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Defense Technologies Inc. holds ribbon cutting at new facility



August 26, 2008

Defense Technologies Inc. (DTI) opened its offices inside the Marlboro County Jetport with a special ribbon cutting ceremony Thursday morning, August 21.

DTI is a veteran-owned private company with on-going research and development programs relative to current and future Department of Defense operations.

DTI announced in June that it received \$1.6 million in defense funding from the FY 2008 Defense Appropriations Bill. This funding was for the "Semi autonomous or Un-Attended Psychological Operations Reconnaissance Tool" (SUPPORT) program and associated work designated by USSOC of Tampa, Florida.

The facility will begin operations as a research and development facility with clear sights on growth for the future.

"This funding solidifies our effort to establish a facility in Bennettsville in the hopes of establishing a multi-rolled support network for our country's Special Operations Forces," said John Torbett, Vice President, Business Development.

"Without the invaluable support of Congressman John Spratt (D-SC) and his efforts to attract economic growth to his district, the tireless work of Butch Mills of the Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership, and the efforts of the Marlboro County Council to plan for and act on the growth of their county, this investment in this great community would not have been possible," he added.

"We are tremendously grateful for their guidance and support of this project. We hope to grow this location and look very much forward to becoming a community partner and catalyst for a prosperous future for the citizens of this community."

Spratt was a special guest at the ceremony Thursday. "The new 'SUPPORT' system relies on unmanned, remote-controlled vehicles for conducting psychological operations and minimizes risk to personnel," he said. "It will be a plus for our troops, and its development by Defense Technologies is a plus for Marlboro County's economy. I was pleased to help secure the funds for this project."

DTI President Scott Carlton said he is very excited to bring DTI to Marlboro County and feels like this is the best placement for its new office.

DTI has additional facilities in Maryland, Florida, and North Carolina.

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