

Press Release

Inscent, Inc., 17905 Sky Park Circle STE P, Irvine CA 92614



For Immediate Release

Date: September 11, 2006

Contact: Dr. Daniel F. Woods, Chief Scientific Officer

Phone: (949) 955-3129

Fax: (208) 693-4743

Inscent, Inc. Receives Federal Grant to Develop Platform Technologies With Agricultural, Biomedical, and Biosensor Applications

Inscent, Inc. has received a Small Business Innovative Research grant from the US National Science Foundation to continue the development of novel technologies and products based on insect chemosensory proteins. The funded project concerns our proprietary high throughput assay system, *Attenu*. The *Attenu* system is a highly efficient assay for rapidly identifying molecules that bind to insect chemosensory proteins and potentially alter their activity. These include small molecules from combinatorial chemical or natural product libraries.

The *Attenu* assay system has applications in two broad areas:

Insect pest control products: Inscent, Inc. is designing environmentally responsible insect control methods that will eclipse the current generation of products on the market. Inscent's approach is based on behavior alteration and control of insect pests by manipulating the chemosensory system. The company is developing repellents and attractants for several important insect species, including *Anopheles gambiae*, a mosquito that is the primary vector for malarial transmission in Africa, and *Apis mellifera*, the European honey bee.

Biosensors: Inscent, Inc. is developing highly efficient and extremely sensitive biosensors based on insect chemosensory proteins. These devices can be used to detect toxins, chemicals, explosives, biological agents, or various pest species.

Inscent, Inc. (www.inscent.com) has developed a number of novel platform technologies to exploit the wide variety, high selectivity, and high sensitivity of natural insect chemosensory systems. The company is focusing on species-specific insect control products that are environmentally responsible. Inscent, Inc. is also developing highly sensitive biosensors utilizing a diverse collection of insect chemosensory proteins. Inscent's platform technologies utilize the latest developments in molecular genetics, genomics, and bioinformatics to design advanced, environmentally responsible insect pest control solutions and novel, versatile biosensors. Inscent, Inc. plans to license these technologies to interested parties in addition to employing them for in-house or contracted research.

The National Science Foundation (NSF; www.nsf.gov) is an independent federal agency that supports fundamental research and education across all fields of science and engineering, with an annual budget of \$5.58 billion. NSF also encourages scientific innovation and discovery in the commercial sector, primarily through the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program.