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## **GrammaTech Awarded Air Force Research Contract to Develop Techniques for Detecting Security Vulnerabilities**

Ithaca, NY -- GrammaTech, Inc. announced today that it has been awarded a \$99,981 Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Phase I contract by the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) Information Directorate. Upon completion of this nine-month contract, GrammaTech will be eligible to compete for up to \$750,000 in Phase II SBIR funding. Under terms of the agreement, GrammaTech will develop techniques for detecting security vulnerabilities in source code.

The problem of information security has become critical because of the growing dependence of the economy and the armed forces on complex networked information systems. Of particular concern are security vulnerabilities that are caused by programming errors. The entire Internet infrastructure relies heavily upon open- and closed-source software systems that have been plagued by highly publicized security problems. Some of the more ubiquitous errors include buffer overflows, race conditions, memory access errors, and resource leaks. Under this contract GrammaTech will bring together sophisticated static analysis, program-understanding technology, and a range of other techniques to create a next-generation vulnerability-detection tool. This tool will detect a number of the vulnerabilities that commonly arise in open source programs. Specifically we will target buffer overflow, race conditions, and some denial of service vulnerabilities.

### **ABOUT GRAMMATECH**

GrammaTech was founded in 1988 to design, develop, and market language-based productivity tools for software engineers. The company has an active research agenda sponsored by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), the Office of Naval Research (ONR), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), the Missile Defense Agency (MDA), the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). The company has conducted previous research on dependence graphs, formal methods, and language-based programming, and has successfully transitioned its research into commercial software tools. GrammaTech currently markets CodeSurfer, a software-understanding tool, Ada-ASSURED, a language-sensitive editor, Ada-Utilities, a language-sensitive toolset for project-wide quality and standards auditing, and the Synthesizer Generator, a tool for developing language-sensitive program-development environments. These products are available directly from GrammaTech and distributed by Aonix Software. Additional information is available on the Internet at [www.grammatech.com](http://www.grammatech.com).

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