

Press Release**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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DATE: 11/16/04**HEADLINE:****EMTEC Team Awarded Ohio Third Frontier Fuel Cell Funding**

The Edison Materials Technology Center (EMTEC) of Dayton, Ohio, leading a team that includes Faraday Technologies (Clayton, OH), PIA Group (Cincinnati, OH), and Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland, OH), has been awarded \$719,200 from Ohio's Third Frontier Fuel Cell Program. This award is for a project to improve the competitiveness of Ohio manufacturers active in the fuel cell industry. The program titled "Enabling Low Cost MEA Manufacturing for PEM Fuel Cells in Ohio" will develop and commercialize an improved manufacturing process for membrane electrode assemblies (MEA) used in proton exchange membrane (PEM) fuel cells. The objective of the work is to make the PEM's thinner, more efficient, and higher performing. Faraday Technologies developed and patented the process technology and will continue to refine it, Edison Materials Technology Center (EMTEC) will provide program management, market entry support, and commercialization assistance, PIA will demonstrate the technology at the manufacturing scale, and CWRU will provide testing and additional FC technology support.

This latest state funding awarded to EMTEC is synergistic with EMTEC's recent \$3M award in hydrogen generation funding supported from a U.S. Department of Energy grant and is a further example of how EMTEC meets its mission to "...accelerate the development, deployment, and commercialization of materials technologies...". The Third Frontier award promises to establish Ohio in a leading position on low-cost MEA manufacturing and expand Ohio's ability to attract future investments in fuel cell commercialization and products.

Fuel cells are a technological innovation which may mitigate reliance on foreign energy sources and reduce air pollution problems by using hydrogen as a fuel producing only water as the reaction product. Hydrogen can be produced domestically from either fossil or renewable energy sources. With the many scientific and technical advances that are now being made in fuel cells, EMTEC believes that one of the critical next steps in commercialization will be achieved by reducing cost in existing fuel cell technology. The EMTEC Fuel Cell Technology Group sees its role as nurturing and promoting the connection between fuel cell, hydrogen technology, and Ohio's manufacturing sector to facilitate technological economic development in Ohio. This most recent Third Frontier award will help Ohio to meet the expected market for MEAs projected to be \$9 million in 2009 and \$40 million shortly thereafter. The EMTEC team expects to capture thirty percent of that market, which would lead to the creation of 100 to 150 jobs.

The Edison Materials Technology Center (EMTEC) is leading the way in accelerating materials and material processing technologies to commercialization with emphasis on fuel cell and other related high technology opportunities. EMTEC is a non-profit organization and is a collaborative, member-based entity providing technical coordination and commercialization assistance to Ohio's industries, universities, and government labs. EMTEC works with a wide variety of different partners such as Wright Patterson Air Force Base, commercial businesses, Ohio's universities, and other Federal labs to help Ohio's economy remain strong. EMTEC provides technical and business resources that strengthen Ohio's industrial competitiveness in automotive, tooling and machining, metal casting, polymer, and fuel cell markets.

For information on this award and/or any of EMTEC's activities please contact David Swenson at 937-259-1302 or email dswenson@emtec.org.