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CTC Develops "Ballistic Gauntlet" Lower-Body Armor Protection Device for Warfighters

Johnstown, PA, June 3, 2005—Congressman John P. Murtha (D-Pa 12th) joins Daniel R. DeVos, President & CEO of Concurrent Technologies Corporation (*CTC*) in announcing that *CTC* has developed the "Ballistic Gauntlet"—a lightweight, conforming lower-body armor protection device to protect warfighters who come under potential lethal attack. The device is designed to protect the lower extremities of vehicle operators and occupants from the effects of small-arms fire and explosive devices that many of our service men and women are encountering in Iraq.

CTC developed the Ballistic Gauntlet at its own expense utilizing titanium metalworking technology for which it is nationally known. The prototype was built by KDH Defense Industries of Johnstown under contract to *CTC*. The device incorporates the same material and armor as the Kevlar® vests that are currently used to protect the upper body. The Ballistic Gauntlet provides enhanced protection by incorporating two sets of overlapping flaps for cocoon-type protection to the upper legs and shins from lateral and vertical threats. For additional protection against larger and higher-velocity fragments, the Kevlar® armor is reinforced with titanium inserts.

The Ballistic Gauntlet is designed to stop 9-millimeter rounds moving at 1,400 feet per second, and 30-caliber projectiles and 26-grain projectile fragments moving at 2,000 feet per second. Initial test results indicate performance effectiveness against detonations at 60, 45, 30, and 15 feet. The Kevlar® soft armor is a proven component in flack jackets. *CTC* is also currently working to incorporate LEXAN® LEXGARD® into future enhancements of the Gauntlet, for additional ballistic protection and increased rigidity.

Congressman Murtha said, "There's a real defined need here. The nature of the attacks on U.S. troops in Iraq from rocket-propelled grenades and improvised explosive devices often results in traumatic injuries, including loss of limbs. These soldiers are experiencing an unprecedented burden of what orthopedists term 'mangled extremities.' The Ballistic Gauntlet is designed to provide the additional protection that our warfighters need. There is also the potential to create as many as 300 new jobs in the Johnstown region over the coming months through the manufacture of the Ballistic Gauntlet."

DeVos stated, "I am proud of *CTC*'s effort in developing something so important that brings immediate protection to our warfighters and U.S. civilians serving in Iraq. We have been able to utilize the unique resources and technology expertise that we have assembled at *CTC* to develop a device to protect our troops against debilitating injuries."

"I've been there," says Scott Burk, *CTC* employee and former Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, who came up with the idea for the Ballistic Gauntlet after serving 21 months in Iraq. "Everyone serving in Iraq knows that our soldiers are putting on anything they can find to protect themselves from harm while driving. Bullet-proof vests aren't enough. Word of the invention has gotten out even before final logistical details have been worked out." Burk added that the service men and women have enthusiastically embraced the lower-body armor protection device.

CTC is an independent, nonprofit, applied research and development professional services organization that provides management and technology-based solutions to a wide array of clients representing state and federal government as well as the private sector. Established in 1988, *CTC* operates from more than 35 locations with a staff of 1,400 employees. For more information, please visit www.ctc.com.

For more information on the Ballistic Gauntlet, please contact Daniel R. DeVos, President & CEO of *CTC* at 814-269-2420.

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