

WBTshowcase

Profile: ForceSpinning™

October 14, 2009 – A new, potentially disruptive technology developed at The UT-Pan American (UTPA) is spinning out of the lab – centrifugally.

Known as ForceSpinning™ technology, the apparatus and method developed by UTPA mechanical engineers Drs. Karen Lozano and Kamalaksha Sarkar utilize centrifugal force to transform a material into nanoscale fibers.

“Forcespinning™ technology is incredibly versatile and fabricates nanofibers at productivity rates that are at least twice as high as traditional methods such as electrospinning,” said Kial Gramley, Market Research Analyst for UTPA’s Office of Innovation and Intellectual Property.

“We anticipate that this productivity will make Forcespinning™ technology ‘The Force For Nanofibers.’”

The patent pending technology has been selected as an “Early Pick” Technology Presenter for the 2010 WBTshowcase, the prestigious global investment and licensing forum held this March in Arlington-DFW, Texas.

According to Mr. Gramley, the global market for nanofibers is expected to grow 30% CAGR for the next 8 years, reaching \$825 million by 2017. Current applications for nanofibers are diverse, including use in filtration, advanced wound care, ultra-capacitors and development of absorptive materials such as diapers.

WBTshowcase

The WBTshowcase is the world’s premier event exposing undiscovered, revolutionary energy, life science, IT and physical science technologies emerging from top universities, labs and research institutions. Each WBT is a year long collaborative effort resulting in deals vetted and mentored by investors and licensees for investors and licensees.

www.wbtshowcase.com

Snapshot: ForceSpinning™

The University of Texas-Pan-American is currently spinning out a company to commercialize the ForceSpinning™ technology, comprised of an apparatus and methods that utilize centrifugal force to transform a material into fibers with nanoscale diameters.

The Technology

Forcespinning™ technology has been used to develop a prototype lab scale nanofiber fabrication device intended for commercialization in three stages.

The Opportunity

Electrospinning, currently the most prevalent method of nanofiber fabrication, has technical drawbacks including limitations in the range of materials that can be processed and a reliance on corrosive solvents. Forcespinning’s™ use of centrifugal force instead of electrospinning enables this scalable technology to process more materials and reduce production costs.

The Goal

Forcespinning™ seeks investment capital and strategic partners

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