



News Release

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Two ECBC Products Win Prestigious Award

Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD — Two products developed by the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC) — the Biological Sampling Kit (BiSKit) and the Automated Decision-Aid System for Hazardous Incidents (ADASHI) — have been named winners of the prestigious 2005 Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer.

BiSKit is a portable, disposable device that will permit inspectors and forensic evidence specialists to collect biological contaminants from surfaces. The unit can be used to swab wet or dry surfaces. Testing has proven that it can effectively and safely collect bacteria, virus, and toxin material for later analysis and archiving. It will fill a vital role in the biodetection, nonproliferation and forensic analysis communities. The BiSKit was licensed by Quicksilver Analytics in Abingdon, MD for manufacture for both military and private sector customers.

ADASHI is a computer-based tool that allows emergency management authorities to manage a hazardous incident or Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) event. Those functions include, but are not limited to: initial hazard assessment, hazard source analysis, mitigation alternatives, physical protection requirements, decontamination methods, hazard area prediction, detection planning and sampling, medical treatment, and triage criteria. Specific functional inputs are integrated with decision criteria, thus enhancing response management in a crisis situation. ADASHI is automatically monitoring the essential aspects of an event, whether it be a “what if” simulated event for training purposes, or a real event.

“We are pleased that such important and potentially life-saving devices such as BiSKit and ADASHI are being recognized by this esteemed organization,” said Mr. Jim Zarzycki, ECBC technical director. “These two products show ECBC’s ongoing commitment to protecting our nation’s warfighters and the public at large.”

The award is sponsored by the Federal Laboratory Consortium for Technology Transfer. The ECBC inventors involved with both projects will be honored at the award ceremony, which will take place on May 4 in Orlando.

For more information on BiSKit or ADASHI, and to schedule an interview, please contact Richard Porter (410.436.8462; 614.209.1114 – mobile) or Joan Michel (410.436.3610; 410.652.3912 – mobile).

ECBC is the Army's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and services. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for national defense, civilian needs and industrial competitiveness, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. For more information about the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, please visit our Web site at <http://www.ecbc.army.mil> or call (410) 436-3610.