

PEAKS of Interest

Thermo, Chata, and Cerno take top awards

Thermo Electron's (Waltham, Massachusetts) Finnigan Orbitrap mass spectrometer for small molecule research, drug discovery, proteomics, metabolite identification, and metabolomics was presented with the Editor's Choice award at Pittcon 2006 in Orlando, Florida.

Chata Biosystems' (Fort Collins, Colorado) Chem+Mix prepackaged HPLC mobile phases was presented with the silver plaque, and Cerno Bioscience's (Danbury, Connecticut) MassWorks acquisition software was presented with the Bronze plaque.

Honorable mentions included the model 1200 HPLC system from Agilent Technologies (Palo Alto, California), the 800 Mhz UltraShield Plus from Bruker Daltonics (Billerica, Massachusetts), the DyanPro Plate Reader from Wyatt Technology (Santa Barbara, California), the Labworks LIMS 5.9 from PerkinElmer (Shelton, Connecticut), and the Varian 500 APCI LC-MS system from Varian (Palo Alto, California).

Bruker BioSciences to acquire Bruker Optics

Bruker BioSciences (Billerica, Massachusetts) announced that it will acquire all of the stock of molecular spectroscopy company Bruker Optics Inc. (Billerica, Massachusetts) for \$135 million. The agreement was signed following its unanimous approval by a special committee of independent directors.

The combined company will have a broad range of mass spectrometry, x-ray analysis, and molecular spectroscopy technology platforms to provide a combination of complementary systems for chemical and materials analysis. It will be a provider of instrumentation and molecular analysis solutions for a variety of industries including pharmaceutical and biotechnology research and development, proteomics and structural biology, and small molecule chemical analysis.

The acquisition is expected to be immediately accretive to Bruker BioSciences' 2006 and 2007 EPS.

Chromatography Market Profile

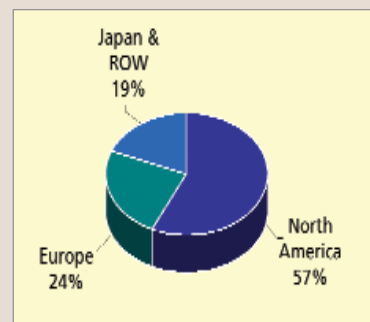
Flash Chromatography

Flash chromatography is a type of preparative liquid chromatography commonly used in the separation of organic compounds. When purifying organic compounds, few techniques are as easy, inexpensive, and speedy as flash chromatography. Flash chromatography has become a popular method of normal phase separation through purification. While flash chromatography is typically a low-pressure technique, scientists are using vacuums or pumps at medium pressures to speed the separation process. The columns are packed with a silica adsorbent of defined particle size usually between 40–60 μ m. Mobile phases with low viscosity require smaller particle sizes. While traditional flash chromatography required scientists to pack their own columns, many of them have turned to one-time use, pre-made flash cartridges.

Flash chromatography is used to scale up normal phase chemistries from thin layer chromatography. Demand for flash chromatography comes primarily from the pharmaceutical, biotech, petrochemical, and agrochemical industries. The pharmaceutical industry uses flash chromatography for a wide range of applications including purification of small compounds, peptides, and purification of natural products.

The overall market for flash chromatography continues to be strong, particularly in the life science market. Synthesis of organic compounds and peptides continue to fuel growth for flash systems. In fact, flash chromatography systems are expected to grow double-digits over the next five years. Flash is concentrated heavily in North America and Europe, which account for about 80% of the total market.

The foregoing data was extracted from Strategic Directions International Inc. Market Analysis and Perspectives (MAP) report entitled, *Life Science Instrumentation: Supporting Systems Biology in Integrating Genomics, Proteomics, and Drug Discovery*. For more information, contact Glenn Cudiamat, Vice President of Research Services, Strategic Directions International, Inc., 6242 Westchester Parkway, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90045, tel. (310) 641-4982, fax (310) 641-8851, e-mail: cudiamat@strategic-directions.com, or website: <http://www.strategic-directions.com>.



2005 Flash Chromatography Demand by Region.

Chinese pharmaceutical company selects Thermo

Thermo Electron announced that WuXi PharmaTech Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China) has selected Watson LIMS to meet the specific data management requirements of its bioanalytical facilities.

WuXi PharmaTech serves many top pharmaceutical companies and biopharmaceutical companies in the world. The company provides discovery and development services, from lead identification to pre-clinical.

DataApex and Knauer announce cooperation

DataApex (Prague, Czech Republic) and Knauer (Berlin, Germany) recently announced signature of an OEM software agreement. Knauer will market an OEM version of DataApex's product Clarity Chromatography Software under the name ClarityChrom.

All of Knauer's Smartline instruments for analytical HPLC will be supported in the first release of ClarityChrom, planned for the second half of 2006. ■