

NANCY L. JOHNSON
5TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0706

February 19, 2002

Mr. Lawrence T. Di Rita
Special Assistant to the
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon, Room 3E966
Washington, D.C. 20301-1300

Dear Mr. Di Rita:

I am writing on behalf of Tru-Hitch, Inc. in Torrington, Connecticut. Tru-Hitch has been working in conjunction with the United States Army and Combined Armed Services Command (CASCOM).

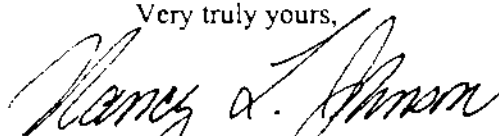
Tru-Hitch is a small manufacturer that produces portable semi-tractor hitches for use by commercial towing companies. In 1992, the company began to produce the Tru-Hitch Fifth Wheel Towing Device (FWTD), a military-model hitch that was developed and manufactured in response to a 1986 U.S. Army solicitation. In FY2001, \$1 million was appropriated by Congress to accelerate the Army's planned purchase of approximately 300 Tru-Hitch units over the next five years. In FY2002, \$2 million was provided for Tru-Hitch units, and it is expected that \$2 million will be appropriated each year through FY2007 for Tru-Hitch units.

It is my understanding that due to a reformatting requirement there have been significant delays in completing the Operational Requirements Document for the FWTD program, which must be approved by the Army's Chief of Staff before the Army can begin procuring Tru-Hitch units. These delays have put a tremendous financial strain on the company, as it has purchased an additional manufacturing facility, which remains idle, in anticipation of meeting the Army's FWTD needs. Further, the company has hired workers, only to have to lay them off when CASCOM failed to complete its requirement documentation as expected.

I am respectfully requesting your review of the Tru-Hitch Fifth Wheel Towing Device Program and an update on the status of the Operational Requirements Document. This small business has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars and many years working in good faith with the Army to develop a product which has met or exceeded its requirements. Unreasonable delays have prevented the company from delivering a product which the Army needs and the Congress, at my request, has appropriated funding. Please contact my caseworker, Joe Rohfritch, at 480 Myrtle Street, Suite 200, New Britain, Connecticut, 06053. You can also reach Joe by phone at (860)223-8412, fax at (860)827-9009 and e-mail at joe.rohfritch@mail.house.gov.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Very truly yours,



Nancy L. Johnson
Member of Congress

NLJ:jr

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NANCY L. JOHNSON
6TH DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

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February 14, 2003

Hon. Powell A. Moore
Assistant Secretary of Defense
For Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of Defense
1300 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1300

Dear Assistant Secretary Moore,

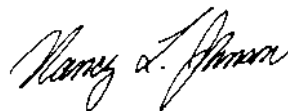
I am writing on behalf of a company in my district, Ward Leonard Electric Company, which tried unsuccessfully to log on to your website to register an SBIR Solicitation on January 15, 2003.

According to Mr. Jim O'Day, Director, Sales and Marketing, Ward Leonard Electric Company is a regular vendor to the United States Navy through this process. On January 15, the website was overloaded with applicants and shut down. This, in effect, closed out many companies such as Ward Leonard from applying. They feel this is in unfair and would like an opportunity to re-apply.

I would like an explanation as to what options they have to submit their proposal again and have it reviewed in the normal course of procedures. You can respond to my director of constituent services, Mrs. Terri Wilson, at 20 E. Main Street, Suite 222, Waterbury, CT 06702 or by e-mail at: terri.wilson@mail.house.gov.

Thank you very much for your assistance with this matter.

Very truly yours,



Nancy L. Johnson
Member of Congress

NLJ:taw
enclosure

U03089 03

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 17, 2005

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am pleased to learn that the USCENTCOM Deployment Policy now requires that all personnel will be deployed with one hemostatic agent and one tourniquet in accordance with service policy. However, it is also my understanding that the United States Army has not fully implemented this policy.

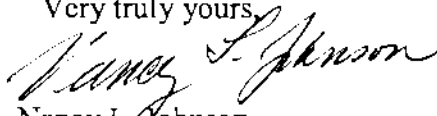
As you know, the United States Marine Corps has met the USCENTCOM policy by including QuikClot brand hemostatic agent in each individual first aid kit. QuikClot hemostatic agent is manufactured by Z-Medica Corp., a Connecticut-based company, and has proven itself as an outstanding life-saving product. At \$16 per individual packet and with a five-year shelf life, I believe that QuikClot presents a superior cost effective solution to the hemostatic agent requirement.

QuikClot hemostatic agent has been recommended for use by the tri-service Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care (COTCCC) and is widely used by numerous military and law enforcement personnel, including the Capitol Police Force, BATF, FBI and the Department of State Embassies and Missions. I believe it would be a welcome addition to Army first aid kits. In fact, many soldiers are already using QuikClot after learning of its virtues from their Marine counterparts. To date, individual soldiers, their families, and unit commanders have purchased 60,000 QuikClot packets with personal and discretionary funds.

As public officials we all have a responsibility to our troops and their families to properly equip soldiers when sending them into harms way and, if they are injured, providing them the best chance of survival. USCENTCOM has taken a proper step by mandating hemostatic agents, but I am concerned that the some service branches, the U.S. Army in particular, are not moving fast enough to comply with this directive.

I am requesting an explanation of the Department of Defense plans for providing hemostatic agents to deploying regular Army, Guard and Reserve forces and the date the Department plans to complete implementation of USCENTCOM's hemostatic agent policy. In addition, I am requesting an explanation as to why there appears to be a preference for a product that is many times more expensive and possesses a shorter shelf life, given that each must be used as directed to assure safety and effectiveness.

Very truly yours,


Nancy L. Johnson
MEMBER of CONGRESS

OSD 03568-05