

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents  
January 20, 2011

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Regental Action Required Under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute

Action

Requested: Authorization for the University of Michigan to Enter into a Lease Agreement and Relationship Agreement with Eng XT, Inc. (University of Michigan Associate Professor Nilton Renno and Lead Engineer Steven Rogacki, partial owners of Eng XT.)

Background:

The University of Michigan wishes to enter into a lease agreement for standard modular laboratory space in the North Campus Research Complex start-up accelerator space, located at 1600 Huron Parkway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ann Arbor, Michigan, to be leased to Eng XT. The space will be utilized as laboratory and office space for research and business operations for Eng XT. The parties will also enter into a relationship agreement defining the relationship between the University of Michigan and Eng XT at the accelerator.

The proposed lease and relationship agreements fall under the State of Michigan conflict of interest statute as Nilton Renno and Steven Rogacki are University of Michigan employees and indirectly a party to the lease and relationship agreements by virtue of their partial ownership of Eng XT. However, the statute allows university employees to participate in such lease agreements, if the following conditions are met:

- a) The public servant promptly discloses any pecuniary interest in the lease agreement to the official body that has power to approve the lease agreement, which disclosure shall be a matter of record in its official proceedings.
- b) The lease agreement is approved by a vote of not less than 2/3 of the full membership of the approving body in open session without the vote of the public servant making the disclosure.
- c) The official body discloses the following summary information in its official minutes:
  - i) The name of each party involved in the lease agreement.
  - ii) The terms of the lease agreement, including duration, financial consideration between the parties, facilities or services of the public entity included in the lease agreement, and the nature and degree of assignment of employees of the public entity for fulfillment of the lease agreement.
  - iii) The nature of any pecuniary interest.


The following information is provided in compliance with the statutory requirements contained in Section (c) above:

- i) The parties to the lease agreement and relationship agreements are the Regents of the University of Michigan and Eng XT.
- ii) The service to be provided is the lease of standard modular laboratory and office space in the North Campus Research Complex start-up accelerator space on the second floor of Building 520, located at 1600 Huron Parkway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ann Arbor, Michigan, for twelve months. The lease will begin in early 2011 and will use the standard U-M accelerator lease template. Tenant will pay the standard accelerator rates of: \$200 per month for each office (maximum of 8); \$2150 per month for each half bay of laboratory space (maximum of 3); and \$65 per month for each cubicle (maximum of 8). Eng XT will be responsible for providing monthly updates concerning its business progress to the University of Michigan Office of Technology Transfer and will have access to Office of Technology Transfer personnel for advice concerning obtaining technology assessment, business consulting, technical assistance, capital raising, or other business services.
- iii) The pecuniary interest arises from the fact that Nilton Renno (Associate Professor, Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Space Science) and Steven Rogacki (Lead Engineer, Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Space Science), University of Michigan employees, are owners of an equity interest in Eng XT.

Nilton Renno and Steven Rogacki have met state law requirements with the disclosure of their pecuniary interest, and their formal appointment arrangements with the University of Michigan.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the lease agreement between the University of Michigan and Eng XT.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy P. Slottow  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

January 2011