

III. Executive Summary (limited to one page)

The Great Plains Knowledge and Data Center will promote the development and advancement of knowledge-based business in the region. The Center will include two key areas, a production data facility and a research and development facility (R&D), which will support current and new knowledge-based business ventures through three central functions: technology operations, business development, and data center R&D. Approximately 70 new, high-tech knowledge-based jobs paying regionally competitive salaries will be created by June 30, 2010. These jobs will expand the employment base in Minot and strategically diversify the regional economy. Participating partners will be Minot State University (MSU), InfoTech-Minot Technology Center (InfoTech-MTC), and SRT.

The Center will enhance the economic capabilities of the greater Minot area by acting as a catalyst to attract new business, leveraging economic development activities, acting as a focal point for new technology growth opportunities, and attracting capital through new business investments and grants. Center activities will promote high paying jobs, increase area tax base, and reduce out migration due to high skill employment opportunities to diversify Minot's regional economy.

InfoTech-MTC will provide the Center with client projects, technological expertise, internship and employment opportunities, and data center activities. InfoTech-MTC clients will be provided access to data and services through the production data facility. SRT will provide physical infrastructure, broadband access, and professional expertise. The production data facility will host InfoTech-MTC applications and provide a site for MSU student internships and future employment.

MSU will host and operate the R&D facility, which will house a replicated production data facility for students and faculty to engage in testing and development of client projects and provide marketing, managerial, and data technology consulting services to partners. The Center will assist private and public enterprises in software development and testing. Center staff will pursue additional work in collaboration with Minot Area Development Corporation and other regional partners in economic development for long-term sustainability.

Minot State University
Great Plains Knowledge and Data Center
REVISED Grant Annual Total Costs - 1 October 2007

	FY 2007-08			FY 2008-09		FY 2009-10	
	Start-Up Costs	FTE	1/08-6/08	FTE	7/08-6/09	FTE	7/09-6/10
Funding Periods	1		1		2		3
Personnel							
Director		0.5	\$20,000	1.0	\$83,200	1.0	\$86,528
Benefits			\$6,282		\$25,966		\$27,006
Systems Administrator		0.5	\$12,500	0.5	\$26,000	0.5	\$27,040
Benefits			\$3,901		\$8,114		\$8,439
Project Contract work			\$200,000		\$200,000		\$100,000
Cooperative Learning			\$30,000		\$50,000		\$50,000
Total Personnel			\$272,683		\$393,280		\$299,013
Equipment							
Production Data Facility	\$800,000						
R&D Facility	\$250,000						
Total Equipment	\$1,050,000		\$0		\$0		\$0
Utilities	\$50,000						
Marketing, Travel, Training			\$15,000		\$10,000		\$10,000
Total (Column)	\$1,100,000		\$287,683		\$403,280		\$309,013
Cumulative			\$1,387,683		\$1,790,963		\$2,099,976

Great Plains Knowledge and Data Center Budget Narrative

Personnel Costs

Director: Base salary of \$80,000, benefits at 31.21%; 50% FTE for Funding Period 1; 100% FTE for Funding Periods 2 and 3. Annual fiscal year increase of 4%.

Systems Administrator: Base salary of \$52,000, benefits at 31.21%; 50% FTE for Funding Periods 1, 2, and 3.

Project Contract Work: Technical expertise will be hired on contracts for service to assist in infrastructure setup as well as R&D facility project and service mentoring to student interns, faculty, and businesses. Consultants hired will have technical expertise specific to project needs.

Cooperative Learning: Students will receive stipends for work performed within the R&D facility as well as on-site with partners.

Equipment

R&D Facility Equipment will include secure cages, servers, racks, firewalls, routers, gateways, storage array, switches, etc. Facility, along with Center administrative offices, will be located in one or more MSU buildings. MSU will support costs for renovation of area and relocation of current occupants.

Production Data Facility Equipment will include servers, switches, storage array, etc, and will be located at SRT Communications North Center. Grant funds will purchase the equipment. InfoTech-MTC will have exclusive rights to the use of this equipment.

Utilities include those necessary for updating the space where the R&D Center will be located.

Marketing, Travel, Training, costs are for Center staff for client contacts and meetings, project management discussions, and ongoing training.

Funding Disbursement Request

The budget has been divided into three funding periods (see budget, line 1). We request that the funding be disbursed as follows:

Funding Period 1 (Start up costs and FY 2007-08)	
January 1, 2008	\$1,387,683
Funding Period 2 (FY 2008-09)	
July 1, 2008	\$ 403,280
Funding Period 3 (FY 2009-10)	
July 1, 2009	\$ 309,013