

## **INTER Materials LLC Awarded 2011 Army Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Achievement Award**

INTER Materials LLC announced that the company is a recipient of the 2011 Army Small Business Innovation Research Achievement Award for its innovative low cost manufacturing technology of high ballistic performance helmets. The Achievement Awards were presented by Dr. Scott Fish, US Army Chief Scientist, at a ceremony May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Pentagon Conference Center, Washington DC. Dr. Francisco Folgar and his wife Mila Folgar accepted on behalf of INTER Materials. INTER Materials technology was one of eleven SBIR Phase II projects selected by the Army out of 649 eligible companies for this prestigious award, that recognizes companies for their significant contributions to the Army mission and potential for commercialization.

“INTER Materials is honored to receive this recognition by the US Army. The success of this program is attributed to the hard work and dedication of our INTER Materials team, the support received from the group at the US Army Research Laboratory in Aberdeen, the efforts of our Contracting Officer Technical Representative Dr. Shawn Walsh and Dr. Brian Scott, the guidance of Dr. James Zheng, Chief Scientist at PEO Soldier, and the assistance of MILCOM Venture Partners. We are proud to be a part of the Army’s objective in lightening the load carried by the Warfighter,” said Dr. Francisco Folgar, President of INTER Materials.

INTER Materials has pioneered a manufacturing process suited for thermoplastic matrix composite materials that provides superior ballistic performance and significant weight reduction to ballistic helmets at a production rate comparable to the current process used for the incumbent Advanced Combat Helmet. This technology utilizes 70-80% of the current helmet manufacturing infrastructure, resulting in a reduction of the investment risk when adopting a new helmet system and increasing the potential for transition to commercialization. “INTER Materials technology will allow the US Army to combine superior ballistic protection with significant weight reduction at competitive manufacturing costs for their next generation of Enhanced Combat Helmets and Light Weight Advanced Combat Helmets,” continues Dr Folgar.

The Company appreciates the opportunity given to mature its technology through the Army’s Commercialization Pilot Program after its technology was identified by MILCOM as having strong potential to transition to the Warfighter. This helmet technology also offer potential for the use of thermoplastic matrix composite materials in other Department of Defense armoring applications including military vehicles, aircraft, and personal protective equipment.

A separate SBIR Phase II Program was successfully completed in 2010 for the development of technology to increase the abrasion and scratch resistant properties of large polycarbonate and acrylic windows for helicopters using plasma coatings. The company engineered a surface coating process by incorporating an innovative multiple layer film coating using plasma deposition processes to custom design the adhesion, hardness, and erosion/abrasion resistance properties of metals, glasses and transparent plastics such as polycarbonate and acrylics.

For more information, email [info@intermaterials-usa.com](mailto:info@intermaterials-usa.com).