

PEAKS of Interest



Agilent Technologies donates microarrays to Vanderbilt University

Agilent Technologies (Palo Alto, California) and Vanderbilt University Medical Center (VUMC, Nashville, Tennessee) announced that Agilent has donated cDNA microarray kits to Vanderbilt's medical center. VUMC plans to use the donation to improve and develop undergraduate and graduate courses in genomics and bioinformatics.

Shawn Levy, director, VUMC's core gene expression facility, states, "Agilent's donation will enable our students to gain real-world training with microarrays, an important tool in genomics, gene expression, and systems biology. In addition, the microarrays will provide our bioinformatics students and fellows with very defined and controlled data sets for their research projects."

Chiral Technologies, Inc. announces completion of new headquarters and technical center

Chiral Technologies, Inc. (Exton, Pennsylvania) announces the opening of its new headquarters and technical center in West Chester, Pennsylvania. The facility includes 2,400 square meters for its business center and laboratories.

President and CEO Thomas B. Lewis states, "Our new facility will have the capacity to separate chiral compounds for pharmaceutical companies in quantities ranging from a few grams to the 50-kg scale. The key to high productivity is the selection of the optimal chiral stationary phase. Our new methods development lab will have the ability to screen our client's compounds under confidentiality with a library of over 50 stationary phases."

Saliva protein findings could enable faster, cheaper, and safer tests

Following the identification of new proteins in saliva, spit tests are a step closer to blood tests for identifying many diseases. Although the tests will not likely replace blood tests entirely, the spit tests could prove to be a viable option for the early diagnosis of many diseases, including certain types of cancer.

Phillip Wilmarth, U.S. researcher from the Oregon Health and Science University School of Dentistry (Portland, Oregon) and

Chromatography Market Profile

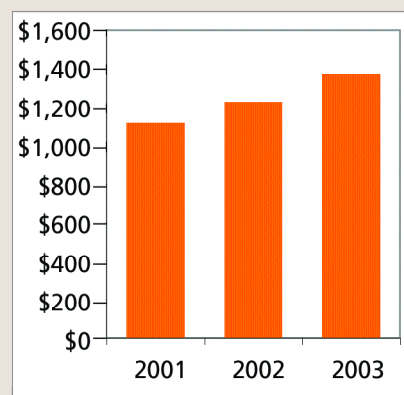
Preparative and Process Chromatography

Although liquid chromatography (LC) is associated most commonly with analytical techniques that are found inside the laboratory, LC also has been used for decades in industrial applications for the separation of a wide range of products. More recently, the technique has been applied to requirements in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, both inside the laboratory and in industrial settings, for which the technique is uniquely qualified. With global sales approaching \$1.4 billion, the market for preparative LC is poised to grow at double-digit rates during the next five years.

The steady growth of pharmaceutical and biotechnology research is continuing to drive strong demand for preparative chromatography, which has become a commonplace technique for improving a wide range of analyses. With the increase in the number of drug candidates reaching clinical trial phases and full approval, nonanalytical chromatography is seeing dramatic growth at the pilot and process scales.

The preparative and process chromatography market (including prep HPLC and LPLC, flash, SFC, SMB, pilot, and process scale chromatography) is likely to benefit from the FDA initiative to modernize the regulation guidelines of pharmaceutical manufacturing. Drugmakers often have been reluctant to change manufacturing processes and/or equipment because of regulatory hurdles. Among other measures, an effort is being made to accommodate process changes that would support continuous process improvement and encouraging the use of modern tools.

The foregoing data was extracted from SDi's Market Analysis and Perspectives Report, "Purification Applications for Liquid Chromatography: Stellar Growth Beyond the Laboratory." For more information, contact Glenn Cudiamat, senior consultant, 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.



Worldwide prep and process chromatography demand.

colleagues are using 2-D LC-MS for a more sensitive approach to identifying the biomarkers for disease diagnosis that are typically found in blood serum. The U.S. FDA recently approved an oral HIV test, with pregnancy tests and tests for the detection of drugs and alcohol still in progress.

Advanced Chemistry Development, Inc. announces agreement with Tegment Technology Ltd.

Tegment Technology Ltd. (Guangzhou, China) and Advanced Chemistry Development, Inc. (Toronto, Ontario, Canada) announced their agreement for Tegment to be the master distributor of ACD Labs software in China, including Hong Kong and Macau. Under the agreement, Tegment will distribute ACD Labs' entire line of software to the chemistry-based research industry throughout China. The combination of ACD's software and

Tegment's breadth of experience will better position both companies as key contenders in China's chemistry-based industry.

"In the dynamic and competitive analytical science market, our strategic position is always to keep ahead of the market trend. We are willing to invest and create a market for products of good value and high market potential. Meanwhile, we see ACD as the future 'window' in analytical chemistry," says Edmond Lee, director of business development at Tegment.

K. K. Bhagchandani, director of Asia Pacific operations at ACD states, "With ever-growing science and business opportunities in China, we are excited about the future. Our intention is to attain the highest standards of our service and support for our existing and prospective customers in China though Tegment's competence and established reputation." ■