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-Press Release-

TKO Enterprises and USDA Evaluate New Canada Goose Deterrent

December 6, 2011. Boulder, Colorado. TKO Enterprises, Inc. in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Wildlife Services' National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC) recently completed an evaluation of TKO's new Canada goose deterrent called Goose Guardian. TKO is a pioneer in the development and application of an object recognition image sensor system. This patent-pending system detects the presence of Canada geese and triggers the hazing device to scare the birds away.

Researchers at the NWRC conducted a design review and controlled study at their facility in Fort Collins, Colorado, to evaluate the effectiveness of the new tool to deter Canada geese. In trials conducted during August, September, and October 2011, researchers found the Goose Guardian effectively decreased occupancy of Canada geese within the hazed portion of the 0.07 ha (120 ft. × 60 ft.) flight pen during the first day of 2-day tests. Goose occupancy of one-half of the flight pen averaged 86 percent of daily video recordings during the pre-test phase when the device was deactivated. Goose occupancy of the same area decreased to an average of 42 percent per day during the test phase when the device was activated.

NWRC researchers recommend additional testing of the device with integrated auditory and visual hazing stimuli under field conditions. In particular, they recommend the testing of vertical and contingent visual stimuli that are vertically apparent only when the hazing device is activated.

NWRC researchers are pursuing publication of the Goose Guardian study in a peer-reviewed journal.

"TKO and the NWRC have a mutual interest in the development of effective animal deterrents," notes Neil McClure, CEO of TKO Enterprises. "Our missions and objectives are complementary with each bringing specialized expertise to help create demand-performance hazing systems for wildlife. We look forward to continuing collaborations with the NWRC."

Canada geese are important members of our natural ecosystems, but can come into conflict with people when they degrade the habitat by fouling the land and water with their excrement. The Goose Guardian is the first, cost effective, demand-performance hazing method for Canada geese. Demand performance is achieved through the use of TKO's object recognition image sensor that detects when Canada geese are present and triggers one of several hazing methods available for purchase to scare the birds away. The hazing methods combine sound and motion. The system is also portable for use in a variety of locations. The Audubon International's Fact Sheet for Canada Geese states that effective hazing of geese requires scare techniques where "*Visual tactics should be used on a varied schedule and alternated to prevent geese from becoming used to them*" and "*If this (noise makers) are combined or alternated with other methods just as geese are coming, it can be effective.*" The Goose Guardian is designed to meet these requirements.

About TKO Enterprises, Inc.

TKO Enterprises, Inc. is a technology company headquartered in Boulder County, Colorado focused on the development and application of its patent-pending object recognition image sensor. The Goose Guardian is the first product to incorporate the sensor. For more information about the Goose Guardian, please visit www.gooseguardian.com

About the National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC)

The NWRC is part of the USDA's Wildlife Services program. The mission of the NWRC is to apply scientific expertise to resolve human-wildlife conflicts while maintaining the quality of the environment shared with wildlife. For more information about the NWRC, please visit www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife_damage/nwrc/.