



News Release

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For immediate release

New Night-Vision Technology Wins US-leg of Global Security Challenge

A new solution for identifying people at night without active illumination has won the North American Semi-Final of the Global Security Challenge 2007. In the semi-final of the international competition, founded by London Business School students and hosted in the US with Mississippi State University, the best five American security start-ups competed for a chance to win the \$500,000 grant award in the upcoming London Final.

The winner, **NoblePeak Vision** from Massachusetts, is developing a new generation of visible to SWIR video surveillance camera cores and components with breakthrough night vision performance. At the heart is TriWave™, a revolutionary germanium enhanced™ single chip CMOS image sensor technology that enables the rapid detection and identification of people and objects in zero ambient lighting conditions.

The 2nd placed winner, **Eye Marker** from West Virginia has developed the world's first handheld, portable device capable of looking at markers in the human eye and determining if a person has breathed or absorbed toxins or nerve agents. This rapid and non-invasive technology has numerous applications for first responders, military and hospitals.

Speaking before the announcement, **Jay M. Cohen, Under Secretary** for Science & Technology of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security commented: "To arrive at one revolutionary new technology, you have to plant 1,000 flower seeds, of which you select 100 projects, of which 3 prototypes will be developed that will lead to the George Foreman Grill. I applaud the mission of the Global Security Challenge that understood this principle of fostering innovation and the innovative entrepreneurs who competed in this competition with their high-quality technologies."

The three other finalists have developed technologies that prevent identity theft, protect fiber networks via quantum key distribution and ensure privacy rights in data sharing between federal agencies.

The judges when announcing the result said: “Our decision to select NoblePeak Vision as winner and Eye Marker as runner-up was unanimous as they have both invented potentially disruptive technologies with global opportunities.”

The judges for the North American Semi-Final of the Global Security Challenge were Errol Arkilic, Program Director SBIR at **National Science Foundation** - Todd Brethauer, Science Advisor at TSWG (**US Pentagon**) - Gerard Eldering, Director Technology Transfer Office, at **MITRE** - Mark Frantz, General Partner at **Redshift Ventures** and Dr. Lynn Richardson, Dean of the College of Business and Industry at **Mississippi State University**.

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Global Security Challenge

The Global Security Challenge (GSC) is an annual competition to find the most promising security start-up in the world. The founders have gained experience in the security technology sector with IBM, Sagem Défense Sécurité, McKinsey and the National Security Council at the White House. The mission of the GSC is to stimulate technological innovations that make airports, cities and enterprises safer without encroaching on civil liberties. The GSC is run by London Business School students and is supported by Accenture, BAE Systems, Bosch, TSWG, Smiths Detection, ONR Global, US Department of Homeland Security, PegasusBridge Fund, BWI and SAIC. The exclusive partner universities of the GSC are Mississippi State University, National University of Singapore, Technical University of Munich and London Business School. For more information visit: www.globalsecuritychallenge.com

Global Security Challenge LLP

Simon Schneider
Co-Director
Glentworth Street 195
London, U.K.
Email: press@globalsecuritychallenge.com
Internet: www.globalsecuritychallenge.com

NoblePeak Vision

Phil Davies
Vice President, Marketing
O: 781 2249740 XT 13
M: 781 4926691
Internet: www.noblepeak.com

Eye Marker

Wesley McGee
CEO
Phone: 703-734-1446
Internet: www.eyemarker.com