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New Corrosion Resistant Flow Cell Ideal for Process Streams that are Incompatible with Metal

RANCHO CORDOVA, CA --- July 18, 2011, Guided Wave Inc., a leading manufacturer of online process analyzers, recently released a new Teflon® PFA /PEEK flow cell designed for sample streams that are incompatible with metal components. The sample interface, or flow cell as it is referred to by some, is a crucial component of a complete fiber optic based analyzer system. All wetted parts are non-metallic making this flow cell ideal for use with HF semiconductor baths, or extremely corrosive streams containing strong acids, bases, peroxides or halogenated compounds.

The corrosion resistant PEEK material eliminates any possible metals contamination. The cell body is made of Teflon® PFA 51 with sapphire windows to prevent direct contamination to the process stream. Also the dual o-ring seal consists of Kalrez 6375UP (ultra-pure) material. Since no metal parts come in contact with the liquid stream, the design is ideal for processes where even parts per billion levels of metal contamination can create serious problems as in semiconductor fab etching and cleaning steps.

According to Dr. Terry Todd, Guided Wave's Corporate Fellow, "Exceptional spectroscopic flow cell design requires stable and fixed optical path lengths. Structural reinforcement rods embedded in the new Teflon® PFA /PEEK flow cell body ensures thermal stability and permanent reproducible path lengths." Also the aspheric collimating lens delivers a focused and consistent light beam for optimal analysis. The net result is a flow cell that offers high signal-to-noise measurements, low thermal drift, low flow noise characteristics, absorbance accuracy, and low vibration sensitivity.

The flow cell can be completely dismantled, then reassembled without changing the sample pathlength, an important feature when working with established NIR calibration models. The peak transmission, or throughput, is guaranteed to exceed 45% providing more signal and lower detection limits. The flow cell comes in four standard optical pathlengths: 2, 5, 10 and 20 mm. Other custom paths are available by special order. The flow cell is configured with SMA 905 connectors, which facilitate full integration with any fiber optic system. It is compatible with most spectrometers and easily integrates into custom sampling systems.

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About Guided Wave Incorporated

Guided Wave Inc. pioneered remote process analysis using optical fiber, and is a global leader in online fiber optic analyzers. The company has an installed base of over 500 instruments, operating in more than 50 countries on 6 continents, for continuous process monitoring of refinery, chemical, polymer and pharmaceutical applications. The staff includes engineers, chemometricians, chemists and physicists with extensive experience in feasibility assessment and system development for customers worldwide. Additional information about Guided Wave is available on the web at www.Guided-Wave.com.