

OU and Enterprise Electronic Corporation Enter Into Exclusive License Agreement for Radar Technology

The University of Oklahoma and Enterprise Electronic Corporation have entered into an exclusive license agreement for a patent that covers an innovative method for developing and manufacturing affordable X-band doppler weather radars in Oklahoma.

"The University is proud to see an innovative technology invented in OU laboratories receive an opportunity to be commercialized and manufactured here in our state. It is a testimony to the caliber of faculty which makes OU a worldwide leader in radar research," said OU President David L. Boren.

"Oklahoma is a progressive and supportive state in which we are proud to invest," said EEC President, Andrew Israel. "Since 2008 EEC and OU have worked to develop a strong collaborative relationship. This newly developed x-band radar technology is yet another example of what we hope will be a series of mutually beneficial outcomes that will be delivered over the course of the next decade."

The agreement will allow EEC to further develop prototypes of the radar while establishing a manufacturing presence in Oklahoma, which will lead to more jobs for the state.

"The manufacturing of next generation EEC radars in Oklahoma adds the final component to our comprehensive radar research enterprise and will create new jobs to further strengthen Oklahoma's advanced technology sector," said Kelvin Droegemeier, OU Vice President for Research.

"OU's strong and growing relationship with EEC demonstrates how the outcomes of academic research can lead to new technologies that, in this case, hold great promise for improving the detection and prediction of severe storms and tornadoes," said Droegemeier.

The radar, designed in collaboration between EEC and the Advanced Radar Research Center at the University of Oklahoma, contains a built-in technology called "dual-polarization," which can detect tiny particles such as high-altitude water droplets or light snow at short- to mid-range distances. Additionally, its compact size allows it to be installed in a hard-to-reach permanent location or be completely portable.

This solution is designed for everything from small regional airports to offshore oil platforms to rapid deployment military maneuvers.

"Not only do these new radars hold promise for providing some of the best possible observations of severe weather, I hope they will eventually prove to be one of the most reliable weather radars on the market," said Robert Palmer, director, OU Advanced Radar Research Center.

OU students also have played an integral role in the collaboration. An undergraduate student team, led by the OU Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth, was able to reaffirm EEC's early notions for the best new product and customer markets for the radar by conducting further market analyses.

"The student team was able to offer us valuable insights into potential new markets, which will assist us in accelerating the growth of this product line," said Chris Goode, Vice President of Sales and Marketing, EEC.

The collaboration was initially funded in 2010 through the EDGE endowment, created by the state legislature to support research and the transfer of innovation and technology to the private sector.

"With the help of the Oklahoma EDGE Fund, EEC and OU have created a new category of radar devices that will be built by Oklahomans and sold throughout the world," said Jim Bratton, assistant vice president, Economic Development and executive director of the OU Office of Technology Development.

"This agreement is a great example of industry, academia and the state collaborating to create jobs, commercialize technology and expand business opportunities."

About EEC

EEC is recognized as a world leader in the meteorological radar field since its inception in 1971 with more than 1,000 radar systems manufactured and delivered in the United States and over 90 countries worldwide. Since the founding of the company, EEC has consistently led the industry worldwide in the introduction of the latest available technology to enhance radar and data processing performance. A strong focus on innovation and technology infusion into the product line continues to be a driving factor in EEC's leadership in the weather radar market. EEC's products and capabilities can be viewed at www.eecradar.com.

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