

FEND AWARDED PHASE II SBIR GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) TO FURTHER DEVELOP AND COMMERCIALIZE ITS DATA DIODE

September 3, 2019 – Fend Incorporated, based in Arlington, VA, has been awarded a \$1,050,000 Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE), Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, to enhance and commercialize low-cost data diode that can reliably protect solar installations, otherwise vulnerable to cyber-attacks. Fend's technology provides hardware-based cyber protection to the power infrastructure at a fraction of the cost of current alternatives.

Operations teams in utilities and industrial systems traditionally lack access to real-time data due to the security concerns associated with connecting embedded systems and industrial controls to an outside network. Such a gap makes it more difficult and expensive to monitor and maintain these systems, often requiring regular visits to remote sites. Fend's platform, a fully integrated hardware-software solution designed to secure critical infrastructure and industrial systems through one-way data transfer, solves this problem by providing critical infrastructure operations teams with real-time equipment performance data while significantly reducing the potential for hackers to breach the network connection.

"Fend is honored to have earned this Phase II award from DOE. Our number one goal is to protect critical infrastructure from cyber-attacks. Securely monitoring IoT-enabled edge devices is a big task considering all the segments that comprise this category, such as utilities, public infrastructure, transportation systems, defense installations and more," said Colin Dunn, CEO of Fend. "This award helps add critical features to the prototypes developed during Phase I, and helps bring to market a ruggedized, plug-and-play appliance that can connect to most major industrial controls and SCADA devices, providing constant, secure monitoring."

Fend's patented platform enables customers to improve operational efficiency and bring legacy equipment into the industrial internet of things (IIoT) without having to maintain traditional, permeable defenses such as firewalls or cybersecurity software. The hardware is designed to enable low-cost, high security data extraction from sensitive systems while providing a high level of security for critical assets. Fend's cloud-based analytics platform helps teams securely turn information into actionable intelligence for industrial customers.

About Fend

Hackers have taken down electric infrastructure, seized control of moving vehicles, and stolen customer information through industrial controls and equipment access. Fend brings a straightforward solution to keep attackers out while providing the operator with the intelligence needed to optimize the business. Fend physically protects connected equipment from cyberattack. Secure monitoring of remote equipment provides real-time information that improves efficiency and reduces unexpected downtime. With the power of alerts and predictive analytics, owners and operators of critical infrastructure can stay on top of maintenance needs, reduce energy costs, and get the most out of their workforce.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.fend.tech/>