



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**VISION ROBOTICS FEDERAL SYSTEMS, LLC.  
RECEIVES \$1 MILLION FROM DEPT. OF DEFENSE  
TO DEVELOP VISION-BASED NAVIGATION SYSTEM**

**SAN DIEGO**, OCTOBER 2, 2006 – Vision Robotics Federal Systems, LLC (VRFS), a subsidiary of Vision Robotics Corporation (VRC) of San Diego, today announced that the Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2007, passed by Congress in September, included \$1 million in federal funds to support VRFS's collaboration with the Department of Defense Joint Robotics Program.

This program, *Autonomous Machine Vision for Mapping and Investigation*, enables VRFS to apply its vision-based Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM) system to add autonomy capabilities to military robots. Once complete, these vision-based robots will autonomously create three-dimensional maps of unknown areas of interest. The maps can be used for a variety of purposes including navigation and determining the location of target specific items (i.e. improvised explosive devices). This technology will improve the safety and security for U.S. troops serving overseas.

"We look forward to completing the contract with the Space and Naval Warfare Command (SPAWAR) and embarking on this project," said Derek Morikawa, chief executive officer, Vision Robotics Corporation. "We believe our technology is the right fit for the applications desired by the Joint Robotics Program. With our proprietary vision-based system, we can increase the capabilities of today's military robots, which will go a long way toward improving safety and security for our troops."

VRFS's systems use low cost off-the-shelf image sensors and processors. During this project, the company will optimize the existing SLAM algorithms for the next generation of vector-based processors to create a module for use on any Unmanned Ground Vehicles (UGVs) to autonomously operate at speeds of up to 20 miles per hour. Currently, military UGVs, or robots, are tele-operated, meaning soldiers in the field drive them remotely, which is hazardous duty.

Work on this project, the first year of VRFS's military system development, is expected to begin early in 2007. The company expects to test prototypes in the field in the project's third year.

**ABOUT VISION ROBOTICS FEDERAL SYSTEMS**

Vision Robotics Federal Systems, LLC is a joint venture between Vision Robotics Corporation of San Diego and Fabiani & Company of Washington, D.C. VRFS has a complete license to Vision Robotics Corporation technology for use in government applications.

**ABOUT VISION ROBOTICS CORPORATION**

Since 1999, Vision Robotics Corporation (VRC) has developed advanced vision-based navigation and object recognition systems for autonomous robots. VRC currently is working with military, agriculture and consumer electronics partners to produce robots ranging from an advanced consumer-floor care product to a tree-fruit harvester to military robots. Vision Robotics, based in San Diego, is privately held. For more information on VRC's robotic systems, visit [www.visionrobotics.com](http://www.visionrobotics.com).

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**CONTACT:**

Derek Morikawa

CEO

Vision Robotics Corporation

858-724-0484

[dmorikawa@visionrobotics.com](mailto:dmorikawa@visionrobotics.com)