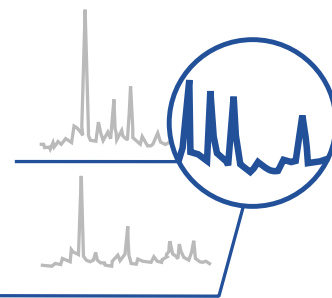


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PROCESS

Ultrasensitive spectroscopy tool to expand into biosafety

TIGER Optics LLC (Warrington, PA), a company recently spun-off from MEECO Inc (Warrington, PA) to manufacture and sell “the world’s first commercial Cavity Ring Down Spectroscopy product” (see *Instrumenta* 18 (4) 1), has seen strong demand for its gas moisture detection product for the semiconductor and petrochemical industry. Tom Mallon, Tiger Optics’ vice president worldwide sales and marketing, told *Instrumenta*: “We have recently submitted a proposal for a device for the public safety market based on CRDS to the federal government, and expect that with the available venture capital funding we will be entering this market soon.”

CRDS is claimed to be a million times more sensitive than conventional absorption spectroscopy. “While we have considerable

knowledge in the semiconductor and petrochemical field through our parent MEECO, we want to partner with companies focusing on environmental and medical applications,” said Mallon, who expects agreements to be reached within the next 12 months. Five months after the launch of the MTO-1000-H₂O, based on technology exclusively licensed from Princeton University, Tiger Optics has placed several instruments.

In related news, Hamamatsu Photonics KK (Tokyo, Japan) will co-develop an industrial application of CRDS for the detection of small amounts of gas in organisms or air samples in conjunction with Stanford University. Hamamatsu will invest \$130,000 over the next three years, supply research equipment and send a technician to Stanford to coordinate the project.

