

Issue 14

December 2011

USB socket now incorporated into Formaldemeter htV-m

USB interface allowing direct connection to a PC for data download or control by the SPC-3 programme without the need for additional hardware.

The USB cable sends the collected data to the htv-m data download software, where the user can view past formaldehyde sampling results.

For more information please contact - sales@ppm-technology.com



Survey of distributors aims to give insight in international marketplace.

A survey has been sent to all our distributors; the survey aims to give us an accurate picture of the trends in the international marketplace for formaldehyde detection and other IAQ parameters. We will discuss the responses and results in the January newsletter.

** If you haven't received the survey, and would like to complete it please contact me at gareth@ppm-technology.com*

Customer Satisfaction survey return positive results.

Our recent Customer Satisfaction Survey returned positive results; our overall level of Customer Satisfaction was 81.3%. With Marketing achieving 83%, Staff Performance 83% and Service and Products 78%.

Hair smoothing products can release high levels of formaldehyde.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a hazard alert on April 11, 2011 warning hair salon owners and workers about potential exposure to formaldehyde from using some hair smoothing and straightening products, including the Brazilian Blowout brand. (Formaldehyde helps bind keratin to hair, straightening it.)

Responding to complaints from workers, OSHA found evidence of dangerously high levels of formaldehyde in the air of salons using these hair-straightening products — even though the products are often listed as 'formaldehyde free.' The agency also found evidence of allergic reactions by workers and clients to the products, including nosebleeds and eye irritation.

Health warnings related to the treatment have been issued in many countries, some national health and safety organisations have taken a further step and have banned the product entirely.

If you have any relevant stories, including any recent or upcoming exhibitions, application stories or customer testimonials that you want to be included in the next newsletter please feel free to contact us:

gevans@ppm-technology.com

Aldehydes in the hospital environment.

Both Formaldehyde and Glutaraldehyde are found in the hospital environment at higher concentrations than those to which the general population is exposed.

Glutaraldehyde is used in hospitals as a disinfectant or biocide. It is a popular disinfectant for endoscopes and other instruments for which heat sterilization is not feasible, and it is used as a histological fixative and for the treatment of verrucae and warts.

Formaldehyde is used in the hospital environment as a preservative of biological materials, as a fixative for tissues it is also used for embalming. Therefore concentrations of formaldehyde are often high in parts of hospitals – particularly in mortuaries and histopathology department.

Health groups press for more focus on indoor air.

Health advocates are urging the European Commission to take a sharper look at indoor air hazards and to strengthen regulations on chemicals found in countless household and workplace products.

“It’s a very complex issue because you have a mixture of biological factors, of chemical factors, so it is difficult to say there is the one problem,” said Anne Stauffer, deputy director of the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL), a pressure group.

“But we know certainly that the quality of the outdoor environment plays a role,” she told a recent EurActiv workshop on air quality. *“We also see the chemical emissions coming from consumer products that we use in the environment are of concern.”*

Vehicle and industrial emissions, which form particulate pollution that is blamed for thousands of deaths across the EU each year, is the biggest contributor to indoor pollution. Many countries are failing to enforce the Union’s air quality laws, a setback for both indoor and outdoor pollution.

[More info.](#)

Growing calls for formaldehyde to be classified as carcinogenic at European level.

- France – ASNES request that formaldehyde be classified as a carcinogen at European Level. [More info.](#)

- Polish demonstrators show support for reclassification of formaldehyde. [More info.](#)

- The European Trade Union Council (ETUC) wants Europe to classify formaldehyde as carcinogenic to humans. [More info.](#)



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Formaldehyde and Glutaraldehyde MSDS to be sent with each calibration standard.

The relevant Material Safety Data Sheet will now be sent with each delivery of PPM formaldehyde and glutaraldehyde calibration standards, a **Material Safety Data Sheet** (MSDS) is a form with data regarding the properties of a particular substance.

The MSDS contains information on the procedure for safe disposal of calibration standards, safe handling and storage of the substance. And other health and safety related information.

If you would like to receive the MSDS document please contact us – info@ppm-technology.com

UK – China Business Lunch.

PPM Technology's MD John B Jones attended the recent UK–China Business Lunch and SME Forum held in Cardiff City Hall. Speakers will included Secretary of State Dr. Vince Cable, Vice-Minister Gao Hucheng and Lord Green of Hurstpierpoint.

Key themes for discussion during the SME Forum included:

- The outlook for UK-China SME Cooperation.
- Key investment opportunities between regions in the UK and China.
- China's Green Revolution.



PPM Technology will close for the Christmas period between the 22nd of December and the 3rd of January. We will reply to any requests and dispatch goods as soon as possible when we re-open in the New Year.

PPM Technology would like to wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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