THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:

Subcontract Agreement between the University of Michigan and

Inmatech, Inc.

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. This then triggered a review by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed by this Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

The proposed subcontract agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professors Levi Thompson, Paul Rasmussen, and Dr. Saemin Choi are employees of the University of Michigan ("University") and cofounders and officers of Inmatech, Inc. The law permits such an agreement provided it is disclosed to the executive officers and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote of the Regents of the University of Michigan.

Background:

Dr. Levi Thompson, Professor of Chemical Engineering in the College of Engineering, is a co-founder and member of the Board of Directors of the for-profit company called Inmatech, Inc. (the "Company"); Dr. Paul Rasmussen, Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering in the College of Engineering is a co-founder and Scientific Officer of Inmatech; and Dr. Saemin Choi, a Lead Engineer in Research in Chemical Engineering in the College of Engineering is a co-founder and Chief Technical Officer of Inmatech. The Company desires to fund a project in the College of Engineering.

Nature of the Agreement:

The Company has received a Phase I award from the National Science Foundation under the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program to support research to demonstrate asymmetric supercapacitor cells based on low-cost VN and NiOOH that meet the cost and performance targets set by the Advanced Battery Consortium for FreedomCar applications. The Company wishes to enter into a subcontract with the University to enable Dr. Thompson to assist in the performance of these efforts.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement will conform to University policy. The period of performance is one (1) year and the amount of funding support is \$45,081.

<u>Impact of the Agreement:</u>

The Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Thompson and a post-doctoral student under his direction to utilize his knowledge and expertise to develop processes for production of higher surface area materials using solution-based methods and synthesize VN with capacitances exceeding 300 F/g.

Recommendation:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Forrest

Vice President for Research

November 2012