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For Immediate Release

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Johnstown, PA - Congressman John Murtha joined officials of Kuchera Defense Systems during the Showcase for Commerce today to announce that the company has received three contracts totaling more than \$6 million from the Department of Defense's Joint Robotics Program (JKRP), the Office of Naval Research (ONR) and the Marine Corps Systems Command.

Kuchera will perform unmanned systems research-and-development work under the JRP contract in support of advancing the capabilities of their Omni-Directional Inspection System (ODIS) Robot. The year-long contract, which will provide several additional jobs and provide stability to Kuchera Defense Systems' Research and Development division, will also include the manufacture of several advanced ODIS robot units to support the U.S. military's vehicle inspection requirements.

Kuchera's research-and-development work under the ONR contract will focus on furthering the development of Advanced Technologies for High Velocity Particle Consolidation. Under this contract, Kuchera, in conjunction with Penn State University's Applied Research Lab, will advance software-controlled process technologies for additive metallization, laser-based drilling and metallization, and non-destructive reverse engineering and inspection processes that are used to recreate legacy printed wiring boards.

Under the Marine Corps System Command Contract, Kuchera will perform research and development work explicitly to improve a very sophisticated Unmanned Chemical-Biological Multi-Sensor Analyzer/Detector (MSAD).

"Kuchera Defense Systems is developing innovative technologies that will be a vital part of our country's success to detect, warn and defuse chemical and explosive threats," Murtha said. "These new contracts, along with existing Kuchera contracts, will lead to job growth and create several additional opportunities in the Kuchera work force while increasing our nation's military effectiveness and personnel safety for the nation's troops."