

Chemex Newsletter Issue #2 December 2008

Welcome to the latest edition of CHEMEX Environmental International Ltd newsletter. We hope that these news items and updates are of interest and that the links provide adequate supporting information. Should you have any queries about these news items please do not hesitate to contact us via the web site at <http://www.chemex.co.uk> or by telephone on +44 (0)1954 252519

- **Annual UKAS Audit / Accreditation Update** - We are pleased to inform our clients that following an unannounced UKAS visit on 09-10 September 2008 Chemex, once again, has demonstrated that it has satisfactorily maintained its quality system to ISO 17025 and the MCERTS (soils) performance standard. Technical competence has been confirmed at this assessment audit through staff commitment to the ongoing improvement of the company's management systems, suitably documented policies and test procedures, good internal and external quality control data etc. Historically the lowest number of improvement actions was raised and satisfactorily cleared. Our current scope of accreditation has not changed since its last update in May 2008, a copy of which is available from the UKAS website <http://www.ukas.org>
- **Website Foreign Language Pages** – Chemex have recently introduced welcome pages in Polish, Spanish, Czech, Italian, Lithuanian and Russian. This is to provide a platform for our foreign clients to be introduced to Chemex in their own languages from where they can then access the full site, in English. Details of how to contact Chemex in their own language are included and a native speaker should then be able to reply. To access these pages simply visit the web site at <http://www.chemex.co.uk> and click on the appropriate country flag.
- **Special offers for overseas clients** – Overseas clients are strongly encouraged to take advantage of current exchange rates. Chemex can offer significant discounts on our current price list. For a quote please contact the Business Development Group on +44 (0)1954 252519 or email analysis@chemex.co.uk
- **LC/MS Instrumentation** – Chemex have recently taken receipt of a new LC/MS system and are in the process of completing its installation in a new purpose built laboratory. A proportion of LC/MS time will be dedicated to the analysis of water soluble compounds in support of our ecotoxicology testing activities. However, there are a large number of environmental analytical applications that will be validated, including, amongst others, pesticide and herbicide suites, endocrine disruptors, flame retardants, polymer additives and dyes.

We are very keen to hear from clients who would like to collaborate on other LC/MS applications.
- **Staff News** – Chemex are pleased to announce the appointment of two new members of staff. One additional laboratory technician has been employed in the inorganics department. Tim Carter has been employed in the accounts

department and may be contacted for any accounts queries on +44 (0)1954 252519 or via TCarter@chemex.co.uk

We would like to wish our new recruits every success at Chemex.
To see current vacancies at Chemex view our careers page
<http://www.chemex.co.uk/node/536>

- **Christmas Opening** – As usual Chemex will be open for business throughout the Christmas period and will only be closed on Thursday 25th and Friday 26th December and Thursday 1st January. In order to regulate the high seasonal demand that we normally experience we will be charging a premium for samples delivered in the last week before Christmas and requiring data between Monday 29th December and Monday 12th January.

These additional charges may be waived if work is ordered well in advance and delivered according to an agreed schedule, so please contact the Business Development Group on +44 (0)1954 252519 or email analysis@chemex.co.uk to discuss discounts, deliverables and turnaround times.

- **Ongoing improvements to Data Reporting** - From January 2009 Chemex intends to introduce enhanced data reporting. Simplified report formats will be offered as our standard reporting package. Our extensive corporate and first class reports will continue to be available if required as well as any bespoke data packages created to suit customer needs. This decision was prompted by client requests and should improve result review through its simplified data presentation. We are currently awaiting the final template approval from UKAS and truly this will benefit us, and our clients in terms of data assessment and cost saving.

In addition, Chemex has also invested additional resource in its quality assurance procedures and is pleased to offer all data independently QA checked before initial release to clients (clients should confirm the schedule for the fastest turnaround times). Therefore in the future clients will receive a single issue of independently checked data rather than the current preliminary and final reports.

- **External Visits** – As part of our ongoing programme of external training our and desire to keep abreast of current developments within the industry Chemex staff have recently participated in a number of external events. These include, amongst others, the 2008 Dionex IC Users Group meeting, BMTA Accreditation Seminar, Wastewater, Water and Environmental Monitoring Conference and Exhibition, and the LGC Environmental Proficiency Testing Day.
- **New Contracts** - Chemex are pleased to announce the renewal of a major monitoring project in the Lebanon for the forthcoming year.