



Survival Innovations

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Developing Solutions for Life Support

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Survival Innovations Inc., of Arden, will receive a \$6 million contract from the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory to create a unique head-and-neck restraint system for fighter pilots.



The contract funds Survival Innovations to adapt their patented Head and Neck Restraint System for use in aircraft equipped with ejection seats. The system will undergo rigorous testing on mannequins and human subjects.

“Our head-and-neck restraint system concept has the potential to resolve a long-standing issue with neck injuries during high-speed ejection,” said Leon Rhodes, president of Survival Innovations. “We look forward to tailoring this product for the benefit of our military air crews.”

Improvements in military aircraft technology require better performance by the escape system. Faster ejection intensifies the loads placed on the head. New devices mounted on the helmet add to the weight supported by the neck, increasing the danger of injury.



“This contract award is further proof that Western North Carolina is an important center for high-technology solutions to keep our fighting men and women safe,” said U.S. Rep. Heath Shuler, D-Waynesville, who announced the contract.

For further information regarding Survival Innovations products and services, call (828) 651-0078 or e-mail Mark Trexler, mtrexl@bellsouth.net.