Eugene firm wins Navy contract

The Register-Guard - Eugene, Or.

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Date: Sep 8, 2006
Document Types: Business
Text Word Count: 405

On Time Systems is awarded $1.43 million to study potential cost savings if its scheduling software is used at repair yards

On Time Systems Inc., a Eugene-based software developer, announced Thursday that it has been awarded a $1.43 million contract with the U.S. Navy.

In the next nine months, On Time Systems will evaluate the potential cost savings if the Navy used the firm's shipyard scheduling software at its major repair yards. The nearest such facility is in the Puget Sound area.

On Time System's 17 employees will conduct the sophisticated work from their offices at the Riverfront Research Park near the University of Oregon campus.

This is the second major contract On Time Systems has secured with the Navy. Two years ago, the Navy awarded a $1.38 million contract to On Time Systems to create a simulated shipyard to test the potential cost savings if the firm's shipyard scheduling software, called ARGOS, was used to build new vessels.

On Time Systems projected that the software could save taxpayers $500 million annually.

The Navy commissioned a report by an independent third party, which concluded that On Time Systems' sound, CEO Matt Ginsberg said. On Time Systems continues to work with the Navy "to try to turn the results of that work into substantial taxpayer savings," he said.

The work On Time Systems will perform under each contract is related, but quite different, Ginsberg said.

"This work is repair-yard work," he said. "If you're building a ship, and you're painting the deck, and you expect it to three weeks, it will probably take three weeks.

"There's a lot more uncertainty in repair work because stuff breaks and you don't know in advance what's badly."

Funding for the $1.43 million contract comes from a line item in the 2005 defense budget requested by the Oregon congressional delegation, including Rep. Peter DeFazio, Sen. Gordon Smith and Sen. Ron Wyden.
On Time Systems is a 1998 spin-off of CIRL, the UO's Computational Intelligence Research Laboratory.

On Time Systems also has developed software to route all U.S. Air Force noncombat flights - typically 70 a day. The technology prevents 20 million gallons of jet fuel a year from being burned in the upper atmosphere, Ginsberg said.

In May, On Time Systems hired Steve Teglovic as president to help identify commercial applications for the technology the company has developed for the government.

Abstract (Document Summary)

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