

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the
Regents
May 21, 2015

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Subcontract Agreement between the University of Michigan and Mia Technologies, LLC

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects while reviewing the Proposal Approval Form which then triggered a review by the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed and approved by the Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

This proposed agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Chris Mi is an employee of the University of Michigan ("University"), and a partial owner of Mia Technologies, LLC. The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the Board of Regents ("Regents") of the University of Michigan and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote.

Background:

Professor Chris Mi, a Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering Department in the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Michigan - Dearborn, is the partial owner of a for-profit company called Mia Technologies, LLC (the "Company"). The Company wishes to fund a Department of Defense - Army (prime) SBIR Phase I project entitled "High Performance Switched Reluctance Generator Controller Using Asymmetric Half Bridge Converter and a Hybrid Controller" (ORSP #15-PAF05217) in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor under the direction of Dr. Heath Hoffman. The purpose of this project is to develop a torque regulator for switched reluctance machines, which minimizes torque ripple.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is approximately ten (10) months. The amount of funding support will not exceed \$49,600. Since research projects are often amended, this agreement includes provisions for changes in time, amount, and scope. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

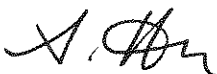
Impact of the Agreement

The Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Hoffman to use his expertise and University laboratory, as well as other University resources to characterize a switched reluctance machine provided by Company, and determine the flux linkage/current relationships of the phases of the machine and the torque output of the machine as a function of flux linkage or current, and rotor position.

Recommendations:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the UMOR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. In light of this disclosure and our finding that the Agreement was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve the University's entering into this Agreement with Mia Technologies, LLC.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Interim Vice President for Research

May 2015