

An island of tranquility at Expo Shanghai 2010

This year's spectacular Shanghai Expo, based on the central theme 'Better City, Better Life', is a showcase for the latest and greatest innovations the world has to offer. 400,000 visitors a day, an expected 70 million people over the six month event, will have the opportunity to see amazing new ideas, particularly those focusing on urban strategies and sustainable development. But, even in such a busy and hectic event, there is still an opportunity to grab a few minutes peace and quiet, thanks to a huge golden teardrop and a Freedom EVO® platform.

The Czech Pavilion includes the exhibit 'LACRIMAU in Czeknowledge', a glass sound-proof room where art and technology meet. In the shadow of LACRIMAU – a golden teardrop – modern sensory and brainwave technology, incorporated into a headband worn by visitors, capture each individual's emotions. The sensors analyze this information and formulate a personal and unique fragrance blend from 42 different ingredients. The visitor can then watch as Tecan's state-of-the-art Freedom EVO 75 liquid handling platform automatically mixes and prepares a small vial of their own personal perfume before their eyes.

"This is an absolute highlight in our Pavilion," said Jiri Suchanek, Deputy Manager of the Czech Pavilion. "It is a perfect combination of art and technology, and embodies the spirit of Czeknowledge."

Pipetting perfumery ingredients can be difficult, as most fragrances are highly volatile substances which evaporate rapidly and so are contained in small bottles with septum caps. The Freedom EVO 75, equipped with a single tip, pierces through the cap in order to blend the final formulation.

For obvious reasons, the platform chosen had to be particularly robust to withstand the rigors of continual use in a busy exhibition environment for this extended period of time. "The engineers from Tecan Shanghai office have provided excellent support, ensuring reliable operation and minimal downtime," added Jiri. "The demonstration is certainly attracting a lot of visitors, and we are delighted that the system has run so smoothly."

For more information on Tecan and the Freedom EVO liquid handling workstation, please visit www.tecan.com/freedomevo

