# Dossier: Aquagga, Inc.

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $139,995.00

**Award Date:** 2024-04-01

**Branch:** NAVY

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Aquagga, Inc. is a US-based company specializing in the development and deployment of compact, portable, and scalable waste-to-energy systems designed to eliminate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other hazardous waste materials on-site. Their core mission is to provide a cost-effective and environmentally sound solution for the destruction of PFAS contaminants, particularly in decentralized locations, thereby reducing the environmental and health risks associated with these persistent chemicals. Aquagga's unique value proposition lies in its ability to offer a modular, deployable system that eliminates the need for transporting contaminated materials to centralized incineration facilities, which can be costly and generate additional pollution. They offer a solution tailored for military bases, firefighting foam disposal, and other contaminated sites where on-site treatment is preferred.

**Technology Focus:**

* Hydrothermal Alkaline Treatment (HALT):\*\* Aquagga utilizes a patented HALT technology that employs heat and pressure within an alkaline environment to break down PFAS molecules into harmless components. The system operates at moderate temperatures and pressures, making it energy-efficient and safer than traditional incineration methods.
* Modular and Mobile Systems:\*\* Aquagga's core product offering consists of modular, containerized treatment systems that can be easily transported and deployed to various sites. These systems are scalable to handle different volumes of contaminated waste.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Department of Defense (DoD) Contracts:\*\* Aquagga has secured multiple contracts with the DoD for pilot studies and demonstrations of its PFAS destruction technology at military installations. These contracts validate the effectiveness and potential of Aquagga's solution for addressing PFAS contamination in the defense sector.
* Series Seed Funding (October 2022):\*\* Aquagga raised $1.1 million in a seed funding round led by How Women Invest and Pack Ventures. The funding is being used to scale production and expand deployment of their PFAS destruction systems.
* Partnership with Isle Utilities (Announced 2022):\*\* Aquagga partnered with Isle Utilities to accelerate the adoption of its PFAS destruction technology within the water and wastewater industries.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Niv Horwitz (CEO):\*\* Niv Horwitz brings experience in cleantech startups and engineering, guiding Aquagga's commercialization and deployment efforts.
* Brian Pinkard (CTO):\*\* Brian Pinkard is the inventor of the HALT technology and possesses significant expertise in chemical engineering and waste treatment.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Battelle:\*\* Battelle offers a range of PFAS treatment technologies, including supercritical water oxidation. Aquagga's key differentiator is its focus on modular, on-site deployment and the HALT process which operates at lower temperatures and pressures than some competitors.
* Veolia:\*\* Veolia is a large environmental services company that offers PFAS removal and destruction services. Aquagga differentiates itself through its compact and mobile treatment systems designed for decentralized applications.

**Sources:**

1. [https://aquagga.com/](https://aquagga.com/)

2. [https://www.geekwire.com/2022/aquagga-raises-1-1m-to-destroy-pfas-chemicals-with-new-waste-treatment-tech/](https://www.geekwire.com/2022/aquagga-raises-1-1m-to-destroy-pfas-chemicals-with-new-waste-treatment-tech/)

3. [https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3045973/dod-awards-nearly-200-million-in-environmental-technology-demonstrations/](https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3045973/dod-awards-nearly-200-million-in-environmental-technology-demonstrations/) (Note: This link is for a DoD overall award; search within the document for Aquagga)

4. [https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220526005158/en/Aquagga-Partners-with-Isle-Utilities-to-Advance-PFAS-Destruction-Technology](https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220526005158/en/Aquagga-Partners-with-Isle-Utilities-to-Advance-PFAS-Destruction-Technology)