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# Multi-Array™ Immunodetection of Biowarfare Agents Using the Meso Scale Discovery™ Sector PR™

**Fred Lee<sup>1</sup>, Deborah Menking<sup>1</sup>, Joseph Hamel<sup>2</sup>, Kishna Mangaya<sup>2</sup>,  
Emily Myers<sup>1</sup>, Michael Goode<sup>1</sup>, and Alan Zulich<sup>1</sup>**  
**Biosensors Team**

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Army, RDECOM, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, APG, MD

<sup>2</sup>Geo-Centers, Inc., Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD



## Report Documentation Page

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# ECBC Bioanalysis

- Current bioanalysis roadmap supports an integrated approach for detection and identification using multiple technologies
- We have combined state-of-the-art immunoassay analysis (ORIGEN<sup>®</sup> ECL) and nucleic acid analysis (SmartCycler<sup>®</sup> Taqman<sup>™</sup>)
- Our current bioanalysis approach employs a tiered structure
  - Tier 1 : Presumptive ID by immunoassay
  - Tier 2 : Pathogen confirmation by PCR/Cell culture  
Toxin confirmation by MS



# Immunoassay Challenges

- Front-end immunoanalysis requires development of sensitive & specific assays for presumptive screening of bioagents
  - Assay sensitivity cannot compromise assay specificity
    - Set assay cutoffs and LODs
    - Validate each assay for the matrix being analyzed
    - Cutoff must be above any sample matrix effects
    - Target sensitivities within the LD<sub>50</sub> and infective dosage ranges
  - Assay specificity has been an issue for some immunoassays
    - Need affinity-based antibodies directed to specific targets
    - Need to overcome sample matrix issues
    - Need to investigate alternative front-end sample clean up methodologies



# Immunoassay Challenges, cont.

- Identify technologies that feature simultaneous analyses of samples for multiple targets
  - Demonstrate mobility and simplicity for field use, urban monitoring, and mobile labs
  - Identify reliable, simple, rapid, and cost effective immunoassays
- Identify technologies that yield higher throughput analysis



# Electrochemiluminescence

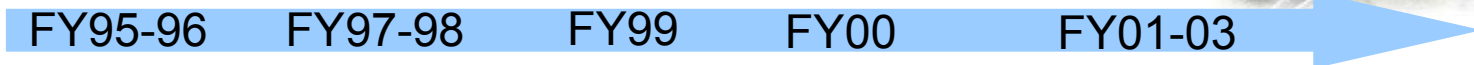
- ECL technology is elegant and yields exquisite sensitivity
- ECL measurement is simple and rapid
- Ruthenium tris (bipyridyl)  $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  is a small molecule (< 1000 Da)
- Coupling chemistry is easy and straightforward
- $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$  is an extremely stable compound



# ECBC ECL FASTube History



IGEN ORIGIN



- R&D Evaluation COTS
- Optimize wet chemistry
- Publish results
- Develop one-step ECL assay
- Dry down reagents
- JFT assessment

FASTube validation

- U.S. Patent Application filed for method and device
- FASTube transition to TEU

FASTube technology transition to USAMRIID

- 2001 FASTube technology transitions to JPEO-CBD
- 2002 full-scale FASTube production by IGEN
- 2003 FASTube assays support Homeland Defense, TAML, TEU, OGAs, Iraqi Freedom
- 2003 FASTube assays offered in JPEO-CBD Reagent Catalog



# ECBC Sector PR™ Pattern Array ECL Technology

- The Sector PR™ is a compact ECL reader designed by Meso Scale Discovery™ (MSD)
- The Sector PR™ is shoebox-sized and reads ECL signals from a 96 well plate in less than two minutes

