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## **EDD Awards Four Science & Technology Startup Grants**

State supports high-growth New Mexico companies through \$25,000 Science & Technology grants

**SANTA FE, N.M.** – New Mexico Economic Development Department (EDD) Deputy Secretary Jon Clark announced today that four New Mexico companies were awarded Science & Technology Business Startup Grants, each receiving an award of \$25,000.

Science & Technology Business Startup Grants are available to New Mexico-based for-profit science and technology companies with high-growth potential. Eligible businesses must work in one of the following fields: aerospace, biosciences, cybersecurity, intelligent manufacturing, or sustainable and green energy. The grant specifically seeks to support companies that provide a unique product or service, have a clear and compelling business proposition, demonstrate a scalable product and business model, have the potential to create jobs in New Mexico and/or garner private investment, and can provide economic benefit to the state greater than the award amount.

"Every year, EDD's science and technology grants spotlight the cutting-edge innovation and discovery happening right here in New Mexico," Clark said. "The State is proud to support these companies in their effort to commercialize and grow, and we look forward to continuing to work with them as they expand and create jobs for New Mexicans."

EDD's Office of Strategy, Science and Technology (OSST) and the Technology Research Collaborative (TRC) Board reviewed over 70 applications in a very competitive field. Final award recommendations were made to EDD leadership by the TRC Board based on utility of the grant award and the potential for community and economic impact in New Mexico.

The four companies receiving science and technology grants are:

**Q Biotech Corp** (Rio Rancho) - Q Biotech Corp is developing a line of instruments for life science research and development. Its goal is to provide instruments that are easy to use, innovative, and use the latest advances in technology. The first instrument, Q Biotech Inceptum $^{\text{TM}}$  is a first-in-class, personal chromatography system that utilizes a multicolumn

cartridge to achieve unparalleled purity and stability of the resulting antibody or other purified proteins.

Warpfactor Antenna Technologies LLC (Santa Fe) - Warpfactor Antenna Technologies LLC is a New Mexico startup company headquartered in Santa Fe. It plans to bring next generation antenna technology to the ever-growing wireless and telecommunications industry via their product, LightSlingers™. LightSlingers™ are uniquely suited to bridge the digital divide in rural America and globally by enabling "Last Mile" networks with LightSlinger™ technology that will finally deliver equitably wireless, internet, and data access to all.

Mercury Bio, Inc (Santa Fe) - Sparked by scientific breakthroughs in genomic research, Mercury Bio is developing a next-generation biomolecular drug delivery platform.

RNA and small-molecule drugs can be delivered by their platform through highly specific cell targeting without creating an immune reaction. The platform will allow drug developers to speed their products to market by reducing the obstacles and risks encountered by traditional drug delivery systems. Low cost, speed to market, and high targeting will, most importantly, dramatically improve patient outcomes.

<u>Sunnoo</u> (Las Cruces) - Sunnoo strives to bring simpler, more efficient solar innovation to people around the world. From a patented sun tracking turret technology to a stand-alone, electric vehicle DC fast-charge station, Sunnoo is developing innovative solutions to make solar work more efficiently.

EDD would like to recognize four additional companies that were ranked as finalists in this year's grant cycle: <u>Absolute Concept Designs</u>, <u>Stellenergy</u>, Mesa Alta Research, and <u>Cetaly</u> were each recognized for their application and project potential.

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Team at Mercury Bio



Technology at Sunnoo



Warpfactor comparison technology



Q Biotech Product

EDD's mission is to improve the lives of New Mexico families by increasing economic opportunities and providing a place for businesses to thrive. EDD's programs contribute directly to this mission by training our workforce, providing infrastructure that supports business growth, and helping every community create a thriving economy.