



Business



High-tech solution

Mobile phones may be answer to parking woes | **C3**

E-mail: ayonan@HonoluluAdvertiser.com | Telephone: 535-2448

BUSINESS DESK

HONOLULUADVERTISER.COM/business

Navatek gets Navy contract

It'll design prototype craft to move equipment from ship to shore

BY SEAN HAO

Advertiser Staff Writer

Honolulu naval architect Navatek Ltd. has received a \$2 million contract to design a Navy prototype ship that can deliver tanks and other heavy equipment onto a beachhead.

Navatek's proposal for the so-called T-Craft project uses an amphibious transporter that can be launched from a specially designed ship. The transporter could then carry troops and equipment from ship to shore. Navatek hopes the contract will eventually be worth \$160 million, if all options are exercised.

"If our preliminary \$2 million

design is accepted, we move to phase two where we would receive an additional \$10 million to produce and model-test a detailed design of the ship," said Navatek President Steven Loui in a written statement. "If awarded the phase three work, Navatek will receive an estimated \$150 million to design, build and test a 350-foot prototype craft."

The project is part of a Navy concept called sea basing, which involves rapidly moving tanks and supporting materials from ships onto beaches during wartime maneuvers and humanitarian relief operations.

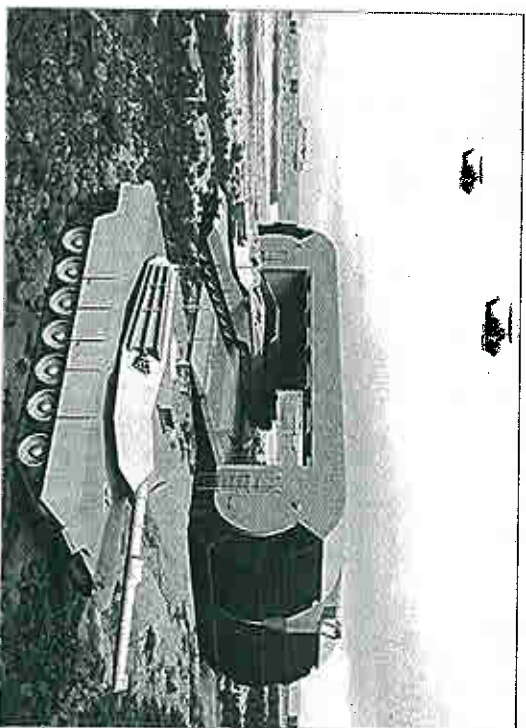
Navatek is the prime contractor on the project. Subcontractors working on the deal include: AMSEC Rosenblatt, General Dynamics Robotics Systems and Land Systems, Oceanengineering In-

ternational, SAIC, Atlantic Marine Florida LLC, and Materials Sciences Corporation.

The T-Craft project follows an \$8.5 million contract won by Navatek and Maryland-based General Dynamics Robotics Systems earlier this year. Under that deal, the companies will build two prototypes of an unmanned surface vehicle. The total value of that contract, if all options are exercised, is \$113 million, according to Navatek.

Navatek was founded in 1979 and operates out of offices in Honolulu with 45 employees. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Pacific Marine, founded in 1944, which has 350 employees and annual revenues of \$73 million.

Reach Sean Hao at shaoo@honoluluadvertiser.com or 525-8093.



Navatek

Tanks unloaded from an amphibious transporter in one artist's rendering provided by Navatek. In this preliminary design, the transporter launches from a craft visible in the background.