

Intellectual Security

Intellectual Property News

Athlone Global Security Invests in DefenSoft Planning Systems

NEW YORK, Jan. 4 /PRNewswire/ -- Private equity group Athlone Global Security, Inc., announced today that it has acquired a minority interest in DefenSoft Planning Systems, an innovative Israeli homeland security company that develops software solutions for planning defense and security systems.

DefenSoft Planning System's primary product, Lighthouse, is a tool that enables the automation of perimeter security planning including sensor arrays, obstacles, and other measures used to provide buffer zone protection for highways, airports, borders, military facilities and other strategic infrastructure sites. The company has strong intellectual property with several patents pending.

Gordon Hawke, president and CEO of Athlone Global Security, said, "DefenSoft Planning System's technology makes it possible for civil engineers to use maps to decide precisely where to position cameras or other sensor devices to make government installations as well as public airports, railroads and other critical infrastructure secure. This planning tool saves engineers from having to visit the site in person, and speeds the process of design and installation of security equipment for sensitive structures."

Hawke reported that the rapidly expanding market for this software is currently estimated at \$1.5 billion. The company expects to achieve sales of nearly \$1 million this year.

Athlone has acquired 15% of DefenSoft Planning System's stock, with an option to make additional investments up to 20%.

This investment is the third portfolio acquisition by Athlone, a private equity group that invests in homeland security technologies that are ready to be commercially introduced in North America and Europe. Athlone plans to assemble a portfolio of 25 - 30 investments in homeland security, focusing primarily on Israel, which develops advanced and practical security solutions not yet widely available in US or European markets.

Athlone assists its portfolio companies to expand their international reach by establishing operations and sales in the markets where these technologies can be quickly introduced and deployed. Athlone has partnered with the Chesapeake Innovation Center, a specialized business incubator for homeland security firms in the D.C. area, through which it intends to introduce some of its portfolio companies.

ABOUT ATHLONE GLOBAL SECURITY, INC.

A pioneer in the homeland security venture marketplace, Athlone Global Security Inc. (Athlone) invests in emerging growth companies specializing in critical homeland security solutions. As private equity investors, the company seeks early stage homeland security companies, currently located in Israel, because of the country's breadth and sophistication of homeland security expertise. Athlone, which is privately owned, has its own team and infrastructure in Israel, as well as locations in New York and Washington.

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