

SRA Instruments proposes high-performance GC and MicroGC products for the laboratory!

With a 2018 turnover of 4.6 million euros and more than 30 years of experience in the field of analysis by gas chromatography and micro-chromatography, the Franco-Italian company offers its customers ever more efficient solutions (instrumentation, software), resulting from its partnerships with reputable suppliers but also from its own R&D.

Founded in 1987 by Robert Merciar, the company SRA Instruments has specialized in gas chromatography, industrial analysis and customized analytical solutions. The founder worked for a long time in instrumentation companies and his experience led him to the Auvergne Rhône-Alpes region where he created SRA Instruments in Marcy L'Etoile. Since its creation, the company has grown and currently has 25 employees. In 2009, it experienced a turning point when Robert Merciar sold his shares to the Italian twin company which became the main shareholder of SRA Instruments France. The latter is now managed by three persons from SRA Instruments Italy :

- Armando Miliazza, President and Sales and Marketing Director
- Luigi Cobelli, Technical Director
- Gianluca Stani, Head of the Industrial Division

SRA Instruments products

SRA Instruments develops instrumentation solutions and integrated systems dedicated to specific and complex analytical needs mainly in the fields of environment, food and beverage, energy, chemistry and materials. It has specialized in the design, manufacture and integration of online analyzers. Based on GC or MicroGC technology, the SRA Instruments industrial analyzers and associated specific software allow the fully automated analysis of gases (combustion, natural, refinery, fuel cell, etc...). Indeed, the growing interest of industrials for on-line microanalyzers has led SRA Instruments to develop instruments that are always at the cutting edge of technology.

Since July 12, 2007, SRA Instruments has been certified ISO 9001 quality by LCIE for the development, manufacture and sale of analytical instrumentation equipment. Among its industrial solutions, SRA Instruments has been offering for many years ATEX certified analyzers (explosion risk atmosphere), able to work in the most severe environments (II 2 G - Ex db IIC T5 Gb). The transfer of results and alarms to a control station is facilitated. The manufacture of these analyzers requires an additional dedicated certification.

For the MicroGC, SRA Instruments has developed SOPRANE II, an independent, modern software that directly controls the MicroGC analyzer. Soprane II proposes an interface and functionalities dedicated to this technique. The operator who uses it performs rapid online analyses for a monitoring over time with measurements every two to three minutes.

For the laboratory, the SOLIA from SRA Instruments allows the coupling of the micro-chromatograph to the mass spectrometer. It is a very fast gas analyzer, composed of several complementary analytical modules. The SOLIA can analyze several compounds by separation and thanks to its non-destructive universal detectors. The quadrupole mass spectrometer then allows to formally identify each of the separate compounds.

Another product designed and manufactured by SRA is the IST16, a programmable, multi-loop storage interface placed between TGA and GC/MS. During thermal degradation of the material, the gas composition varies too rapidly relative to the GC or GC/MS analysis time to properly follow an emission profile.

This system collects the sample with 16 loops and starts an analysis for each of them. The GC analysis time is then no longer a limit for monitoring the degradation profile with this technique.

The IST16 is fully programmable and configurable via its dedicated software. It allows to edit an event table that controls the storage and injection at constant pressure of the storage loops.

It is compatible with the new Agilent GC 8890 and can be adapted to any other model.



R&D engineer handling a TGA-IST16-GC-MSD coupling

Well-known partners

SRA Instruments is a long-time partner of the Agilent company, which supplies it with its latest-generation gas chromatography instruments (GC 8860, 8890, Intuvo 9000 and MicroGC 990). These analyzers have been developed to reduce in particular operational and maintenance costs.

To these Agilent GC instruments, SRA Instruments brings a plus by creating a sampling system and/or by associating a specific software part in addition to the standard software. This concerns laboratories as well as industrials.

Another option is to associate to Agilent GC, products from partners distributed in France. For example, the Markes company, a specialist in innovative solutions for the analysis of trace organic compounds, has developed a thermo-desorber to perform these GC analyses. The most common applications are the analysis of indoor and/or outdoor air quality.

Other examples are the "Purge & Trap" from the American company EST Analytical for the analysis of drinking water (analysis of traces of pollutants in water); the sampling robot from the Swiss company CTC Analytics: the PAL, which can be parameterized and upgraded, with a possible configuration according to the user's needs. SRA instruments officially distributes this robot for laboratory sample preparation since the beginning of October 2019.

SRA Instruments and its partners thus offer products such as:

- Mass spectrometry,
- Sample preparation,
- Liquid chromatography (solutions in the field of gel permeation and GPC/SEC dimensional exclusion chromatography)
- Spectroscopy (UV-VIS, VUV...),
- Sulfur compound analyzers,
- GC accessories (gas generators and detectors, soundproofing).

To see all products, visit the website www.srainstruments.com

After-sales service and organization

After-sales service is provided by SRA Instruments for all solutions sold in France and abroad: USA, China, Europe and other countries. Troubleshooting can be done by telephone (hot line), at the customer's premises or by returning the defective equipment. Maintenance contracts (annual preventive visit and curative visits) and tailor-made contracts are proposed to customers. Training courses on request to make the best use of the analyzers are possible.

Approximately 25 people work in the company SRA Instruments, including 5 people in R&D, 7 in after-sales service, 4 in production and 4 in sales, two of whom are based in Paris.

In Marcy L'Etoile, the company SRA Instruments has since 2014 new premises with a total surface area of 800 m², one third of which is dedicated to the technique. There are three laboratories: Research & Development, After-Sales Service and the Production-Assembly-Manufacturing workshops.

In the near future, SRA will intensify the development of its services and further strengthen its partnership with Agilent. The Lyon-based company intends well to adapt its solutions to Agilent's new GC and MicroGC platforms recently launched on the market. Furthermore, SRA will also intensify its collaboration with Mettler-Toledo for TGA coupling solutions with GC and MicroGC techniques.

Always with a view to remaining at the forefront of technology, SRA instruments intends to develop ever more efficient solutions and is particularly interested in digital and in artificial intelligence for this purpose...

Translation of the French article of M. HASLÉ

Contact :
SRA Instruments
Tél. : 04.78.44.29.47
Fax: 04.78.44.29.62
E-mail : info@sra-instruments.com
www.srainstruments.com



A part of the SRA team