



Northrop Grumman to Develop Oceanographic Sensor Data Quality Monitoring System Using MindBox Technology

Artificial Intelligence Technology Software To Aid the National Ocean Service Generate and Deliver Real-Time Information to Aid Safe Navigation on National Waterways

Greenbrae, Calif., October 22, 2001--MindBox, Inc., the worldwide leader in artificial intelligence technology, announced today that it has reached agreement with Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE: NOC) to provide the National Ocean Service (NOS), an agency of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), with software to enable development of an enhanced version of the Continuous Operational Real Time Monitoring System (CORMS II).

Northrop Grumman's Information Technology (IT) sector will incorporate MindBox's *ARTEnterprise*[™] technology into a system designed to improve the accuracy and capacity of 24 x 7 quality monitoring of data collected from a variety of oceanographic sensors and used by ship captains, pilots, lock and barge operators to safely navigate our national waterways.

The primary function of CORMS is to ensure the availability and accuracy of real-time data used for navigational safety and protection of life and property. The current version of CORMS (CORMS I) is designed to receive automated sensor data on 6 minute (real-time) intervals from the Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System (PORTS[™]) and the National Water Level Observation Network (NWLON). The PORTS[™] network is an array of oceanographic real-time data collection systems located in estuaries and lakes throughout the United States. NWLON represents a network of water level gauges located along the coasts of the United States, Puerto Rico and Guam.

With this data, ship captains and pilots can make informed decisions affecting safe navigation, such as when and if a tanker should navigate a harbor, how heavy a barge can be loaded without compromising safety, or if adequate clearance under bridges or other obstacles is available. It is anticipated that implementation of MindBox's *ARTEnterprise* technology will extend the CORMS system to accommodate a doubling or tripling of the number of PORTS and NWLON sensors being monitored, simultaneous to improving the application and accuracy of the data monitoring process.

ARTEnterprise is an artificial intelligence application development environment. This rules and case-based decisioning technology integrates a wide variety of data sources with business policies and parameters to automate complex decision processes. In addition, *ARTEnterprise's* object-oriented architecture streamlines

software development, reduces maintenance and upgrade costs, and maximizes legacy hardware and software investments.

"We are frequently asked to help customers in a wide variety of industries solve difficult and complex problems, " says Rich Barfus, President and CEO of MindBox.

"We are excited to be participating with Northrop Grumman on such a unique and widely beneficial project. We are looking forward to a very strong partnership with Northrop Grumman moving forward."

About MindBox, Inc.

Based in Greenbrae, Calif., MindBox, Inc. is a technology company that helps companies gain a competitive edge by intelligently automating their complex business and decision processes. The company develops and markets innovative software and consulting solutions that leverage industry and internal best practices to deliver multi-channel, intelligent solutions designed to optimize client interactions. For more information, please visit MindBox's Web at www.mindbox.com or call (877) 650-MIND (6463)

About Northrop Grumman Information Technology

Northrop Grumman Information Technology is a premier provider of advanced IT solutions, engineering and business services for government and commercial clients. Headquartered in Herndon, Va., Northrop Grumman IT has more than 22,000 employees and annual sales of nearly \$4 billion. The company's expertise spans such areas as information systems integration; command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR); enterprise hardware and software solutions; training and simulation; base and range support; signals intelligence; space systems; health informatics; and specialized scientific, engineering and technical services. Learn more about us on the Web at www.northropgrummanit.com.

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