

TRAVELLINGWAVE RECEIVES THIRD AWARD FROM NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION: FUNDING WILL HELP SPEED DELIVERY OF NEXT-GENERATION PREDICTIVE SPEECH-TO-TEXT PRODUCTS

NSF SBIR Phase II Award Will Enable TravellingWave VoicePredict™ to Handle Background Noise; Company Will Seek to Deliver Completely Accurate Speech-to-Text System

SEATTLE, WA –Monday, September 18, 2007 – TravellingWave, an early-stage mobile speech technology firm that has developed breakthrough technology for speech-to-text input for mobile devices, today announced that it has been awarded a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II award from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for further development of mobile device input methods that can sustain background noise. The NSF SBIR award, in the amount of \$500,000, marks the third award that TravellingWave has received from NSF, and builds on the company's successful work last year under Phase I and Phase IB awards. TravellingWave has the opportunity to receive a Phase IIB award for its work, which could lead to an additional \$500,000 funding.

TravellingWave's VoicePredict™, a multimodal mobile input method that uses the company's Predictive Speech-to-Text™ technology, combines standard predictive text technologies with speech recognition. Text input into mobile devices is most effective for mobile users who are in noisy environments, such as a restaurant, a public building, or public transportation. Under the NSF SBIR Phase II research, TravellingWave will extend work on its proprietary noise canceling algorithms to enable VoicePredict reach the ambitious goal of "Near 100% Task Completion Accuracies".

"Our most recent NSF award further validates TravellingWave's leadership in the mobile industry in combining text input with speech recognition, for faster and easier text input," says Dr. Ashwin Rao, TravellingWave's chief executive officer. "The extended research that is supported under this grant will enable our customers to use VoicePredict in noisy environments. We are grateful to NSF for supporting our continued research on what represents a major breakthrough for the mobile industry, with vast commercial potential."

TravellingWave's VoicePredict reduces background noise with a predictive speech-to-text method that uses modulation-based processing; instead of traditional power spectrum processing. This process enables an elegant input method with an inherently robust system for handling multitudes of background environments.

"The ability to deliver a speech recognition system that addresses the noise problem has been a longstanding issue that has plagued leading speech researchers for years. The TravellingWave approach is quite novel, and seeks to offer the Holy Grail for speech-to-text, which is a seamless way to eliminate background noise," said Bill Meisel, principal of TMA Associates, a leading speech technology consulting firm.

About The National Science Foundation

The **National Science Foundation** is a United States federal government agency. The agency's overall mission is to promote the progress of science; to advance the national health, prosperity, and welfare; with a clear goal of innovation that can benefit society through commercialization. Under its well-known small business innovative research (SBIR) program, NSF supports market-driven topics such as Biotechnology, Electronics, Information-Based Technologies, Chemical-Based Technologies and Advanced Materials and Manufacturing.

About TravellingWave

TravellingWave is an early-stage company that develops software, using speech recognition technology, for entering text into mobile devices. The predictive speech-to-text technology combines traditional predictive text input with speech recognition. The result is an extremely simple, fast, and enhanced interface for mobile users. Founded in Seattle in 2004, TravellingWave is based in Seattle, Washington. The company has been privately funded by the company founder, Dr. Ashwin Rao, and prominent Seattle-based angel investors. TravellingWave has also been partially supported by grant-awards from the National Science Foundation. For more information, please visit the company Web site at www.travellingwave.com.

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