

## June 3, 2008 - All About Technology

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All about technology

Editorial

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If you like technology, the local work force is looking for you.

U.S. Rep. John P. Murtha announced seven contracts Friday worth a combined \$115 million for the region during the Showcase for Commerce in Johnstown.

While the job market may be tough in some areas, the need for employees with technical degrees is stronger than ever.

The largest contract announced involves a five-year \$45 pact between Concurrent Technologies Corp. in Johnstown and the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

Local employees will be supplying research and development, along with education and training support, in the fields of information technology, modeling simulation, analysis and space operations.

Other companies receiving contracts include Kuchera Defense Systems in Windber with Raytheon Missile Systems. The \$25.7 million deal will manufacture telemetry units for the Advanced Medium Ranger Air-to-Air Missile. The contract is believed to provide eight new jobs and sustain up to 20 other employees for the next decade.

Other companies including MTS Technologies, JWF Defense Systems and Aerofab, have also received multi-million contracts to work on a variety of other government projects including the V-22 Osprey aircraft and structural enclosures needed to protect aircraft antenna from weather and debris.

The contracts will provide various employment opportunities for those living in the Somerset-Cambria County region.

It's clear last week's Showcase of Commerce lived up to its name. As many feel uncertain about what high fuel prices will mean for the economy, there are plenty of companies finding contracts and other projects to thrive in our region.