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## Rosetta-Wireless gets boost with ATP grant

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Rosetta-Wireless Corp. of West Chicago received a \$2 million federal grant to develop a Wireless Intelligent Personal Server, a wallet-sized computer that provides workers with access to files and e-mails when they are out of the office.

The grant is part of the Advanced Technology Program of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), which offers a keenly competitive program to support the development of new technologies that have great potential benefit to the nation.

Ed Bachner Sr. and his co-founders secured a patent on the device and have self-funded the company throughout its 30-month existence.

"Our company is far too early for any investors because we are at the pre-revenue stage," he said. "There is no other way to [develop a product] except for the government support. This is a huge endorsement of our technology."

Bachner applied for the prestigious grant three times. Last summer, the company finally developed some traction, and made an oral presentation in December. Rosetta survived as one of 16 companies nationally to win a grant. In all, the Advanced Technology Program awarded 23 grants from among more than 600 proposals in 2003.

### 'Medical informatics'

Rosetta sees many markets for its technology, but the one Bachner will focus on initially is the booming area of what is called medical informatics.

The concept is that all of your medical records, including images, will be stored on the device, which you will carry with you to be read by medical personnel--in an emergency room, for example. Bachner said that more than 5 percent of deaths in the ER could be avoided if doctors had access to the medical history of a patient requiring urgent care.

Bachner hopes to leverage the grant to secure private sector funding from VCs and corporate investors. As news about the award has trickled out, Bachner has been approached by several global electronics manufacturers to discuss development of the device.

That could really help make Chicago a leader in wireless technology.