



October 5, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rahall Transportation Institute Receives Notice of Patent Approval for
“Motion Induced Electrical Generator”

HUNTINGTON, W.V. – The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has awarded the Rahall Transportation Institute (RTI) a notice of allowance in its U.S. Patent Application for the “Motion Induced Electrical Generator.” The notice is the USPTO’s official communication that an examination of the patent application has been successfully completed and a patent will be issued.

"This represents another major milestone for RTI as we continue to successfully develop transportation-related technology," Bob Plymale, RTI director and CEO said. "It demonstrates our commitment and pursuit of innovative ways to enhance economic development through regional and global transportation."

The Motion Induced Electrical Generator captures power produced during travel of a vehicle or mobile conveyance. RTI initially developed the technology to assist the rail industry expand its use of “smart car” technologies but it can be applied to other forms of transportation.

“By harnessing energy created during any mode of mobile conveyance, you can generate the electricity required to operate a data delivery system such as GPS,” Richard Begley, Ph.D., director of research at RTI and one of the inventors, said. “It eliminates the need for expensive

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mobile communication systems.”

According to Dr. John Maher, vice president for research and executive director of the Marshall University Research Corporation, this is the second patent approved for RTI in less than ten years.

“In a relatively short period of time, RTI has proven to be an engine of innovation within Marshall’s research enterprise, as evidenced by this achievement,” Maher said. “This patent, and the significant body of additional intellectual property RTI has in the pipeline, will serve as a lynchpin in achieving further economic development from Marshall’s focus on engineering.”

Faculty with the College of Information Technology & Engineering (CITE) worked with Dr. Begley, who is also a tenured professor of engineering, on the research and development of the Motion Induced Electrical Generator. CITE Dean Betsy Dulin explained this is just one example of the collaboration taking place between RTI and CITE.

“This represents the growing partnership between RTI and college faculty with considerable implications for economic development in the region,” Dulin, a registered patent attorney with the USPTO, said. “We’re very pleased that two of our faculty members and our newly restored engineering program played such a prominent role in the project.”

Headquartered in Huntington, West Virginia, RTI works to improve intermodal transportation through research, technology, education, and workforce development. RTI continuously fosters innovation and collaboration to create efficient and safe transportation systems and enhance economic development.

For more information, contact Sara Mullen at smullen@njrati.org or 304-696-3438.

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