

Markes International Launches New *CIA Advantage* for Canister Analysis of Air Toxics

March, 12, 2012, Markes International (Llantrisant, UK), a world leader in thermal desorption (TD) technology and innovation, today announces that it will be launching an innovative new instrument, the *CIA Advantage* at PITTCON 2012. Designed for the analysis of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in air and gas that is sampled using canisters, the *CIA Advantage* allows analytical chemists to analyse a wide range of analyte concentrations without the need for dilution, saving time and meeting an industry need for more flexible solutions. Due to the inbuilt sorbent tube functionality, the instrument has the capacity to analyse an extended range of compounds while improving workflow productivity. *CIA Advantage* systems are fully compliant with the US Environmental Protection Agency Method TO-15, allowing users to have confidence in results. Markes will exhibit the newly launched instrument on booth #1780, 1781 at PITTCON 2012, Orlando, FL, March 11- March 15, 2012.

Traditionally canisters have been used to analyse ambient air samples, however, they are increasingly being applied to other analyses such as vapour intrusion and soil gas studies. As a result, there is a need for instrumentation that has the capacity to manage a wider range of sample concentrations. Additionally, the harmful effects of low-level exposure to hazardous air pollutants, such as 'air toxics', on human health are being increasingly recognised and consequently, analytical laboratories using canisters are required to detect ever-lower levels of analytes. The *CIA Advantage* is a single system that can handle component concentrations ranging from ppt to low-percent levels using a combination of loop-sampling, large-volume sampling and the ability to split sample flows, presenting a time-efficient and cost-effective solution.

With cryogen-free operation, the *CIA Advantage* avoids the cost of liquid cryogen while the heated internal lines and efficient purge steps combine to avoid the problem of carryover, even with less volatile analytes. This negligible carryover means that canister analysis can be confidently undertaken on samples of unknown concentration, facilitating automation and therefore increasing productivity. The *CIA Advantage* is equipped to prevent ice formation, creating a robust system and minimising downtime.

Markes International is the world leader in TD technology and innovation, specialising in the manufacture and supply of cryogen-free TD instrumentation, sampling accessories and consumables for VOC and SVOC monitoring. Markes' global customer base includes major industry, government agencies, academia and the service laboratory sector.

For further information on the *CIA Advantage* or Markes' other thermal desorption instruments, accessories or consumables, please visit booth #1780,1781 at PITTCON 2012. Alternatively, please email enquiries@markes.com or call +44 (0)1443 230935.

MARKES international

#

For further press information please contact: Lindsay Baldry, The Scott Partnership, 1 Whiteside, Station Road, Holmes Chapel, Cheshire CW4 8AA, United Kingdom, Tel: + 44 1477 539 539, Fax: +44 1477 539 540, E-mail: markes@scottpr.com