



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**CONTACT:** Diane Wilson, Triton Systems, Inc., 200 Turnpike Road, Chelmsford, MA 01824

Tel: 978.250.4200 x138 . Fax: 978.250.4533 . Email Address: [dwilson@tritonsys.com](mailto:dwilson@tritonsys.com) . Web site address: [www.tritonsys.com](http://www.tritonsys.com)

## Triton Awarded Contract by US Army to Develop Insecticide System to Control Mosquitoes and Sand Flies

**Chelmsford, MA/December, 2007** - Triton Systems, Inc. (Triton), a leading materials research and product development firm, has received an award for \$700,000 in Phase II funding from the U.S. Army's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program. This award supports the continued development of Triton's insecticide system that can be used by Military Preventive Medicine detachments to control sand fly vector population in Iraq or other harsh environments where conventional insecticides have failed due to the intense heat, blowing sand and dust, UV light, and other environmental factors.

Triton's insecticide system provides sustained release characteristics that will allow less frequent treatments, which will reduce the exposure risk to the vector control personnel as well as the cost. It will also benefit civilians who live in malaria, leishmaniasis, or other vector-borne disease endemic areas.

Under the Phase II contract, Triton Systems, Inc. will further develop its innovative insecticide system that can be used to control sand fly and mosquito populations in severe environments. Building upon the Phase I work, Triton will enhance the residual property of the insecticide formulation under intense heat and UV light, optimize controlled release characteristics, and minimize the inhalation hazard.

Vector borne diseases, such as malaria, leishmaniasis, and dengue fever, continue to be major threats to overseas military operations and civilian populations in many parts of Asia, Asia Pacific, Central and South America, and Africa. Insecticides are commonly used to control vector borne diseases. While simple and low cost, conventional insecticides, once applied, lose their efficacy rapidly when exposed to high heat, intense sunlight, and blowing sand and dust – all conditions commonly found where the need is the greatest. This compromises protection against insects and increases risks of inadvertent exposure to insecticides for humans and unintended targets. The proposed effort seeks to develop a new insecticide system that retains a good residual property -- even in harsh environments.

### **About Triton Systems, Inc.**

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

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and operating companies. Founded in 1992, Triton is privately owned and is located just north of Boston in the town of Chelmsford, MA.

**About the SBIR Program**

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program is a highly competitive three-phase award system which provides qualified small business concerns with opportunities to propose innovative ideas that meet the specific research and development needs of the Federal Government.