## **Department of the Navy SBIR/STTR Transition Program**

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NAVAIR JSF18-946

Topic # N103-207 High Density, High Efficiency Electrical Power Generation PC Krause and Associates, Inc.

#### **WHO**

**SYSCOM: NAVAIR** 

Sponsoring Program: JPO

Transition Target: F-35, gas turbine

power

**TPOC:** (301)342-0804

Other transition opportunities: MQ-4C Triton, Global Hawk, tactical aircraft, future vertical lift, tanks

**Notes:** Many systems encounter temperature constraints with respect to electrical power generation. The technology developed in this effort addresses this limitation by allowing for



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much higher temperature operation while providing reliable and sustainable electrical power. The prototype generator shown is rated for operation at ambient temperatures up to 300 degrees Celsius. This technology is ideally suited for direct integration with prime movers such as turbine engines, eliminating mechanical equipment and the associated weight. loss, and maintenance.

### **WHAT**

**Operational Need and Improvement:** Improve efficiency and power density for electrical power generation systems that provide reliable and sustainable electrical power to meet the increased loading of modern aerospace platforms and terrestrial systems.

Specifications Required: 270 Vdc / 100 kW continuous / 250 kW peak power electrical starter / generator.

**Technology Developed:** The AC-field Electrical Starter Generator (ACESG) was designed for high-temperature operation with a simplified cooling system for improved efficiency, power density, and reliability while operating in harsh, extended temperature environments. This was achieved by eliminating high failure-rate parts and components with limited temperature range commonly used in traditional generators. PCKA designed, constructed, tested, and successfully met requirements for a full-scale ACESG hardware unit rated 25% above the continuous and peak power rating of the baseline system with a maximum operating temperature of 500 degrees Celsius.

Warfighter Value: Sensors, radars, and electronic attack/defense systems are essential for the modern warfighter to successfully complete their missions. These systems require reliable, sustained electrical power at ever increasing levels. To meet this challenge, traditional generator manufacturers have traded reliability to meet the weight and volume constraints. The ACESG is a new generator technology specifically designed to provide sustainable, reliable power in harsher environments found in many defense systems. In addition, enabling much higher temperature operation allows for alternative integration options (e.g., direct integration with a turbine engine) that will provide further system weight and volume savings and enhance mission capabilities.

# WHEN Contract Number: N68335-18-C-0186 Ending on: October 22, 2018

| Milestone  | Risk<br>Level | Measure of Success  | Ending<br>TRL | Date             |
|--|---------------|---|---------------|------------------|
| Full-Scale Hardware<br>Prototype                     | Low           | Demonstrate high-temperature operation  | 4             | December<br>2017 |
| Refined Design -<br>Simplified Manufacturing         | Low           | Verified Operation with Reduced Weight  | 5             | October 2019     |
| Full-Scale Pre-Qual<br>Hardware Prototype            | Med           | Meet all design requirements (weight, efficiency, volume, power, temperature) | 6             | June 2020        |
| Controls / Converter Pre-<br>Qual Hardware Prototype | Med           | Meet all design requirements (weight, efficiency, volume, power)              | 6             | June 2020        |
| LRIP / Qualification<br>Testing                      | Med           | Qualified generation system   | 7             | June 2022        |

## **HOW**

**Projected Business Model:** PCKA's business model is to license this technology to a manufacturing partner to produce the technology for the end customer. The licensing revenue will enable PCKA to fund continued research and development efforts focusing on improvements and derivative high-performance power and thermal applications.

Company Objectives: Meet with weapon systems contractors that have a need for reliable power generation systems operating in harsh environments. PCKA has established a rapid design and development technique that will allow PCKA to quickly customize the ACESG technology to meet different requirements. PCKA is also looking to meet with potential licensing manufacturing partners interested in constructing and testing future production units.

**Potential Commercial Applications:** The ACESG technology provides the capability to embed a reliable, high-power electrical starter / generator within a turbine engine, resulting in opportunities to significantly reduce weight, improve efficiency, and reduce operational and maintenance costs for commercial aircraft.

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