



Press Release

Ontario Centres of Excellence research partner Dr. En-hui Yang wins national innovation award

Advanced mathematical formula solves critical issue in digital data compression

TORONTO, ON (October 1, 2007): Eight years ago, Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) invested in an idea based on University of Waterloo Professor En-hui Yang's remarkable "lossless compression algorithm". Using his groundbreaking technology, Dr. Yang developed a software component that made it easier—and up to twenty times faster—to download huge web files and load pages. Digital data compression was transformed.

The Ernest C. Manning Foundation, a promoter and supporter of Canadian innovators since 1980, selected Dr. Yang as the \$25,000 Manning Award of Distinction recipient, for his series of innovations in data compression technology—one of four major awards presented to Ontario innovators to celebrate Canadian ingenuity.

The Manning Award marks the second time this year that Dr. Yang has been endorsed as one of Ontario's top research and innovation talents. In April, the inaugural Premier's Innovation Awards recognized him as Innovator of the Year in the Catalyst Award category.

Today, over 2200 Internet Service Providers in more than 50 countries use Dr. Yang's technologies. A \$150,000 OCE investment accelerated the launch of SlipStream Data, the company Yang sold to Ontario's Research in Motion (RIM) in 2006. By acquiring SlipStream, RIM effectively outpaced its global competition in the handheld device market. Dr. Yang's ongoing research has led to many new innovations, 15 of which are patented.

Mark Romoff, OCE President and CEO, said "OCE is thrilled when our research partners are recognized for their very significant scientific contributions and subsequent commercial success. We are proud of our long relationship with Dr. Yang and the investments we have made along the way to support his remarkable journey."

About Ontario Centres of Excellence

Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) Inc. drives the commercialization of cutting-edge research across key market sectors to build the economy of tomorrow and secure Ontario's global competitiveness. In doing this, OCE also fosters the training and development of the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs, and is a key partner with Ontario's industry, universities, colleges, research hospitals, investors and governments. Celebrating 20 years of innovation in 2007, OCE's five Centres work in communications and information technology, earth and environmental technologies, energy, materials and manufacturing, and photonics.

www.oce-ontario.org

For more information, contact Ann Holtby, Marketing and Communications, Ontario Centres of Excellence at 416 861 1092 Ext. 1018 or email ann.holtby@oce-ontario.org