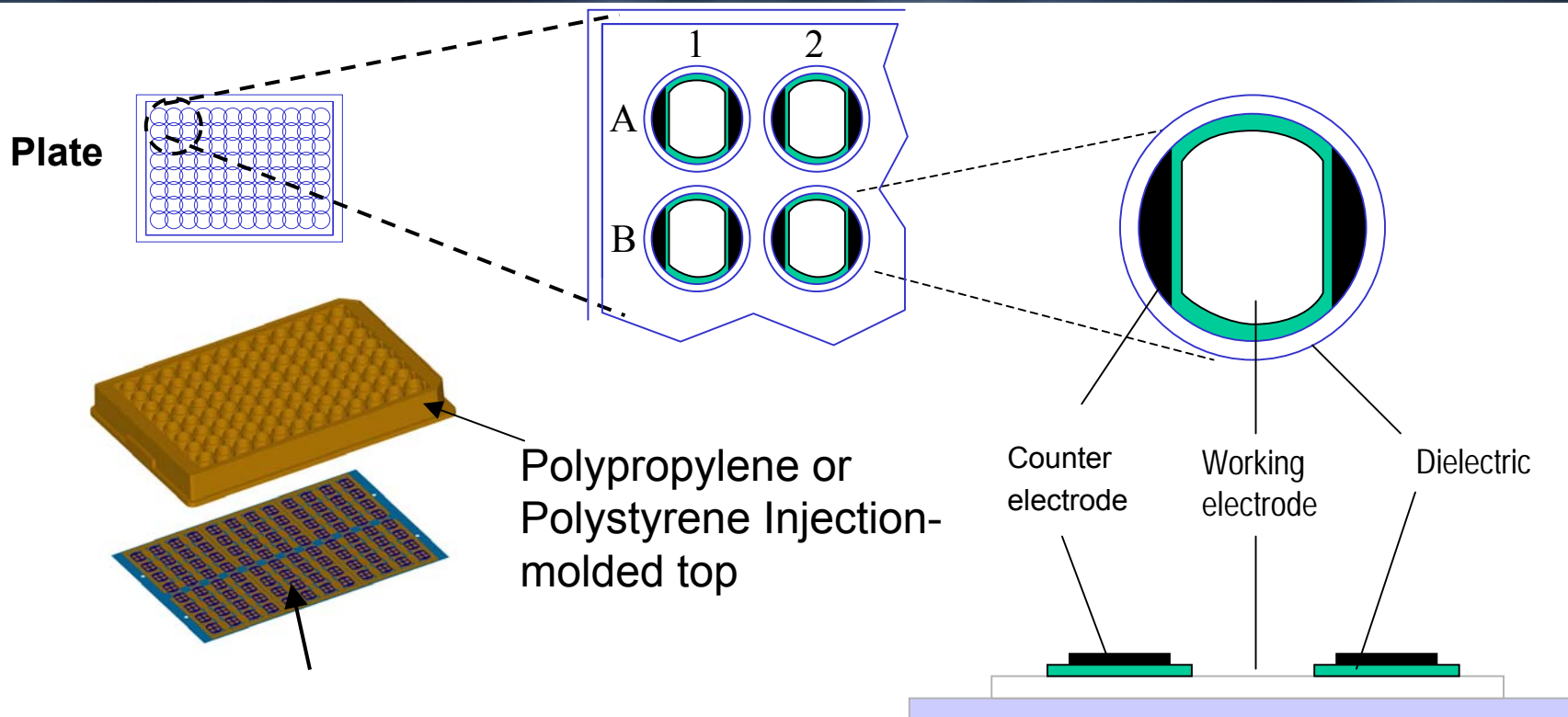






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# Multi-Array™ Technology: Printed Pattern Electrodes



## Screen Printed High Density Electrode Arrays

- Arrays are made from several patterned layers including layers of conducting carbon inks for the electrodes



# Objectives

- Evaluate Sector PR™ ECL assays:
  - Assay endpoint sensitivities and dynamic range
  - Intra- and Inter-assay variation
  - Assay specificity
  - Analysis of environmental samples (ENV)
  - Artificially spiked ENV samples
- Demonstrate proof-of-principle Multi-Array™ PR immunoassays
  - Staphylococcal enterotoxin B toxin
  - *Bacillus anthracis* spores
  - *Yersinia pestis*, F1
  - Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis
- Compare Sector PR™ results to the gold standard assays conducted on the ORIGEN® 1.5 ECL sensor



