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Four CNY companies getting federal grants totalling nearly \$200,000

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By Rick Moriarty/The Post-Standard

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Gary Walts/The Post-Standard

Michael Renn, research coordinator for Haledyne Inc., stands beneath a display model of an air circulation device that uses ultraviolet light to kill airborne germs. Haledyne, based in Syracuse, is getting a \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to help it develop the product and market it to medical facilities.

Syracuse, N.Y. -- Three Syracuse companies and one from Ithaca will receive a total of nearly \$200,000 in government grants today to demonstrate how products they are developing can improve air quality and water systems.

Haledyne Inc. will receive \$50,000 to work with Syracuse University and Clarkson University to test a device that uses ultraviolet light to kill airborne germs in medical facilities.

Antek Inc. will receive \$49,864 to work with the State University College of Environmental Science and Forestry to demonstrate how a drain inlet filter can absorb oil and naphthalene compounds, keeping them from storm sewer systems.

Indoor Controls LLC will receive \$50,000 to work with the Syracuse Center of Excellence to show how a computer-controlled system can efficiently manage a building's heating, ventilation, air conditioning, lighting

and electrical systems to reduce costs.

Taitem Engineering, of Ithaca, will receive \$48,785 to demonstrate how a sonic system can measure air infiltration into a home rapidly and inexpensively.



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The Syracuse Center of Excellence is scheduled to announce the Technology Application and Demonstration awards at a news conference this morning.

The awards are part of a Center of Excellence program that seeks to promote the commercialization of products and services in renewable energy, indoor environmental quality and water resources by small, New York-based companies.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has provided \$1.9 million for the program. Since 2007, the program has given grants of up to \$150,000 to 13 companies.

Suresh Santanam, deputy executive director of the Center of Excellence, said the companies which receive grants today have developed product prototypes that still require additional testing to prove their viability to potential investors and customers. The demonstration projects will take three months, he said.

Center of Excellence officials hope the companies wind up manufacturing the products locally.

The grants will be the last under the EPA's funding. Santanam said the center is seeking funding from other government agencies.

Haledyne, which moved from Ohio to **the Syracuse Technology Garden** business incubator last year, is trying to market its germ-killing device to the health care industry. In March, it received \$62,500 from the state-funded "Grants for Growth" program to help develop the product.

Michael Renn, Haledyne's research coordinator, said the 2 foot-by-2-foot product can fit within a ceiling panel and uses the deep wavelengths of ultraviolet light to sterilize the air in a room. The device works with existing ventilation systems, he said.

Renn said the device can reduce the number of infections patients get from airborne bacteria and viruses in hospitals, nursing homes and other medical facilities.

Contact Rick Moriarty at rmoriarty@syracuse.com or (315) 470-3148.

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