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## **AVIRTEK, Inc. Awarded \$150k Phase I SBIR from the United States Army Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program**

Tucson, AZ (May 18, 2016) – On May 18, 2016 AVIRTEK was selected for an STTR Phase I award with the Department of the Army, US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (\$150,000 over 9 months) for its Army STTR Phase I proposal entitled "Tactical Immune System".

"The current security techniques are mainly labor intensive (e.g., patch update), signature based, and not flexible enough to handle the complexity, dynamism and epidemic-style propagation of attacks. ", said Dr. Salim Hariri, CEO and Founder of AVIRTEK.

The objective for this Phase I STTR project is to develop a modular and adaptive cyber immunity mechanism that overcomes security deficiencies of current computing systems to enforce semantics of computation and patch-based/perimeter protection mechanisms, which we refer to as Tactical Cyber Immune System (TCIS). TCIS is designed to model the human immune system and provide a defense mechanism against non-self (i.e., malicious intruders) within the network. The tangible benefits to end users of TCIS are: (i) Maintain acceptable performance of multi-core, multi-VM systems in the context of attacks; (ii) Surveillance and resilient enforcement of normal behavioral semantics of complex applications in context of attacks; (iii) Assured guarantee of complex self-protection mechanisms; and (iv) Seamless recovery of a system's components from catastrophic failures and security breaches without impacting the overall system performance. AVIRTEK envisions a significant opportunity to commercialize the TCIS technologies for government agencies, finance, industry, and cloud environments.

Partners: The University of Arizona

## About AVIRTEK, Inc.

AVIRTEK is a professional services and product development firm located in Tucson, Arizona, and founded in 2006. AVIRTEK, a startup company from the Center for Cloud and Autonomic Computing at The University of Arizona, which is a center funded by the Industry/University Cooperative Research Center of the National Science Foundation, is pioneering innovative autonomic cybersecurity and management solutions that are based on strategies used by biological systems to deal with complexity, heterogeneity and uncertainty. AVIRTEK's cyber protection products and services can protect computer systems, networks and data from any type of cyberattacks. AVIRTEK developed sophisticated cyber and human behavior analysis algorithms to detect any anomalous behaviors and to proactively respond in a timely manner to mitigate or stop the attack. To learn more about AVIRTEK products and services, go to <a href="https://www.avirtek.com">www.avirtek.com</a>