OTTAWA BUSINESS JOURNAL
The power to build business

Feds support 'clean' technology projects

By Ottawa Business Journal Staff
Thu, Jul 6, 2006 12:00 AM EST

Four Ottawa-based groups have been awarded funds by Sustainable Development Technology Canada to develop "clean" products and services. The projects range from a new system for de-icing airplanes to the production of fuel from logging waste.

Advanced BioRefinery Incorporated and its consortium partners will receive almost $1.2 million to demonstrate a system that converts logging residue including slash and bark into an energy-dense biofuel that can replace fossil fuels in industrial boilers and furnaces. ABRI will field test the equipment, determine operating costs and establish relationships between feedstock qualities and product energy and chemical values.

The Bystronic Solution Centre will receive $2 million. It has developed a new technique of window-making that reduces the energy used during manufacturing, saves material and labour costs, and cuts heat loss by as much as half. A new welding technique for PVC frames enables the construction of heavier triple-glazed windows without increased frame costs. The techniques can be applied to other plastics fabrication industries.

Chinook Mobile Heating and De-icing and its consortium partners will receive $1.8 million to demonstrate an innovative aircraft de-icing technology that uses heated, steam-infused air to melt ice on aircraft surfaces, then heated air alone for drying. The technique would replace glycol-based fluids that are now used to remove ice and snow from aircraft during winter.

EcoVu will receive $754,000 to demonstrate a water quality monitoring system that concentrates contaminants in the monitoring device and allows for timely, more efficient and reliable detection of low-level microbiological and chemical pollutants. The technology is initially targeting drinking water treatment plants, in-field surface water sampling, and laboratory analysis.

The money is part of $48 million in SDTC funding for newly-approved projects that benefit the environment and the economy.