



SYFT TECHNOLOGIES NAMED 'CANTERBURY EMERGING EXPORTER OF THE YEAR'

Canterbury's fastest up-and-coming biotech sensation has garnered yet another industry accolade last month when Export New Zealand elected Syft Technologies as the Canterbury Emerging Exporter of the Year.

After the presentation at the Christchurch Art Gallery, Geoff Peck, chief operating officer of Syft Technologies, said he was delighted with the Award, especially as it followed close on the heels of the company's recent \$2m export order with the Australian Customs Services.

He said: "Earning this recognition of achievement within weeks of securing our largest multi-unit order to date is a tremendous honour for us all.

The timing couldn't have been better, and is a great pat on the back for our team who have put in the hard graft to get us to where we are today."

Syft also recognised the considerable investment and financial support from **Thursday, 30 June 2005, p. 4**

grants and private investors towards research and development, which enabled Syft Technologies to successfully harness the specialised SIFT-MS technique developed at Canterbury University into a versatile analytical instrument called the Voice100.

From a fearsome 4-tonne research-exclusive Goliath to a semi-portable instrument the size of a washing machine, the Voice100 is a breakthrough in modern science.

It is the first commercially available product in the world that uses the advanced SIFT-MS technique to instantly and accurately detect minute traces of substances (Volatile Organic Compounds) to a few parts per billion.

The instrument represents a significant improvement over existing technology and has many potential applications world wide including: health-care and medical diagnostics, environmental monitoring, indoor air quality, fumigant

detection, homeland security, agricultural pest and pathogen contamination and petroleum exploration.

Last year, this special Kiwi innovation won Syft the Precision Most Innovative Product of the Year award at the Westpac New Zealand Hi Tech Awards.

"It has taken huge effort and resources to develop the technology and introduce it to the world market, and we are pleased that we are now beginning to realise the fruits of our labour," said Geoff.

"We still have a lot of work to do, but I believe we are getting there."

As the winner of the Canterbury Award, Syft is now in competition to be named National Exporter of the Year, against companies from Auckland, Waikato, Bay of Plenty, and Wellington. Syft hopes to maintain the region's noble tradition; for the past two years a Canterbury entrant has won the National title