



Luna first small business to sign Umbrella Space Act Agreement with NASA

August 31, 2005

Hampton, VA – Luna Innovations Incorporated (Luna), a developer of sensors, advanced materials and systems integration technologies, has signed an Umbrella Space Act Agreement with NASA to collaborate on aerospace research and development with the Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA. The agreement provides a mechanism for open communication and exchange of information so that both parties can easily identify areas of mutual interest for alliance. It is anticipated that most of the collaboration will occur between the Nondestructive Evaluation Sciences Branch, Research and Technology Directorate at NASA Langley and Luna's Hampton office.



With this agreement, Luna is now the only small business in the nation with such an agreement.

Under the agreement, barriers are removed allowing Luna and NASA to exchange the use of facilities, equipment, information, expertise, intellectual property rights, or other resources. "Space Act Agreements are used to encourage collaborative efforts in research and development between NASA and industry," says Joseph Heyman, Chief Scientist at Luna.

"One of our first projects will be a nonlinear technique to characterize foam integrity for the Space Shuttle's External Tank. Luna and NASA are currently cooperating on a technology transfer in a medical area to measure a muscle condition called compartment syndrome."

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Front (l to r): Doug Dwoyer, Associate Director NASA Langley Research Center, Doug Juanarena, Vice Chairman Luna Innovations; Back (l to r) Luna staff: Ben Plowman, VP of Sales and Marketing; Dr. Joe Heyman, Chief Scientist; Dr. Ed Gootzait, Director of Operations Hampton and Christ Domack, Director of Nondestructive Services

Many collaborative possibilities exist between the two entities as Luna's pipeline continues to flow with new ideas and product opportunities that include environmentally-safe flame retardants, medical instruments to monitor heart-lung bypass surgery, nanomaterials for medical diagnostics, newly discovered processes to treat cancer, and secure wireless networks.

ABOUT LUNA INNOVATIONS:

Headquartered in Blacksburg, Virginia--with locations in Charlottesville, Danville and Hampton Roads-- Luna Innovations is certified small business and HUBZone company that identifies significant market opportunities, builds promising intellectual property portfolios and prototypes, and delivers them into highly differentiated commercial applications. Core technologies of the company reside in sensing, advanced materials, and integrated systems.

Luna's mission to align the technology needs of the market with the research that takes place in academic, government and industrial laboratories has produced four new businesses since 2000. These companies are making optical communications systems faster, enhancing energy production, providing remote asset management, and enabling drug discovery.

For more information see www.lunainnovations.com or email

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