



Department of Justice

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PRESIDENT OF PALMETTO COMPANY PLEADS GUILTY TO MILITARY CONTRACT FRAUD

Tampa, FL - United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announced today the filing of an Information and plea agreement for Hasit Navin Vibhakar, age 34, of Ellenton, Florida. According to the court records, Vibhakar was charged with and pled guilty to one count of wire fraud relating to government military contracts. A sentencing date has not been set, however, Vibhakar faces a maximum sentence of 20 years' imprisonment.

Court documents assert that from approximately January, 2004 through December, 2005, Vibhakar worked as President of Telesis Technology Corporation (hereinafter "Telesis"), which was located at 1611 12th Street East Unit B, Palmetto, FL 34221. Vibhakar as President of Telesis submitted bids via the internet for government contracts to provide electronic and component parts to the United States Department of Defense (DoD). The contracts required that the contractor deliver new parts in accordance with strict specifications. In bidding for the contracts, Vibhakar falsely represented that he would comply with the specifications of the contracts. After he was awarded a contract, Vibhakar knowingly provided parts that did not comply with the specifications, and/or knowingly provided parts that were not new. When he delivered the parts, Vibhakar again represented that the parts complied with the contract specifications, and indicated that

payment was due to Telesis.

Vibhakar's fraud involved critical application items, to include components deemed critical to the E/I T400 Helicopter engine. The United States paid approximately \$563,130.00 to Vibhakar based upon a total of approximately thirty-three fraudulent contracts submitted by Vibhakar.

This case is being investigated by the Department of Defense, Office of Inspector General. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Anthony Porcelli. _____