
News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Columbia Tech manufactures key component for the SmartCheck™ Personnel Screening System under TSA airport security program

Worcester, MA—December 29, 2006—A key component of the SmartCheck™ personnel screening system is being manufactured by Worcester-based Columbia Tech for American Science and Engineering, Inc. (AS&E®). AS&E's SmartCheck was selected by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for evaluation at Sky Harbor International Airport in Phoenix, AZ under the TSA Backscatter Pilot program. The privacy enhanced system uses a software algorithm to protect the privacy of screened passengers while effectively displaying threats on a person. Columbia Tech assembles components used in the SmartCheck Z® Backscatter™ X-ray detector and other SmartCheck sub-assemblies at its Worcester plant.

"We congratulate our client, AS&E on having their SmartCheck personnel screening system selected for evaluation by the TSA." said Chris Coghlin, President of Columbia Tech. "As the manufacturer of a critical component in this system, we are proud to be contributing to more effective, yet less intrusive, security measures for the nation's airports."

The SmartCheck Z Backscatter X-ray technology allows its operators to detect threats hidden on a person. The system displays both organic and inorganic materials, revealing objects such as guns and knives, explosives, composite weapons, and other hidden threats and contraband. The privacy enhanced system provides an image that looks like the outline of a person without revealing physical details. The system is safe for both operators and scanned individuals with the radiation dose from a single scan equivalent to the radiation received from two minutes of airplane flight at altitude

Columbia Tech and DCI Engineering Services are subsidiaries of Coghlin Companies, Inc., a family owned company in its fourth generation of operation in Worcester, MA. Combined, the two companies turn innovative opportunities into commercially viable products. Columbia Tech and DCI provide a wide range of manufacturing, engineering and fulfillment services to diversified group of industries including: semiconductor, medical device, food service, storage, networking, alternative energy, security and military. Columbia Tech is ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 13485:2003 Registered.

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