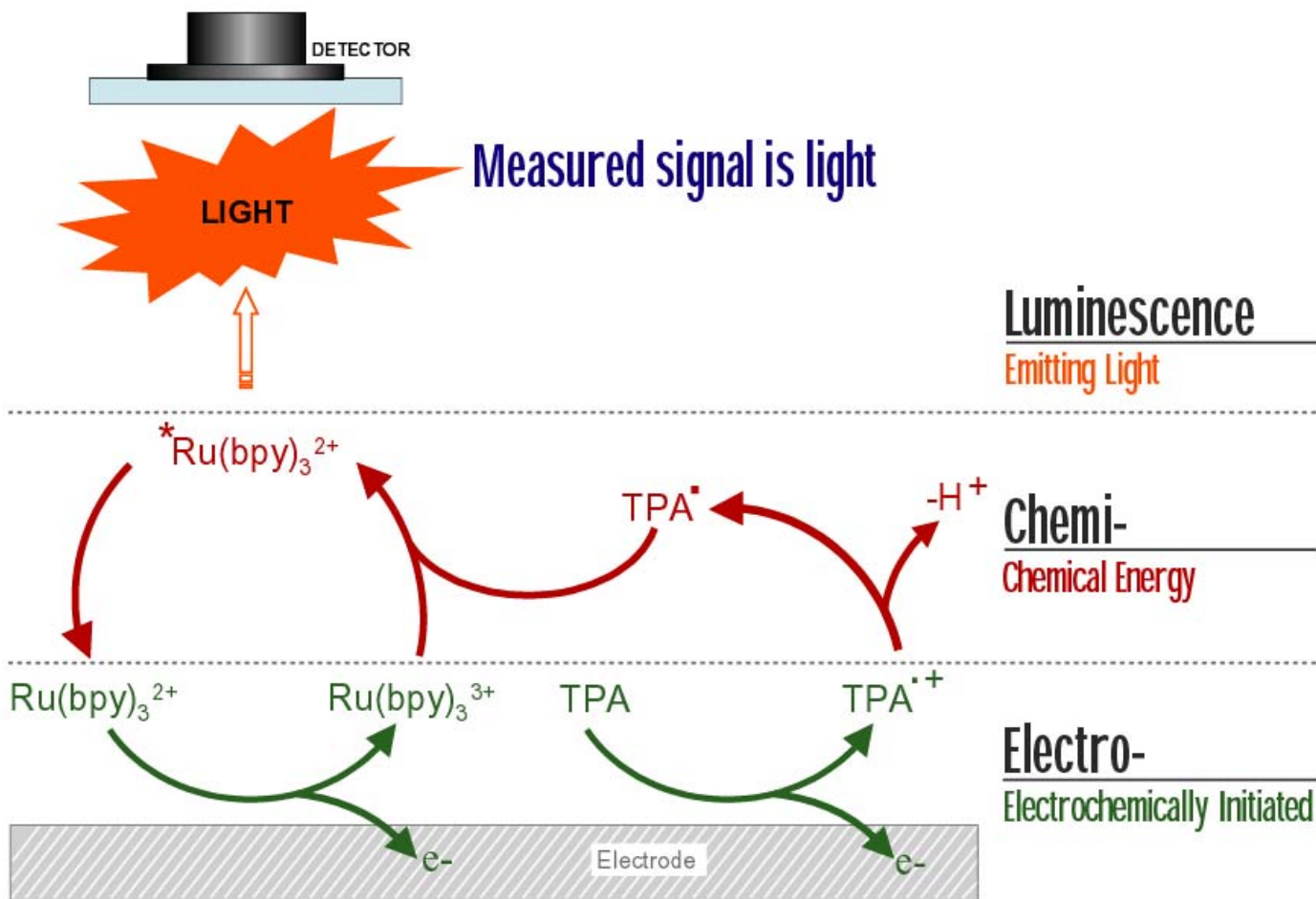
# Reaction chemistries

- Immobilize biotin conjugated capture antibody onto MSD streptavidin-coated 96 well carbon electrode plates
- Add ruthenium conjugated detector antibody and antigen to form an immunocomplex on the surface of the carbon electrode
- Apply voltage to the electrodes in the presence of the co-reactant tripropylamine (TPA)
- Eight silicon diodes sense the release of photons generated from the applied potential to the electrode, which is converted to the ECL signal



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# ECL Detection



Meso Scale Discovery

A division of Meso Scale Diagnostics, LLC.



# Materials and Methods

- Antibodies:
  - Government furnished antibodies
  - Antibody conjugates
    - biotinylated capture antibodies
    - detector antibody labeled with ruthenium tris bipyridyl
- Format:
  - Mab anti-SEB capture / Pab rabbit anti-SEB detector
  - Mab anti-*B. anthracis* capture / Pab rabbit anti-*B. anthracis* detector
  - Mab anti-VEE capture / Mab anti-VEE detector
  - Mab anti-*Y. pestis* capture / Pab rabbit anti-*Y. pestis* detector



# Materials and Methods, cont.

## Antigens:

- SEB toxin, Sigma, (0 -100 ng/ml)
- Gamma-inactivated *Bacillus anthracis*, Ames strain, AFIP, (0 -  $1 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml)
- Gamma-inactivated VEE virus, TC-83 strain, USAMRIID, (0 -  $1 \times 10^7$  pfu/ml)
- Gamma-inactivated *Yersinia pestis*, India strain, DPG, (0 -  $1 \times 10^6$  cfu/ml)



# Materials and Methods, cont.

## Assay Optimization:

- Capture antibodies matrixed from 30 -120 ng/test
- Detector antibodies were matrixed in the same manner as the capture
- The optimal capture/detector antibody concentration was determined through examination of endpoint sensitivity, CV, and dynamic range within the 15 -minute assay timeframe



# Materials and Methods, cont.

## Assay protocol:

- Coat MSD Streptavidin-Coated Multi-Array™ PR plate wells with 25  $\mu$ l of capture antibody
- Incubate at 4°C ON and wash three times in 0.01M PBS prior to analysis
- Add 25  $\mu$ l of detector antibody
- Add 100  $\mu$ l of the analyte to well and incubate for 15 min
- Wash plate three times with 0.01M PBS
- Add 150  $\mu$ l of 1X MSD Read Buffer to each of the wells
- Read plate on the Sector PR

