

Media Release

Tornado Medical Systems announces a wave of new hiring in Thunder Bay

Software developers and engineers are needed to build the next generation of medical devices. The new team will have the opportunity to work on Dr. Jae Kim's internationally recognized Optical Coherence Tomography research.

February 15, 2011 (Thunder Bay, ON) – Today Tornado Medical Systems (TMS), a company closely connected to Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute, is announcing the first wave of recruitment to build its Thunder Bay product development team. TMS has grown quickly, with over 20 employees in 4 locations, and has launched its first two products with great success in the medical imaging and spectroscopy markets.

TMS is now actively seeking senior and junior software developers, senior and junior electrical, mechanical and optical engineers, and experienced engineering project managers located in Thunder Bay. A recruitment drive is being held Friday, February 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the CEDC office located in the Whalen Building, with a special presentation at noon.

“Here in Thunder Bay, we have established strong ties with TBTRI, including formal R&D collaborations to develop two novel medical imaging devices,” says Stefan Larson, CEO of Tornado Medical Systems. “Our work together was recognized last year by Industry Canada through the award of two separate funding grants from the Precarn ‘Technology Gap’ program - the first time in the program's history that one company has received two simultaneous awards.”

In August 2010, in partnership with Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC), TMS announced the establishment of a new state-of-the-art product development facility in the historic Whalen building.

“It's now time to fill our new home with the scientists and engineers that will develop and build the next generation of Tornado's medical devices and bring them to the global market,” Larson says.

“This is a clear example of how far our scientists at TBTRI have come with their research. We have leading medical imaging devices ready for development and that research is now generating jobs in Thunder Bay,” says Michael Power, CEO, TBTRI. “This is the beginning of an exciting new market in medical innovation that is emerging in Thunder Bay.”

The recruitment drive will be an opportunity for interested candidates to meet with TMS engineering managers and learn more about the design and development that goes into building medical imaging devices right here in Thunder Bay. Larson and Power both credit the ongoing support of the provincial, federal and municipal governments for the new emergence of the new medical industry in Thunder Bay.

“The province of Ontario is proud to support work to develop important new diagnostics for the treatment and diagnosis of cancer, including over \$7.1 million in grant funding in 2009-2010 to TBTRI through the Ontario Research Fund,” says Michael Gravelle, MPP Thunder Bay-Superior North, Minister of Northern Development, Mines & Forestry. “Today's announcement means more innovative healthcare technology

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is on its way, and we are pleased to see this recruitment drive which is a result of TBRI's leadership and support for the growth of the ICT cluster [Information Communication Technology] in Northwestern Ontario," MPP Gravelle adds.

"Today marks another milestone in the evolution of the Thunder Bay economy," said Bill Mauro, MPP for Thunder Bay - Atikokan. "Knowledge based jobs continue to help grow and diversify our employment base to the benefit of us all and provide opportunity for our young people in this sector."

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About Tornado Medical Systems:

Tornado Medical Systems is an early-stage medical device company with locations in Thunder Bay, Toronto, Milwaukee, and Ithaca. We are developing and commercializing revolutionary medical imaging technologies that provide clinicians with improved tools to detect and diagnose disease. We combine advanced design and engineering practices with world-class medical expertise to develop clinically relevant tools and applications. For more information about Tornado Medical Systems visit: tornado-medical.com

About Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute (TBRI):

TBRI is an independent, not-for-profit research corporation partnered closely with Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. Scientists and clinicians work together with academic and industry partners to bring advanced diagnostic technology to our patients. World-class research is conducted under three platforms: Advanced Detection Devices, Imaging Guided Interventions and Probe Development and Biomarker Exploration. TBRI strives to improve the quality of patient-centred healthcare by advancing new standards of excellence in the clinical investigation of novel molecular imaging-based diagnostic technologies. For further information, please visit our website at www.tbri.com

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