

NEW PRODUCTS

Compact radiation detector supports portable applications

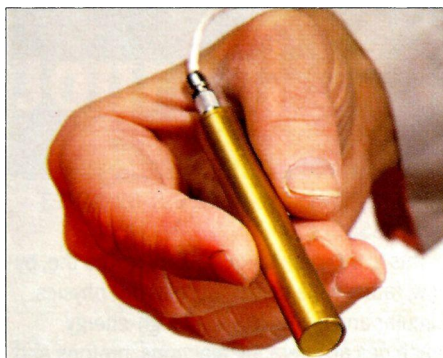
eV PRODUCTS, which is a specialist in the production and supply of CdZnTe-based, -room-temperature-operation, radiation detectors, has launched the SPEAR (Single Point Extended Area Radiation) detector.

The device is a complete probe, comprising a $5 \times 5 \times 5 \text{ mm}^3$ CdZnTe detector crystal and a low-noise hybrid preamplifier in a compact housing. It comes with a connecting cable, allowing the unit to be used immediately.

The new CAPture technology embodied in the SPEAR detector allows improved charge-collection efficiency, and thus photo-peak efficiency, along with reduced tailing and an improved peak-to-valley ratio for easier identification and quantification.

These improvements are all made without the use of complicated electronic systems and are ideally suited for portable applications, where weight, power consumption and size are important factors.

Available from stock, the SPEAR detectors



The SPEAR detector from eV PRODUCTS is a complete probe, comprising a $5 \times 5 \times 5 \text{ mm}^3$ CdZnTe detector crystal and low-noise hybrid preamplifier in a compact housing.

require a 12 VDC power supply, ground and bias (typically 500–750 V), and it will interface with any standard spectroscopy or counting system.

Contact Chris Bickel, eV PRODUCTS, 373 Saxonburg Blvd, Saxonburg, PA 16056, tel. 724 352 5288, fax 724 352 4435, internet "www.evproducts.com".

VME 64 extensions approved

VITA, the VMEbus International Trade Association, has announced the approval of the VITA 23, *VME64 Extensions for Physics and Other Applications* by the American National Standards Institute ANSI.

The document has been produced to supplement the VMEbus specifications, particularly the VME64 specification (ANSI/VITA 1-1994) and the VME64 Extensions (ANSI 1.1-1997), and to provide for the needs both of the physics community and users with similar requirements.

Issues that are addressed within the standard include grounding, high-frequency signalling, geographical addressing, user-defined input/output pins, efficient block transfer protocols and design guides.

The *VME 64 Extensions for Physics and Other Applications* (ANSI/VITA 23-1998) standard is available for a price of £32 plus delivery. It, and the many other current VITA reference works and standards, can be obtained from VITA Europe, 1 West Street, Titchfield, Hampshire PO14 4DH, UK, tel. +44 1329 841272, fax +44 1329 512063, e-mail "grace@gghnet.demon.co.uk".

Multiphysics simulation software boasts upgrade

Numerical Objects AS of Oslo has released version 3.0 of its Diffpack Multi Physics Simulation Framework.

Key features include powerful functionality and enhanced software extensibility. This release also introduces a new level of user documentation with a suite of training applications, and it is topped by a new Diffpack 3.0 textbook from Springer-Verlag.

Also new is a high level of support for finite difference methods and mixed finite element methods. The graphical user interface on

Windows is extended with an array of new features, and lightweight application-specific interfaces can now be generated in Unix.

Powerful extensions to the software architecture makes it possible to integrate seamlessly user-defined modules, as well as various Diffpack Toolboxes that will be released in the near future.

Diffpack 3.0 is available on Win32 as well as the Linux, DEC, IBM, SGI, HP and Sun Unix platforms. A test version of the software, documentation and application examples are available for download from Numerical Objects' Web site, which is accessible at "http://www.nobjects.com".

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