Center for X-Ray Imaging

Dr. Larry Knight/Brigham Young University/Provo, Utah

Established in 1987, this center has successfully commercialized x-ray research by carving a product niche among the biggest manufacturers in the analytic instrument business. The ability to reflect and focus x-rays permit scientists to achieve remarkably high resolution when measuring minute objects. Experiments should begin soon on the compact x-ray laser, an instrument necessary for the success of the Strategic Defense Initiative. In addition to defense applications, advanced x-ray technology is used to detect trace materials in substances and would provide simpler, safer medical testing. Continued funding from national laboratories (LLNL, Oakridge). Support in excess of $13 million, private sector.

Overview

Current State Contract	$100,000
Matching Funds	$310,013
Cumulative	$1,640,568
Industry Jobs Created	16
Center Related Jobs	20
Benefiting Utah Companies	1
Newly Created Utah Co's	1
Patents Applied	4
Patents Issued	3
License Agreements	1

Technologies

*Atomic Layer Epitaxy (ALE)

*MultiLayer X-ray Optics

*Leading edge technology in X-ray imaging

*X-ray laser technology

*Thin film technology and diagnostics

*Bright x-ray sources

*Electronic x-ray detectors

*State-of-the-art signal processing

*Pure silicon production

Status

*Spin-off company MOXTEK created with 8 jobs & sales of $400K to date

*10 years of experience in a difficult research area. Have become leaders with little or no competition

*Can create multi-layer reflectors with film thicknesses between 3 and 20A

*Technologies with commercial potential include:
- Micro x-ray source
- Reflective x-ray optics
- X-ray laser
- Phase microscope
- Submitted 2 proposals for federal grant programs (ATP and AXOP)

Economic Impact

*Spin-off company, MOXTEK has received four Phase I SBIR grants and one Phase II SBIR

*Near term market for large & small X-ray windows is $6 million annually

*$100 million markets possible in medical & non-destructive testing areas

*MOXTEK negotiating with venture capital companies for expansion

*Moxtek sales FY 1991 estimated at $400,000, projected FY 1992 is $1,000,000