



Drakontas LLC  
ACIN Technology Center  
200 Federal Street, Suite #300  
Camden, NJ 08103

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, November 3, 2008

[www.drakontas.com](http://www.drakontas.com)

Contact: Michael J. Mitkus

Phone: (267) 415-4768

[mmitkus@drakontas.com](mailto:mmitkus@drakontas.com)

**Drakontas receives SBIR Phase I Award from the  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration**

*Drakontas will work with NAVTEQ, a leading source of traffic solutions for consumers and governments, and the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management to demonstrate the feasibility of integrating situation awareness capabilities with traffic information management technologies to assist in emergency response to Hazmat incidents*

**CAMDEN, NJ**– Drakontas LLC, a software company that develops situation awareness tools for Command and Control (C2) for first responders, law enforcement and homeland defense, today announced that it was the recipient of an SBIR Phase I Award from the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. In Phase I, the project team, led by Dr. Alan Kaplan, Drakontas' Chief Technology Officer, will explore the feasibility of integrating Drakontas' situation awareness toolset, DragonForce™, with the NAVTEQ Traffic™ information management system to assist in emergency response to Hazmat incidents. Real-time information on a Hazmat incident will be taken from the incident scene, shared among first responder groups and, ultimately, rerouted to the general public through personal navigation devices to help them navigate around the incident.

“We are excited to have been selected for this competitive award and we are looking forward to working with NAVTEQ, the Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management and other industry experts, to develop a solution that will enhance emergency response operations during Hazmat incidents and, simultaneously, will inform the general public well in advance as to what roads and neighborhoods to avoid during a hazardous materials incident,” said Dr. Kaplan, the project's Principal Investigator. “The envisioned solution, which leverages our DragonForce™ situation awareness application suite, will help first responders across the country do their jobs more effectively and in a much safer manner, and it will keep the general public out of harm's way and out of gridlock during Hazmat incidents.”

Added Dr. Brian Regli, CEO of Drakontas, “We're thrilled about the opportunity to extend our presence into this space, to leverage what we've learned from our work with the military and law enforcement communities in order to provide a solution for the Department of Transportation. As we begin to better understand how to align emergency response technology needs to Hazmat incidents, we can help to ensure the continued safety of our nation's first responders and the general public.”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Page 1

### **About Drakontas LLC**

Drakontas ([www.drakontas.com](http://www.drakontas.com)), headquartered in Camden, New Jersey, develops, evaluates and promotes interoperable communications solutions that increase the safety and operational efficiency of law enforcement, emergency response, and security personnel. The company was founded in partnership with Drexel University in 2004 to transition technologies developed at the Applied Communications and Information Networking (ACIN) Center for the Department of Defense to commercial, civilian and homeland security uses.

In addition to providing situation awareness solutions, Drakontas administers the NLECTC-Communications Technologies Center of Excellence (COE) through a cooperative agreement from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs' National Institute of Justice. The COE, whose purpose is to test, evaluate and demonstrate cutting edge communications tools and technologies, manages a wide range of criminal justice pilot projects involving software defined and cognitive radios, position location technologies, wireless data interoperability, and other communications tools and capabilities.

### **About NAVTEQ**

NAVTEQ is a leading provider of comprehensive digital map information for automotive navigation systems, mobile navigation devices, Internet-based mapping applications, and government and business solutions. NAVTEQ creates the digital maps and map content that power navigation and location-based services solutions around the world. The Chicago-based company was founded in 1985 and has more than 3,800 employees, located in 194 offices and in 42 countries.

For more information, visit <http://www.navteq.com>.

NAVTEQ and NAVTEQ Traffic are trademarks in the U.S. and other countries. All rights reserved.

### **About The Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management**

The Managing Director's Office of Emergency Management (MDO-OEM) is responsible for ensuring the readiness of the City of Philadelphia for emergencies of any kind through an integrated and collaborative program that educates the public on how to prepare for emergencies. In addition, the MDO-OEM works with organizations throughout the city to prepare emergency contingencies, mitigate the impact of emergencies and enable the city to recover from an emergency as quickly as possible. The MDO-OEM employs a highly dedicated and talented group of professionals, who: i) oversee development of the City's plans for large-scale emergencies and disasters; ii) conduct training and exercises to evaluate the effectiveness of plans and policies; iii) collect, analyze, and disseminate incident information; iv) coordinate and support responses to and recovery from emergencies; v) educate the public on preparedness; and vi) obtain funding in support of preparedness for Philadelphia.

For more information, visit [www.phila.gov/ready](http://www.phila.gov/ready).

### **About the Department of Transportation SBIR Program**

The United States Congress established the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program to stimulate technological innovation, utilize small business to meet federal research and development needs, encourage participation by minority and disadvantaged businesses in technological innovation, and increase private sector commercialization of innovations derived from federal R&D. In November 1982, the Secretary of Transportation chose the Volpe Center to direct the Department's SBIR Program due to its extensive background in innovative programs such as technology transfer, cooperative R&D agreements, outreach projects involving a cross-section of the transportation community, and technical assistance to state and local governments, as well as private organizations. The SBIR Program Office, located at the Volpe Center, directs all activities required under the SBIR law and executes the policy established by the Small Business Administration.

For more information, visit <http://www.volpe.dot.gov/sbir>.

###