

Business News

Inovati confirms deals worth \$2 million

5/23/05

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Goleta-based Inovati, a high-tech protective coatings company, has just landed contracts from the National Science Foundation and the Naval Air Warfare Center together worth \$2 million.

The new contracts have led Inovati to hire two recent UCSB graduates -- Jeff Hennessy, a materials engineer, and software engineer Brian Nehring.

The company expects to add another two employees in the next few months.

Based on Hollister Avenue, Inovati has patented the process and equipment for adding coatings, usually metal or metal composites, that prevent corrosion, wear and tear, abrasion and oxidation of other metal surfaces.

The company says the latest projects were driven by a need to produce coatings that are environmentally sustainable and to replace harmful alternatives chrome and cadmium.

The new coatings will be much harder without the potentially damaging side-effects, the company says.

Inovati deals primarily with the aerospace and aircraft industries, although the company's trademarked "Kinetic Metallization" process is said to have widespread applications including automotive, industrial equipment, telecommunications and medical devices.