

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: License Agreement between the University of Michigan and May Mobility, Inc.

Action Requested: Approval of License Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Technology Transfer while reviewing the technology transfer agreement that 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 this Committee and agreed to by the parties involved in this plan.

This proposed license agreement (“Agreement”) falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor Edwin Olson, Mr. Robert Goeddel, and Mr. Collin Johnson are all employees of the University of Michigan (“University”) and partial owners of May Mobility, Inc. 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:

Dr. Olson, an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering (EECS – CSE Division), Mr. Robert Goeddel, a Graduate Student Research Assistant in EECS – CSE Division, and Mr. Collin Johnson, a Graduate Student Research Assistant in EECS – CSE Division, are partial owners of a for-profit company called May Mobility, Inc. (“the “Company”). The Company was formed recently to commercialize automated vehicle technology and desires to license from the University of Michigan the University’s rights associated with the following technologies:

UM OTT File No. 5965, entitled: Multi-Camera Calibration System (Inventors: Edwin Olson, Johannes Strom, Andrew Richardson)

UM OTT File No. 6709, entitled: Method for Improving Accuracy in an Array of Inertial Sensors (Inventors: John Wang, Edwin Olson)

UM OTT File No. 6996, entitled: Structure-Based Point-Cloud Sparsification (Inventors: Edwin Olson, Carl Kershaw)

UM OTT File No. 7217, entitled: Constructing Informative Outcomes to Guide Multi-Policy Decision Making (Inventors: Dhanvin Mehta, Edwin Olson, Gonzalo Ferrer Minguez)

UM OTT File No. 7315, entitled: Latent Oscillator Frequency Estimation for Ranging Measurements (Inventors: Sean Messenger, Edwin Olson, John Mamish)

The Office of Technology Transfer selected the Company as a University partner and negotiated the terms of the proposed Agreement in accordance with University policy and its accepted licensing principles.

Parties to the Agreement:

The Regents of the University of Michigan and May Mobility, Inc.

Agreement Terms Include:

Agreement terms include granting the Company a nonexclusive license. The Company will reimburse patent costs. The University may receive equity in the Company, along with the right to purchase more equity.

The University will retain ownership of the licensed technology and may continue to further develop it and use it internally. No use of University services or facilities, nor any assignment of University employees, is obligated or contemplated under the Agreement. Standard disclaimers of warranties and indemnification apply, and the Agreement may be amended by consent of the parties, such as adding related technology. University procedures for approval of these changes will be followed and additional conflict of interest review will be done as appropriate.

Pecuniary Interest:

The pecuniary interests of Dr. Olson, Mr. Goeddel, and Mr. Johnson arise from their ownership interest in May Mobility, Inc.

Net Effect:

The Office of Technology Transfer has negotiated and finalized the terms of a worldwide nonexclusive license agreement for patents related to UM OTT File Nos. 5965, 6709, 6996, 7217, and 7315. May Mobility, Inc. will obtain use and commercialization rights to the above listed University technology.

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 Agreement between the University and May Mobility, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,



S. Jack Hu
Vice President for Research

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