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PRESS RELEASE

QuesTek Innovations Receives 2002 Chicago Innovation Award

Chicago Sun-Times suntimes.com

Evanston, IL, October 8, 2002 – QuesTek Innovation's *Materials by Design*® was chosen by the Chicago Sun Times and Kuczmarski & Associates as one of 10 top innovations for 2002. The honorees were selected from a broad range of industries and the judging was based upon successfully developing a product or service that either created a whole new technology, triggered a "me-too" competitive response, changed customer or consumer expectations, solved unmet needs, and/or generated profits.

The award recognizes QuesTek's development of *Materials by Design*, a pioneering computer-based method of designing materials at the atomic and subatomic levels. Historically, materials have been discovered by chance or through the costly and time consuming method of "trial and error," and after the properties of these materials were determined, those that did not meet the need were discarded. In recognition of this fact, the President's Office of Science and Technology, in 2000, stated that the move to complex structural materials requires a new paradigm – computational design that allows for the creation of materials having specific desired characteristics.

QuesTek has been at the forefront of this emerging and highly disruptive technology shift. Working primarily with government agencies such as DARPA, DoD, DOE and NSF, and with large commercial business, QuesTek has applied its *Materials by Design* technology to the development of steels, both non-stainless and stainless, aluminum-based and nickel-based superalloys, shape memory alloys and ceramic materials. QuesTek's development of an ultrastrong stainless steel for aircraft landing gear replacement, under sponsorship of DoD's Strategic Environmental Research and Development program, is the most recent example of the power of this emerging technology. Charles Kuehmann, President and CEO of QuesTek, in accepting the award, stated "Using the computational materials design approach, we will see new materials brought to market in a few years, as opposed to decades, and at substantially lower costs."

For more information, visit our website at www.questek.com or contact Dr. Frode Stavehaug, Director of Applications Engineering, at 847.425.8214.