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## PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY CONNECTION AWARDED US ARMY COMMERCIALIZATION PILOT PROGRAM (CPP) TO ENHANCE PACKBOT ROBOTS

Atlanta, GA. October 1, 2010 – The US Army, through Commercialization Pilot Program (CPP), has awarded Global Technology Connection, Inc. (GTC) a \$750K contract to integrate their fault tolerant control software algorithms with iRobot's Packbot Ground Robots. This technology will help in preventing Packbot rollover and will estimate remaining useful life of the Packbot battery. The resulting system will be tested and used in current areas of military engagement.

iRobot Packbots are currently deployed by US military forces in hostile areas such as Iraq and Afghanistan to disarm Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), to scout areas during surveillance missions, and to perform other dangerous missions where remote access is desired. Preventing Packbot rollover and accurately estimating battery life reduces the need for local soldier interaction with the Packbot when these failures occur during missions. Thus, this technology protects the soldiers from being directly in harm's way (e.g. robot recovery) and increases the chance for mission success. The fault tolerant control system has broad applications for air, land, sea, and space vehicles where incipient failures need to be detected and identified quickly and control actions reconfigured to prevent vehicle loss.



GTC is an Atlanta-based technology company specializing in the development of health monitoring diagnostic and prognostic algorithms and systems for various applications such as Li-ion and Zn-Air batteries, aircraft and land-based generators, manned/unmanned-ground vehicles, power plants, etc. The solutions detect and identify failure modes early in their growth cycle and also predict remaining useful life so that advanced planning can be performed. This improves the efficiency and readiness of many industrial, military, and commercial systems by reducing maintenance costs, decreasing manning hours, and improving reliability through advanced condition-monitoring methods.

For more information, please contact Dr. Ash Thakker and Dr. Nicholas Propes at (770) 803-3001.