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RUSHFORD HYPERSONIC AWARDED HIGHLY COMPETITIVE NIH GRANT

National Institutes of Health recognizes medical significance of HPPD coating for artificial joint implants

RUSHFORD, MN – March 22, 2011 – Rushford Hypersonic LLC, *Minnesota's first rural nanotechnology company*, has been awarded a highly competitive Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, an Institute within the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The grant will enable Hypersonic to develop medical applications of their patented **Hypersonic Plasma Particle Deposition (HPPD)** coating for use on orthopedic implants (artificial joints) as a means to increase implant life expectancy. Working directly with Dr. Kai-Nan An and his team at the Mayo Clinic's Biomechanics and Motion Analysis Laboratory, Hypersonic will use the Phase I grant to test HPPD's superior nano-scale film characteristics, as well as its ability to reduce wear particles, a primary cause of implant failure. The project's long-term objective is to improve health by bringing scientific advances to orthopedic implants that will eliminate or decrease wear-related replacement surgeries.

"We have one of the most advanced technologies in the world. Receiving an SBIR grant from NIH clearly demonstrates the scientific and business merits of our HPPD technology." states Daniel Fox, President and CEO of Hypersonic and Principle Investigator for the project. Fox acknowledged the important role grants play *"Government funding for young companies like ours is critical to get these new technologies into the hands of those who can benefit from it the most. This project will have a tremendous impact on the health of implant patients."*

Rushford Hypersonic is setting new standards in the coating industry with its NEW CLASS of coating that extends the lifespan of the product coated with a hard, dense, and fracture resistant thin film nanocoating. The uniquely generated phase-changing HPPD process creates superior adhesion with a weld-like molecular bond of the coating *into* the product's surface. The intensely durable HPPD coating resists corrosion and wear, making it ideal for use in harsh environments or adverse conditions. Potential applications are endless, but Rushford Hypersonic's initial focus includes machine tools, mechanical parts, and implantable medical devices. Rushford Hypersonic owns EXCLUSIVE rights to develop and commercialize the HPPD process, a process created and patented by the University of Minnesota. Go to www.rushhypersonic.com to see how Rushford Hypersonic is advancing towards their mission of becoming the leader in engineered and friction-reducing coating applications for high-end tooling and wear surfaces.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: Interviews with Rushford Hypersonic personnel are available upon request. Photos of the facility and HPPD coatings are available by contacting info@rushhypersonic.com. Additional information can be found at www.rushhypersonic.com