NEMC 2015

Enzymes for Analytical Chemistry

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We're Evolving



The Nitrate Elimination Company, Inc





Collaborative Efforts to Improve Environmental Monitoring

Method Validation Across Disciplines: Biotechnology for Green Analytical Chemistry

NECi Superior Enzymes

- Since 1993, NECi has been pioneering green chemistry by implementing enzymes as "chemical" reagents
- Our claim to fame is Nitrate Reductase
- We're now delving into other enzymes
- Current research is building upon years of recombinant protein expression and stringent quality control

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Enzymes

From HE laundry detergent... to nutraceuticals... to analytical chemistry reagents?

It's a new generation

Back Then

- Parts per billion was an achievement
- Toxicity was part of the chemistry game
- Enzymes? Those are for animals...

Now

- Single molecule detection limits
- Lab safety is the name of the game
- Enzymes? Those are for analytical chemists!

Enzymes for Analytical Chemistry



Specificity – False negatives and positives are rare

Selectivity – Finds target analyte in complex mixtures

Sensitivity – Low detection limits in a variety of samples

Stability – Ability to ship and store ambient

Safety – Handling and disposal is benign

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Nitrate Reductase



Production



All of NECi's enzymes are manufactured in a yeast called Pichia pastoris.

A single 19 liter fermentation can yield anywhere from 1,000 to over 3,000 units of enzyme.

Recombinant Enzymes:

- Increased lot-to-lot reproducibility
- Increased production capacity
- Reasonable production costs
- Improved Stability
- Efficient production
- Tight quality control







Many Formats Same Results

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From the high-throughput laboratory to the field, analytical grade enzymes deliver equivalent results to chemists and novice users.

Cadmium vs. Nitrate Reductase



New Method Validation

- Change is hard, displacing tried-and-true proves more difficult than adopting completely new technologies.
- Enzymes were previously thought of as only being useful in biomedical or clinical laboratories.
- Advantages of enzymes in analytical chemistry applications are finally gaining attention from the laboratory community.

Now What?



Enzymes for quantifying glycerol in biodiesel, galactose in complex mixtures, alcohol for on-site gas and beverage testing, phosphate levels in the fields, and a handheld spectrophotometer to analyze it all.

