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Howard University's Technology Transfer Process Selected by National Center for Manufacturing Sciences for Marketing Solutions *Patent-Pending Technology to Impede Accidents and Save Lives*

Washington, D.C., January 9, 2007 – Howard University, College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences, has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS) to commercialize technology to detect and locate intermittent electrical faults by utilizing Power Line Carrier data over electrical wires. The Technology Transfer initiative will facilitate development and marketing of lifesaving technological products and processes from the University's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering's research and development laboratories.

Intermittent electrical faults and insulation failures in electrical systems, especially in those that are old and degraded, cause electrical fires or even worse, fuel tank explosions ignited by arc and sparks generated from faulty contacts. Some vivid examples of this are: manhole explosions in Washington, D.C. in 2001 caused by arcing faults in the splices and a commercial airplane explosion in 1996 killing all 230 passengers and crew members due to arcing fault ignition of the fuel system. Additionally, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, more than 40,000 home fires annually in the U.S. are attributed to faulty arcing or electrical wiring.

The U.S. patent-pending technology, developed by Charles Kim, Ph.D., assistant professor, Howard University Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is crucial in saving lives and properties and can significantly reduce maintenance down times for military and commercial aircraft. "This technology vastly expands opportunities of using communications and information technologies in diagnosing not only electrical systems, but also the healthiness of critical networked infrastructure," said Mohamed Chouikha, Ph.D., chair, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. "Selection of Howard University's technology by NCMS to pursue solutions that improve the competitive standing of our manufacturing base elevates us and our pursuit of excellence in engineering and technology in the nation and around the world."

Howard University is one of 48 U.S. private, Doctoral/Research-Extensive universities and comprises 12 schools and colleges. Founded in 1867, students pursue studies in more than 120 areas leading to undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees. Since 1998, the University has produced two Rhodes Scholars, a Truman Scholar, a Marshall Scholar, 13 Fulbright Scholars and nine Pickering Fellows. Howard also produces more on-campus African-American Ph.D.s than any other university in the world. For more information on Howard University, call 202-238-2330, or visit the University's Web site at www.Howard.edu.

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