



Monday, April 2 – Gov. Gina Raimondo and the Board of Directors for the Rhode Island Commerce Corporation approved three Innovation Vouchers. The Innovation Voucher program is designed to help spur innovation in the local economy by funding up to \$50,000 for research and development between small Rhode Island businesses and local knowledge partners—namely colleges, universities and hospitals. With these awards, there have now been 47 Innovation Voucher recipients.

Cranston-based manufacturer Mearthane will receive \$40,574 to develop and implement a new and innovative process for their industry-leading Durethane formulas. Mearthane will partner with an external expert who can lead an internal team in identifying and enacting specific process innovation to dramatically improve the product reliability, consistency, and quality yields.

MindImmune will receive \$50,000 to partner with URI to build upon success from last year's Innovation Voucher project, further establishing key animal models of brain immune system dysfunction as a means to screen for new therapies for Alzheimer's disease.

CRE Medical utilize \$49,989 and partner with URI to develop a tripolar concentric ring electrode and tripolar electroencephalography that offers a radical improvement over the existing disc electrode for EEG brain monitoring.

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