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For Immediate Release

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## <u>NEWS</u>

## Telcordia Approved For Funding By US-Israel Bi-National Foundation For Hi Tech Venture

**TRENTON** — Telcordia Technologies Inc., of Piscataway, NJ, and Uniper, an Israeli-based company, recently received approval of a US-Israel Bi-national Industrial Research & Development (BIRD) grant for cutting edge telecommunications development, according to Commerce Secretary Virginia S. Bauer.

"The partnership the New Jersey-Israel Commission has forged with the BIRD Foundation has proved extremely beneficial to both New Jersey and Israeli companies," said Secretary Bauer. "We are greatly encouraged by the high tech collaborations that have been forged as a result of this funding opportunity."

The Telcordia/Uniper project is one of eight new projects that received investments of approximately \$9 million by the BIRD Foundation.

As part of a collaborative agreement, the New Jersey-Israel Commission serves as the BIRD Foundation's official representative for the state. This designation allows the Commission to work toward creating strategic commercial ties between qualifying New Jersey and Israeli companies through financial support on behalf of the BIRD Foundation.

The \$1 million grant was awarded to Telcordia and Uniper for the design of intelligent, policy-based hand-off (switching) between communications networks based on different technologies, while maintaining session continuity.

"Telcordia is pleased to be working with Uniper to collaborate for the betterment of technology, benefiting not just the U.S. and Israel, but the global technology community as a whole," said Dr. Adam Drobot, Telcordia CTO & President, Advanced Technology Solutions Group. "We are honored that both the New Jersey-Israel Commission and the BIRD Foundation would look to Telcordia and Uniper to advance telecommunications on such an innovative project."

Telcordia Technologies is the largest global provider of telecommunications network software and IP, wireline, wireless, and cable services.

"We were particularly impressed with the opportunities for collaboration between Telcordia and Israeli high tech companies," said Andrea Yonah, Executive Director of the New Jersey-Israel Commission. "We look forward to facilitating future projects between Telcordia and Israeli companies with compatible technology."

Eitan Yudilevich, Executive Director of the BIRD Foundation, agreed. "The State of New Jersey is home to many companies that are industry leaders, Telcordia being one of them. Partnering these companies with Israeli cutting edge companies leads to the potential for great technological and commercial success," he said.

## About the New Jersey-Israel Commission

The New Jersey-Israel Commission was created to foster increased economic, scientific, educational and cultural relations with the State of Israel, one of the Garden State's most important trading partners. Israel is one of New Jersey's most important export markets, with \$430 million in goods sent there in 2004 alone. In all, more than 50 Israeli companies have facilities in New Jersey, directly employing more than 1,000 workers.

Established in 1989, the New Jersey-Israel Commission is comprised of approximately 125 members appointed by the Governor and eight members of and appointed by the State Legislature. The Commission operates out of the New Jersey Commerce & Economic Growth & Tourism Commission. For more information, visit <u>www.newjerseycommerce.org/israel</u>.

## **About the BIRD Foundation**

The BIRD Foundation works to encourage cooperation between Israeli and American companies in the various areas of technology, and provides free assistance in locating strategic partners from both countries for developing joint products.

During its 27 years, the BIRD Foundation has invested in nearly 700 projects, which have yielded direct and indirect revenues of about \$8 billion.

The BIRD Foundation supports projects without receiving any rights in the participating companies or in the project itself. The financial assistance is repaid as royalties from sales. The Foundation provides support of up to 50% of a project's budget, beginning with R&D and ending with the initial stages of sales and marketing. The Foundation shares the risk and does not demand that the investment be repaid if the project fails to reach the sales stage.

The BIRD Foundation works in full cooperation with the Chief Scientist's Office at the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Employment in Israel, and with the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

For more information on the BIRD Foundation and its work, please contact Andrea Yonah, Executive Director of the New Jersey-Israel Commission and the New Jersey BIRD representative at 609-633-8600 or visit the BIRD Foundation website at <u>www.birdf.com</u>.

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