

Infinite[®] offers the MIDAS touch

Avacta is combining physics and biology to develop innovative technologies for the pharmaceutical and clinical diagnostics markets, and its Infinite M200 microplate reader is playing a key role in its analytical services provision.

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Avacta Group in York, UK, offers innovative analytical services to the biopharmaceutical sector, exploiting its specialist knowledge in biophysics to develop structural analysis solutions for pharmaceutical development. Avacta's range of services includes comparability studies, formulation/stability studies and aggregation problem solving, working closely with industry to develop new technologies that address the needs of the market.



Ed Quinn with the Infinite M200

High quality and reproducible data acquisition is crucial to Avacta's services, and the Company has chosen an Infinite M200 microplate reader from Tecan for this pivotal role. Russell Hodgetts, MD of Avacta's Laboratory Services, explained: "The Infinite M200 allows us to provide quality, high throughput services to our clients, and is an important support instrument for many of our laboratory procedures. It is also integral to the development of solubility screening assays, which are the starting point for our formulation development service.



The multiple detection methods and environmental control available with the Tecan instrument make it extremely versatile.”

Avacta’s technologies also have applications in the clinical diagnostics sector, and Avacta has recently developed MIDAS (multi immuno diagnostic assay system), a point-of-care platform designed to automate medical diagnostic tests usually performed manually in a laboratory. Initially the MIDAS system will be launched for veterinary use

through Avacta’s Animal Health division, with future plans being developed for point-of-care testing in human health applications.

The Infinite plate reader has been central to bioassay development for the MIDAS platform, as Product Manager Dr Ed Quinn, explained: “The multimode detection capabilities of the Infinite reader allow us to carry out a wide range of assaying techniques – using absorbance, fluorescence and luminescence detection – on one instrument, and the built-in temperature

control and shaking mean that the complete assay can be performed *in situ*. The easy-to-use i-control™ software allows us to rapidly set up experiments, defining our own plate parameters to improve the resolution of our assays. Data is automatically exported to our laboratory information system, seamlessly integrating into our research and development program.”

To find out more on Tecan’s Infinite M200 reader, visit www.tecan.com/infinitezoo or visit www.avacta.com