

**B.C. Companies Awarded Funding for  
Groundbreaking Public Security and Safety Project**

**Vancouver, British Columbia – March 27, 2007** – Four B.C. organizations working on a groundbreaking project to develop intelligent systems that will improve national security and safety have received a \$600,000 funding boost to accelerate their work in disaster and emergency management.

Leading the project is Vancouver-based GEOSYS Technology Solutions, which is collaborating with Vancouver-based Universal Wing Technologies, and Victoria-based B.C. Provincial Emergency Program and B.C. Base Mapping and Geomatic Services. Other project partners are Brandon University Geospatial Technology and Hazard Mitigation Group, and University of Calgary Positioning and Mobile Information Systems Group.

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. GEOSYS and its project partners are matching the funding to create a total project value of \$600,000.

“The funding for this project 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 GIDE (Geo-Intelligent Disaster and Emergency Management) includes the development of a system that provides timely, critical information to disaster management professionals. Expected to radically advance Canadian emergency response capabilities and help save lives, the system combines machine vision and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technologies, to capture and process imagery from a disaster area in real-time. Using telecommunications and Internet technologies, it then instantaneously transmits the data to disaster management agencies, whose experts can then collaborate to provide the most effective joint emergency response.

“Emergency management agencies and decision makers need up-to-the-minute information to develop optimal responses in the form of warnings, evacuations, rescue or damage control,” said Babak Ameri, President of GEOSYS Technology Solutions. “Despite modern technological improvements, up until now, the biggest impediment to delivering effective disaster management solutions has been the inability to provide the right people with the right information at the right time.”

“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.”

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### **About Precarn ([www.precarn.ca](http://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 GEOSYS Technology Solutions Ltd. ([www.geosys.ca](http://www.geosys.ca))**

GEOSYS Technology Solutions Ltd. is a "next-generation" remote sensing company in the business of delivering geospatial information products, value-added services and systems. It provides large volume, fast-turn-around data processing capacity to the remote sensing industry. The company specializes in digital processing of acquired images using air/space-borne platforms. GEOSYS provides a complete range of Geomatics services for clients around the world. From end-to-end map products generation to project management and modular services that allow clients the flexibility of selecting specific tasks. Data for a wide variety of applications will be delivered in a timely, and accurate fashion.

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