

**Markham-based Company Awarded Funding
for Groundbreaking Public Security and Safety Project**

Markham, Ontario – March 27, 2007 – CriSys Limited of Markham, Ont., has been given a \$600,000 funding boost to accelerate its groundbreaking work on intelligent systems that will improve national security and safety. The company is leading a high-tech project to assess the severity of fire threats, so that emergency officials can respond to fires in the most efficient and effective way possible.

Working with CriSys on the project are partners Ryerson University, York University, and Ajax-based Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs, representing a group of 11 Canadian Fire Departments.

The funding was announced today by Ottawa-based **Precarn Incorporated** – a not-for-profit company representing a national network of corporations, universities, colleges, research institutes and government partners engaged in the development of intelligent information and communications technology (*i*ICT), which has awarded \$300,000 for the project. CriSys and its partners are matching the funding, for a total project value of \$600,000.

“This funding was awarded as part of the Precarn Small Company Program,” said Paul Johnston, President and CEO of Precarn Incorporated. “This project represents a major breakthrough in the development of *i*ICT technologies (technologies that perform human functions such as perceiving, reasoning and action) for Canada on an international scale”.

The project, called FTAS (Fire Threat Assessment System), involves the development of an advanced intelligent system that dynamically assesses the threat posed by structural fires so that emergency responders can make better informed decisions dramatically earlier, including dispatching the right type and number of resources to a fire. Being developed as the first step in the creation of a real-time expert system for 9-1-1 centres, the Fire Threat Assessment System will be tested live in several months at 11 fire departments across Canada, including: Belleville, Cambridge, Clarington Hawkesbury, Orillia, Pickering, Sault Ste. Marie and Windsor, ON.; Moncton, NB; St. John’s, NL; and St. Albert, AB.

The system is expected to result in substantial reductions in the loss of lives and community property, according to Dale Paus, President & CEO of CriSys Limited. “With the new system, emergency situations are assessed on a case-by-case basis, making the response process much more efficient and effective,” said Paus. “Currently, for example, the first fire officer typically arrives at the scene of an emergency four to eight minutes after being called, and if additional

‘second alarm’ resources are required, it’s another four to eight minutes before they appear. In the intervening eight to 16 minutes, lives can be lost, additional injuries suffered, and considerable additional property damage incurred,” he said, explaining that at the same time, the one-size-fits-all approach sometimes over-commits scarce resources that could be better used elsewhere.

“The goal is to not only apply this new approach to responding to fires, but eventually to other disasters as well,” Paus said.

“Safety and security issues are top of mind among Canadians and we’re confident that this extra financial support will translate into increased commercialization of leading-edge technologies that will benefit the Canadian public, and establish Canada as a world-leader in the industry,” said Precarn’s Johnston. “We’re particularly pleased to award the funding to a Canadian firm for whom these resources will go a long way in helping them to bring their products to market faster, both in Canada and internationally.”

About Precarn (www.precarn.ca)

Precarn is an independent not-for-profit company that supports the pre-commercial development of leading-edge technologies. Precarn works with Canadian companies who are seeking to commercialize their new ideas to get an edge in global markets. Unlike other research funding programs, Precarn uses a collaborative model that includes a developer, a customer and an academic research partner in every project. This collaboration accelerates development, reduces risk and shares the cost of the R&D. Precarn provides access to an extensive national network of world-class researchers, innovative companies and sources of funding. Precarn receives support from Industry Canada, other federal departments and provincial government agencies, as well as private sources.

About CriSys Limited (www.crisys.com)

CriSys offers a range of products and services to meet the needs of private and public safety agencies. CriSys supplies state of the art decision support systems for ambulance, disaster response, fire-rescue, police and security services of all sizes. It provides a complete solution including software, hardware, data services, installation, integration, cabling, testing, training and commissioning of the fully operational system. All systems provide completely integrated call handling, dispatch, communication interfaces, personal scheduling and management, equipment tracking and maintenance, pre-incident planning, online data, detailed event record analysis and online reports.

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