Tecan Academy offers web-based training for new users

The recently launched Tecan Academy is already proving a valuable learning tool for Tecan customers in North America, helping to provide an overview of the capabilities of Tecan's liquid handling systems and multimode readers.

Tecan's new online training tool – the Tecan Academy – makes it easier than ever before for customers to optimize their instrument use. Currently available in Europe, the USA and Canada, it provides the ideal bridge between an initial introduction in the laboratory and Tecan's broad range of in-depth classroom training options, with new content continually being added as the Academy grows.

Customers from a number of sites across the USA are already benefitting from the accessible training provided by the Tecan Academy. The Open-Source Robotic Biorepository and Informatics Technology (ORBIT) Program at the Aurora Research Institute in Milwaukee – part of Aurora Healthcare – was one of the first to take advantage of this web-based portal. Natalie Polinske, Manager of the ORBIT Program, explained: "We have had our Freedom EVO® workstation since 2008, and I did a number of training courses at Tecan's North Carolina facility when it was first introduced, which I found very helpful. When a new member of staff, Anne-Marie Baumhofer, joined the laboratory, I looked at the training options

The Tecan Academy offered Morgan Stoessel a useful introduction to the Freedom EVO

available to give her an introduction to the system. The Tecan Academy was perfect for our needs, allowing Anne-Marie to cost-effectively learn about the instrument at her own pace."

Anne-Marie added: "I completed both the Freedom EVO Operator and Absorbance Reader Operator training and certification modules, and found they gave a really useful overview. I use the Freedom EVO system every day, and the course is a nice tool to expand my knowledge, learning about the different modules on the deck and why tasks are done a certain way within the software. Although I do not use our Tecan absorbance reader as part of my daily work, the training gave me a good understanding of the system, allowing me to help other users get the most out of the instrument. The layout of both modules was easy to understand, and the interactive aspects – simulating what you will see on your own system – were very good. I also appreciated that I could complete the training at my own pace, meaning that I could use my time effectively on days when I was not as busy in the laboratory."
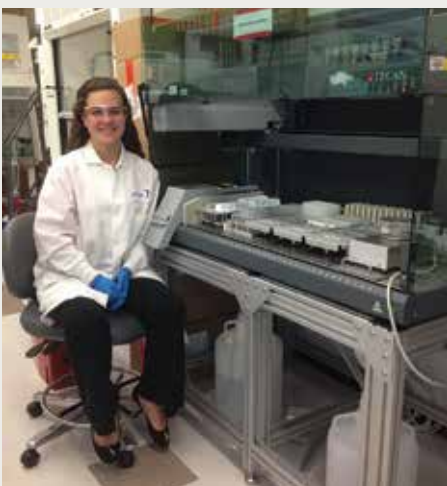
Morgan Stoessel, a cooperative education student at the Rochester Institute of Technology in New York State, also believes the Tecan Academy provides a good basic introduction to the Freedom EVO system: "When I first started using the platform, I spent a lot of time calling the Tecan helpdesk to understand how the instrument worked. They suggested that the Tecan Academy could be useful to give me an overview of the basics. It was really easy to use, and was set at a good level for new users. Having completed the course, I feel I can troubleshoot more easily, and can go back and re-check things in the module if I'm having any issues. Overall, I would say it's really good for beginners."

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Natalie Polinske and Anne-Marie Baumhofer with the Aurora Research Institute's Freedom EVO workstations

To find out more about the Tecan Academy or request a quote, visit **www.tecan.com/academy**

Anne-Marie Baumhofer found the Tecan Academy easy to use