonstrated the approach and Triton-fabricated coated fabrics showed significant improvements over current fabrics – all at a reduced weight.

Besides military life rafts, commercial applications include commercial life rafts and inflatables (aviation, marine and sport), and coated fabrics and textiles (furnishing, air bags in the automotive industry, protective clothing). Triton has gained the interest of a large commercial life raft manufacturer which should enable quick transition of the technology to commercial application.

The program is expected to be complete in early 2010 with delivered prototypes to the Air Force and commercial transitions to follow.

**About Triton Systems, Inc.** ([www.tritonsystems.com](http://www.tritonsystems.com))

Triton Systems, Inc. is an advanced materials-based product development company. We incubate product concepts through a combination of government, private and internal funds. As our technologies mature, we form global partnerships for commercialization, resulting in joint ventures, licenses and operating companies. Founded in 1992, Triton is privately owned and is located just north of Boston in the town of Chelmsford, MA.