

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HEADLINE: Bodkin Design signs contract to develop dual band Vis/IR telescope for U.S. Navy**

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Bodkin Design and Engineering has been contracted by The U. S. Navy to develop a dual-band Visible and Infrared telescope. The \$100,000 contract was awarded by the Naval Air Warfare Center in China Lake California under the Small Business Innovative Research program. The six month program will develop a prototype dual band telescopic camera capable of producing co-registered visible and thermal images. In addition to providing the innovative concept, Bodkin Design and Engineering will produce the optical, mechanical and electrical design, fabricate the prototype and conduct demonstration tests.

The Navy's interest in conducting research in this area is to improve the data available to automatic target recognition algorithms used for missile guidance. The current system identifies targets from satellite imagery taken in the visible spectrum. These target signatures are entered into the missile control system. However the seeker onboard the missile provides only infrared imagery to home in with. This can lead to ambiguity in recognizing and tracking the target. It is anticipated that adding the visible imagery to the seeker will improve on the acuity of the automated detection and targeting algorithms. Additionally, for man-in-the loop control systems, the visible imagery will ease the burden on the human operator of confirming the targets.

The low cost compact system will also find applications to other military equipment such as Unmanned Air Vehicles, Robotic Ground Vehicles, search and rescue, and targeting and gun control. It is anticipated that the developed imaging module will find additional applications to civilian security situation such as perimeter surveillance.

**About Bodkin Design & Engineering**

Bodkin Design and Engineering is headquartered in Wellesley Massachusetts and provides product development, innovation, and engineering services to the industrial, commercial, military and research communities. Founded in 1988 the firm has developed numerous patented devices, and overseen the successful introduction of a diverse spectrum of products, ranging from miniature infrared cameras, to dental imagers, to spectroscopic instruments for drug discovery. To learn more visit our website at [www.bodkindesign.com](http://www.bodkindesign.com).