

MICROSCOPY SUPPLIERS DATABASE

An objective will be to develop an extensive database - covering all equipment, products, materials and services relating to microscopy - and to offer a no cost "locator" service to our readers.

As a first step to this objective, the challenge is to produce a first level, accurate, major equipment systems listing that covers the broad scope of microscopy - with an eye to the future. The following is our "first pass" at this listing:

Acoustic Microscopy
 Confocal Microscopy
 Electron Microscopy
 FT-IR Microscopy
 Fluorescence Microscopy
 Interference Microscopy
 IR Microscopy
 Light Microscopy
 Phase Contrast Microscopy
 Polarized Light Microscopy
 Raman Microscopy
 STM/AFM
 Ultramicroscopy

Once the first category listing is correct, the next challenge will be to establish second level major equipment system categories - as may be appropriate. Electron Microscopy, for example, would be broken down to SEM, TEM, FESEM, ESEM, etc., etc.

The assistance of any reader would be appreciated to correctly establish this first and second level category breakdown - based, again, on equipment.

Once this two level, major microscopy equipment listing is properly established, the supplier's data base format will be expanded to include other products, supplies and services that relate to each of the major microscopy equipment levels.

It may be that there are relatively few in the industry that hold an intimate appreciation of all microscopy techniques. Should you be one, we would appreciate your help. Or, should you be well versed in part of the broad field, we would also appreciate your help.

Q & A

As discussed with a number of our readers, we are presenting this "Question & Answer" section on a trial basis.

The concept will be to publish questions of a technical nature from our readers. We assume that such questions will include, but not be limited to, such topics as hints/help on accomplishing a specific procedure, where to find a material/substance, etc. The reader may, if he/she wishes, remain anonymous.

In the following monthly issue, in addition to publishing "new" questions, we will publish answers to the "old" questions. Should an answer be too long for publication, we will publish a short summary and mail or FAX the full answer to all readers so requesting.

The following are several REAL questions:

Q5/1 *Single crystal, (001) oriented silicon is necessary for calibration of a Link Electron Back Scatter Pattern Analysis system. Does anyone know of a source for these samples? - - - Anonymous.*

Q5/2 *We are interested in sharing tips/hints on using ion beam sputtering for high resolution coatings with a FESEM. Contact James Stets, Air Products & Chemicals, Tel.: (215)481-7643*

Q5/3 *How are EM Labs properly disposing of uranyl acetate and lead stitrate (other than via drain)? Any known disposal companies that handle? - - - Anonymous.*

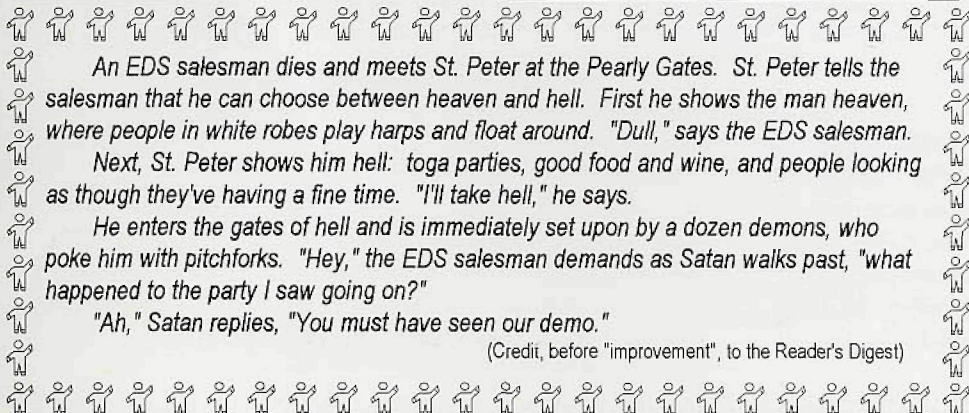
Q5/4 *Is there a course in immunogold labeling available (other than by MSA) or is there a lab where I could spend a day learning the technique? - - - Anonymous.*

Q5/5 *Immunocytochemists - does anyone know if FITC can withstand the rigors of fixation and embedding so that it can subsequently be localized with an anti-FITC antibody on the surface of a thin section? Personal guidance or literature guidance would be appreciated. - - - Anonymous*

NEW AND/OR INTERESTING IN MICROSCOPY - PITTCOON '92

The following is in supplement to our April issue summary. New readers wishing a copy of our April issue are welcome to contact Microscopy Today.

- ✓ **Analytical Spectral Devices (303)444-6522:** A new fiber optic photodiode array spectrometer, LabSpec, that can turn any trinocular microscope into a microspectrophometer.
- ✓ **Electroscan (508)988-0055:** For their ESEM, a new tensile stage and a new Digital Image Acquisition System.
- ✓ **FMTI (407)840-3684:** New microbiological image analysis system replaces standard colony counting procedures on agar plates. Plastic filtration devices using liquid or dehydrated media trap bacteria on membrane surfaces allows for variable throughput..
- ✓ **Hitachi Scientific Insts (415)969-1100:** The new, low cost Model S-2250N Environmental SEM allowing, with a touch of a button, the change between HP environmental mode and LP high resolution mode
- ✓ **Jandel Scientific (415)453-6700:** JAVA video analysis PC software allows a variety of automatic measurements (x,y coordinates, areas, angles, object counting, etc.) from microscope images.
- ✓ **Kaiser Optical Systems (313)665-8083:** A new Holographic Beamsplitter with very high efficiency, the option of a small less expensive laser, faster data acquisition and reliable intensity measurements without filter artifacts.
- ✓ **Kratos Analytical (201)825-7500:** The new full automated LC-MS PROFILE is a high productivity, cost-effective LC-MS system designed for continuous sample analysis. BPS (BioPolymer Sequence) software to predict and match possible peptide sequences to spectra.
- ✓ **Lab Support (818)593-5900:** With Lab Support, the chemistry's always right. We place scientific professionals on temporary assignments in laboratories nationwide.
- ✓ **OptoElectronics TEXTRON (707)763-4181:** Single and multi-element lead selenide and lead sulfide infrared detector sensors operating in the 1 - 5 micron wavelength range.
- ✓ **Oxford - Link Analytical (615)483-8405:** Announced the Link eXL II EDS system - with substantial improvements over the highly successful eXL series.
- ✓ **Perkin Elmer (203)762-1000:** Their FT-IR microscope interfaced to the new System 2000 FT-IR spectrometer.
- ✓ **Spectra-Tech (203)357-7055:** ATR Objective, a new microsampling technique which mounts on IR-Plan FT-IR microscopes - allows direct nondestructive sample analysis. New Grazing Angle Objective Package now allows IR-Plan users to analyze ultra-thin films and coatings to the monomolecular level.


 An EDS salesman dies and meets St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter tells the salesman that he can choose between heaven and hell. First he shows the man heaven, where people in white robes play harps and float around. "Dull," says the EDS salesman. Next, St. Peter shows him hell: toga parties, good food and wine, and people looking as though they've having a fine time. "I'll take hell," he says. He enters the gates of hell and is immediately set upon by a dozen demons, who poke him with pitchforks. "Hey," the EDS salesman demands as Satan walks past, "what happened to the party I saw going on?" "Ah," Satan replies, "You must have seen our demo." (Credit, before "improvement", to the Reader's Digest)