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# Press Release

## Advanced Diamond Technologies announces first close of Series A financing; receives Phase I SBIR from National Science Foundation

Champaign, IL, August 4, 2004: Advanced Diamond Technologies, Inc. (ADT) today announced the first close of its Series A financing. The round was led by LaSalle Investments, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois, and its principal, Robert Geras, will take a seat on ADT's board of directors. In addition, ADT was recently awarded a Phase I SBIR grant by the National Science Foundation to evaluate diamond coatings on mechanical pump seals.

"Although this is our first external financing event, our momentum is greater than it appears. We have an outstanding partnership with Argonne National Laboratory and have been able to leverage a multi-million dollar research program in diamond technology," said Neil Kane, President of ADT. "Its time for us to develop our own infrastructure because we have requests for engineering samples that far exceed the capacity we are able to rent from Argonne," said Kane.

ADT is the licensee of a portfolio of diamond synthesis and application patents from Argonne. Its Ultrananocrystalline™ (UNCD™) diamond, characterized by grain sizes on the order of 3-5 nanometers, is known for its ability to integrate with other materials. UNCD is being evaluated as a protective coating in friction and wear applications, in MEMS [microelectricalmechanical systems], NEMS [nanoelectricalmechanical systems], RF-MEMS [radio frequency MEMS], as a hermetic coating for biomedical implants and as compact electron sources. ADT is working with several market-leading companies who are sampling UNCD for a diverse set of applications. "This is truly a disruptive, enabling technology which will change the way many things are done in the future through reduced friction, longer useful life, increased strength and enhanced electromechanical properties of many products and processes," says Bob Geras, President of LaSalle Investments.

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“The research underlying ADT’s technology is based on a foundation of advanced surface science supported by the Dept. of Energy Office of Science for more than a decade. The technology we have developed and licensed to ADT provides a platform for a spectrum of applications and improved materials and coatings,” said Stephen D. Ban, Director of the Office of Technology Transfer at Argonne National Laboratory.

Although UNCD is a platform technology that can be used in many different applications that cut across many industries, the \$100,000 Phase I SBIR grant is specific to diamond coatings in fluid sealing applications. Mechanical pump seals are the sealing elements used in pumps commonly found in chemical plants and petroleum refineries. “UNCD’s versatility is its strength,” said Kane. Applications for the Phase I SBIR program at the NSF undergo a rigorous evaluation into the soundness of the technology and the plan for commercializing it. “The NSF award is a great validation for the promise of UNCD,” said Kane.

About Advanced Diamond Technologies, Inc.

ADT, formed in December 2003, provides diamond thin-films and materials integration solutions to a variety of industry participants and in a variety of application areas. ADT has facilities in Argonne, IL and Champaign, IL. Its website is [www.thindiamond.com](http://www.thindiamond.com).

About Argonne National Laboratory

Argonne is one of the U.S. Department of Energy's largest research centers. It is also the nation's first national laboratory, chartered in 1946. Its website is [www.anl.gov](http://www.anl.gov).

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