



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Precarn Announces \$2.1 Million R&D Funding Boost  
for Environmental and Manufacturing Innovation**

*Request for Proposals issued for innovative R&D projects involving intelligent systems*

**Ottawa, Ontario – March 26, 2008** – Ottawa-based **Precarn Incorporated** today announced a \$2.1 million funding boost to promote the research and development (R&D) efforts of Canadian companies applying intelligent systems to solve commercial problems in the environment and manufacturing sectors.

Under the program – which is administered and funded by Precarn, a not-for-profit company representing a national network of corporations, universities, colleges, research institutes and government partners engaged in the development of enabling technologies – companies are being asked to respond to a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development or implementation of intelligent systems technologies in areas related to environmental technologies (clean-tech) and manufacturing, particularly automotive parts. Up to \$700,000 is available per project.

Paul Johnston, President and CEO of Precarn, explained that “this program addresses two key sectors applying Precarn’s collaborative R&D model, which has proven that strong linkages among private, public and academic organizations are critical to successfully stimulate the growth and competitiveness of an industry segment, foster the use of intelligent systems to transform and build a sustainable industry innovation model, and ultimately keep jobs in Canada.”

With a focus on the introduction and advancement of innovative made-in-Canada solutions, this initiative aims to fund commercially viable projects that address the challenges of the Canadian environmental technology and manufacturing industries.

Companies can access the RFP at [www.precarn.ca](http://www.precarn.ca). The deadline for submissions for concept documents is May 9, 2008, and for final proposals June 27, 2008. For more information about this new initiative, call Derek Best at (613) 727-9507 or email [best@precarn.ca](mailto:best@precarn.ca).

### **About Precarn**

Precarn, based in Ottawa, 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 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. For more information on Precarn, please visit [www.precarn.ca](http://www.precarn.ca).

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