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Shimadzu to launch gas chromatograph Tracera

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Singapore: Shimadzu will introduce Tracera, a high-sensitivity gas chromatograph equipped with the newly developed barrier discharge ionization detector (BID), which is capable of detecting all types of trace organic and inorganic compounds, with the exception of helium (He) and neon (Ne), at the 0.1 ppm level.

Tracera GC is applicable for many types of high-sensitivity analyses that are typically performed with GC systems incorporating multiple detectors. The system will make its debut at international analytical instrument exhibition Pittcon 2013 in the US.

Shimadzu investigated the basics of plasma detection technology as a means for increasing sensitivity stability and the detectable concentration range. This has resulted in the barrier discharge ionization detector (BID), a new detector capable of the high-sensitivity detection of both organic and inorganic compounds, while providing excellent durability.

Mr Masahito Ueda, general manager of GC and TA business unit, analytical and measuring instruments division, said that, "The Tracera is a ground-breaking new system that combines this new type of detector, offering features not provided by conventional detectors, with the Shimadzu GC-2010 Plus high-performance capillary gas chromatograph. It is expected to improve the efficiency of high-sensitivity, trace-quantity analyses, and to reduce equipment and analysis costs."

The main features of the system, includes its high sensitivity (it achieves detection sensitivity over 100 times that of thermal conductivity detectors-TCD), and over twice that of flame ionization detectors-FID), its capability as an universal detector (it is capable of detecting both organic and inorganic compounds with no difference in sensitivity) and its long-term stability (it adopts electrode-preserving plasma generation technology).