



Customer Case Study

Tiger Protecting the Science of Tomorrow

Tiger VOC detector used within the University of Nottingham School of Chemistry (GSK) to detect potentially harmful VOCs within the lab environment.

Company: University of Nottingham School of Chemistry

Industry: University & Laboratory

Application: Research Project (based around green and sustainable chemistry themes)

Requirements: PID detector to monitor VOC concentrations in the lab



The Background

Preventing exposure and ensuring VOC levels do not reach dangerous concentrations in these areas is essential for the safety of those working, and to ensure minimal interference with projects and experiments. There are also other factors to consider, such as shared communal spaces in buildings (like corridors or common rooms) potentially being impacted by high levels of VOCs. Depending on the volume and type of VOC, this could range from mildly annoying to more serious health affects long-term.

In a university, where buildings may have been converted or retrofitted to their current purpose, and therefore lack modern ventilation systems, having additional safeguards in place to monitor air quality and VOC concentrations is essential for safety. The University of Nottingham School of Chemistry had received some complaints about strong chemical smells in their labs, but the team also wanted to introduce some additional safety measures in the event of ventilation systems being down, accidents, leaks or other potential hazardous incidents.

A Spokesperson at the university commented:

“Our building contains a series of chemistry research laboratories where groups work on diverse projects based around green and sustainable chemistry themes; we make catalysts, invent new reactions, new battery technology, and new solar cells.”

Requirement

To accurately evaluate VOC levels and identify the risks or hazards present in the lab, the team wanted to find a handheld device that could monitor VOC concentration and air quality. It needed to be simple in its readouts, reliable, and able to be used in multiple labs, as well as different areas within the lab, such as fume hoods. ION Science's leading handheld VOC detector, the Tiger, was chosen for meeting all these requirements and more.

As the first VOC detector used by The University of Nottingham School of Chemistry, one of the key factors for purchase was the ease of use for the Tiger, and the extensive technical support offered by Shawcity.



The Outcome

For the chemists and students who are working hard to make scientific discoveries and improvements for the future, it's vital that their labs and work areas are safe and free from potentially harmful VOCs (volatile organic compounds). Our UK distributor, Shawcity, is pleased to have supplied, ION Science's leading handheld VOC gas detector, the Tiger, to help monitor air quality at the University of Nottingham School of Chemistry GSK Centre for Sustainable Chemistry.

A Spokesperson at the university commented:

"We use a lot of different organic solvents many of which are volatile and require LEVs (local exhaust ventilation) to contain those vapours. We use the Tiger to check that our vented cupboards, extraction arms, vented enclosures and fume hoods are doing what they are meant to, which is containing those VOCs.

The Tiger is very useful in the lab for both routine inspections of air quality and equipment functionality, as well as for use in emergencies when ventilation equipment has gone down. We are extremely pleased with the product and Shawcity have been helpful throughout."



The ION Science Solution

Instrument: Tiger Portable PID Detector

The ION Science Tiger PID monitor is a portable gas detector that rapidly and accurately detects volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Its anti-contamination design, humidity resistance in harsh conditions and long battery life make it a key piece of technology commonly used by fire investigation teams across the world. The Tiger provides a detection range of 0-20,000 parts per million (ppm) with a minimum sensitivity of 0.001ppm.

Both simple to operate and service, the Tiger offers easy access to the lamp and sensor with batteries that can be safely replaced in hazardous environments. The intrinsically safe instrument also meets ATEX, IECEx, UL and CSA standards.

It features long life rechargeable Li-ion batteries which give up to 24 hours usage. Fast battery charging allows the instrument to be fully charged in 6.5 hours, while eight hours of use can be achieved from 1.5 hours of charging time.

ION Science is pleased to be supporting the science and technology achievements of tomorrow with industry leading VOC detection today.

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