



MATTRACKS[®]

WORLDWIDE TRACK TECHNOLOGY

MatTracks Sales, Inc.
202 Cleveland Ave. E.
P.O. Box 214
Karlstad, MN 56732-0214
218-436-7000 • FAX: 218-436-7500
email sales@mattracks.com

April 1, 2009

Chairman Collin C. Peterson
2211 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-2165
Fax: (202) 225-1593

Re: FY 2010 MatTracks Funding Request

Dear Chairman Peterson,

MatTracks, Inc. is requesting funding for the development of a MatTracks "Tire to Track Transformer System".

MatTracks, Inc. under the direction of TACOM/TARDEC (Tank and Automotive Command/Tank-Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center) will develop an operator engaged "Tire to Track Transformer System". Discussions have been ongoing almost as long as vehicles have been made... which system provides the best performance, tires or tracks and can we have both? The MatTracks Tire to Track Transformer System will allow the vehicle to operate on tires and when required, allow the operator to engage or "transform" the tires to tracks to utilize the increased mobility that tracks provide. This type of system can be developed as part of a specific vehicle, or have the ability to be developed as a retrofitted onto current light wheeled vehicles.

To provide funding to further develop and evaluate this concept, a funding addition of \$3,500K be added to provide the Military (TARDEC in particular) with funding for further development and review of a "Tire to Track Transforming System" for light vehicles.

Please review the attached MatTracks Whitepaper for additional information.

With regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. Wollin".

Thomas J. Wollin
Government Contact
MatTracks, Inc.
twollin@mattracks.com



MATTRACKS Tire to Track Transformer System

Background: To provide increases in capabilities and mobility, the Military is continuing to include "Track Conversion Systems" and "Tracked Capabilities" in its discussions and requirements for its Unmanned Ground Vehicles and Light Vehicles. Mattracks, Inc. has been in discussions with TACOM/TARDEC (Tank and Automotive Command/Tank-Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center), to provide solutions for these requests. Mattracks, Inc. will work with the Military on the development of a Mattracks "Tire to Track Transformer System". To provide funding to further develop and evaluate this concept, a budget addition of \$3,500 K is required in the FY 2010 Budget to address this critical "Tire to Track Transformer System" request.

Discussion:

- Mattracks, Inc. produces all-terrain, track conversion systems that provide most 4x4 Light Wheeled Vehicles greater traction, floatation, and mobility than can be achieved with tires. Almost as quickly as you can change tires, you can convert a Light Wheeled Vehicle such as a Commercial Truck, SUV, HMMWV (HUMVEE), or All Terrain Vehicle (ATV), into a true all-terrain vehicle! Having this option provides the Military the ability to travel in poor road, no-road conditions, and off-road conditions.
- Mattracks, Inc. under direction of TARDEC, has developed and is continuing to mature a turn-key "Proof of Concept" Tracked UGV mobility demonstrator vehicle. The 3,500 pound GVW Tracked UGV (T4-3500) mobility demonstrator is using some of **MATTRACKS** proven technology as well as some newly released technology in the development of the track system, propulsion system, and control systems. The Tracked UGV's Walking Beam Suspension, Concentric Swivel, Tracked Platform is a passive system. A passive system requires no power to operate and will leave more power available for other functions such as computer guidance, troop support, defensive or offensive functions.
- Mattracks, Inc. under the direction of TARDEC will develop an operator engaged "Tire to Track Transformer System". Discussions have been ongoing almost as long as vehicles have been made... which system provides the best performance, tires or tracks and can we have both? The Mattracks Tire to Track Transformer System will allow the vehicle to operate on tires and when required, allow the operator to engage or "transform" the tires to tracks to utilize the increased mobility that tracks provide. This type of system can be developed as part of a specific vehicle, or have the ability to be developed as a retrofitted onto current light wheeled vehicles.
- Mattracks, Inc. with over a decade of experience is the recognized leader in vehicle track conversion technology. We currently over 40 different product models used on all seven (7) continents, in over 55 countries around the world! Mattracks, Inc. has the background, experience, and capability to fulfill the "Tire to Track Transformer System" requirement!
- Previous funding involving Mattracks Projects included: \$500K in FY97; \$2,500K in FY02; \$1,000K in FY05; \$1,000K in FY06; \$1,000K in FY07; \$1,000K in FY08; and \$2,000K in FY09.
- Mike Blain, TARDEC, (586) 574-8675, Detroit Arsenal, Warren, Michigan, is providing support for this Congressional add.

Recommendation: That \$3,500K be added to the FY 2010 Defense Budget on Army RDT & E, Line 143, Support of Operational Testing, Program Element Number 0605712A, to provide the Military (TARDEC in particular) with funding for further development and review of a "Tire to Track Transforming System" for light vehicles.

Company Contacts: Mattracks, Inc., 202 Cleveland Avenue East, Karlstad, MN 56732

Tom Wollin
Government Sales
(218) 436-7000
twollin@mattracks.com

Dean Gorder
General Manager
(218) 436-7000
dgorder@mattracks.com