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For Immediate Release

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Windber, PA - U.S. Rep. John Murtha joined Raytheon Missile Systems Vice President Brock McCaman in announcing that Kuchera Defense Systems has been awarded a competitive contract worth a projected \$100 million.

The anticipated 10-year project provides Kuchera the training to manufacture, procure materials, assemble and test the telemetry unit of the Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM). In the arrangement, Kuchera would be a key subcontractor to Raytheon Missile Systems, Tucson, Ariz. supporting AMRAAM, the premier fire-and-forget air-to-air missile within the U.S. arsenal of weapons.

"This contract further diversifies Kuchera's portfolio and will provide new skill levels of manufacturing and test, which will improve the company's long-term opportunities and competitiveness in the defense industry," said Murtha, noting that Kuchera forecasts an increase of 38 jobs in engineering, manufacturing, and project management based on the nature of the project's requirements.

The telemetry unit replaces the warhead used during flight tests and provides range tracking, flight termination functions, time and space position information, transponder tracking and critical range safety functions.

"Telemetry manufacturing is a new capability for Kuchera Defense and will require new skill level training for employees. Kuchera will also be required to register for security clearances that will provide opportunities to seek future telemetry business," said Bill Kuchera, Kuchera president.