# Sector PR™ Washed Assay Data

Background + 3x STD:		927 ECL Units		
Lower Limit of Detection:		0.01 ng/ml		
SEB MSD Washed Assay				
60 ng biotin / 50 ng ruthenium per test				
ECL				
	Average Raw	ECL Specific		
ng/mL	Signal	Signal	% CV	S/N
0	859	-68	2.6	1.0
0.001	831	-96	3.5	1.0
0.005	891	-36	3.4	1.0
0.010	1043	116	2.5	1.2
0.10	3005	2078	2.3	3.5
1.0	23356	22429	1.2	27.2
10.0	222535	221608	3.7	259.1
100.0	554304	553377	15.8	645.3

Background + 3x STD:		704 ECL Units		
Lower Limit of Detection:		5.0E+04 cfu/ml		
<i>B. anthracis</i> MSD Washed Assay				
90 ng biotin / 100 ng ruthenium per test				
ECL				
	Average Raw	ECL Specific		
cfu/mL	Signal	Signal	% CV	S/N
0	593	-111	6.2	1.0
1.0E+01	563	-141	2.8	0.9
1.0E+02	599	-105	9.9	1.0
1.0E+03	586	-118	6.3	1.0
1.0E+04	651	-53	5.1	1.1
5.0E+04	741	37	2.0	1.3
1.0E+05	880	176	2.9	1.5
1.0E+06	2306	1602	4.3	3.9

Background + 3x STD:		802 ECL Units		
Lower Limit of Detection:		5.0E+06 pfu/ml		
VEE MSD Washed Assay				
30 ng biotin / 100 ng ruthenium per test				
ECL				
	Average Raw	ECL Specific		
pfu/mL	Signal	Signal	% CV	S/N
0	716	-86	4.0	1.0
1.0E+03	702	-100	4.8	1.0
1.0E+04	730	-72	10.5	1.0
1.0E+05	717	-85	4.4	1.0
5.0E+05	752	-49	5.3	1.1
1.0E+06	714	-88	1.7	1.0
5.0E+06	975	173	11.5	1.4
1.0E+07	1055	253	2.4	1.5

Background + 3x STD:		843 ECL Units		
Lower Limit of Detection:		1.0E+03 cfu/ml		
<i>Y. pestis</i> MSD Washed Assay				
60 ng biotin / 100 ng ruthenium per test				
ECL				
	Average Raw	ECL Specific		
cfu/mL	Signal	Signal	% CV	S/N
0	777	-66	2.8	1.0
1.0E+01	792	-51	3.1	1.0
1.0E+02	809	-34	4.2	1.0
1.0E+03	938	95	2.5	1.2
5.0E+03	1570	727	0.4	2.0
1.0E+04	2392	1549	1.5	3.1
1.0E+05	14349	13506	1.5	18.5
1.0E+06	58640	57797	3.5	75.4



# Comparison of Platform Tradeoffs

		ORIGEN 1.5 <sup>®</sup>	Sector PR <sup>™</sup>
<b>Sensitivity</b>			
	<i>B. anthracis</i>	5 x 10 <sup>3</sup> cfu/ml	5 x 10 <sup>4</sup> cfu/ml
	<i>Y. pestis</i>	1 x 10 <sup>2</sup> cfu/ml	1 x 10 <sup>3</sup> cfu/ml
	VEE	5 x 10 <sup>5</sup> pfu/ml	1 x 10 <sup>6</sup> pfu/ml
	SEB	5 pg/ml	10 pg/ml
<b>Tradeoffs</b>			
	Incubation Time	15 min	15 min
	Read Time	75 min	2 min
	# of Determinations	50	96
	Footprint	12'' x 12'' x 16''	8.6'' x 8.8'' x 16''
	Weight	47 lbs.	18 lbs.
	In-house cost per assay	\$5 – \$7	< \$2

# Multi-Array™ PR Crossreactivity Results

## Anthrax challenge

	SEB			<i>B. anthracis</i>			VEE			<i>Y. pestis</i>		
<b>Bkgd</b>	618	627	599	<b>Flyer</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>689</b>	625	676	806	935	917	997
<b>5e04 cfu/ml</b>	585	653	637	<b>873</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>778</b>	681	624	697	882	853	869
<b>1e05 cfu/ml</b>	632	587	557	<b>921</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>924</b>	667	606	674	875	888	862
<b>1e06 cfu/ml</b>	643	593	711	<b>2436</b>	<b>2195</b>	<b>2256</b>	658	622	642	892	894	896
<b>Bkgd</b>	<b>612</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>623</b>	598	612	682	592	601	619	767	738	777
<b>0.010 ng/ml</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>789</b>	651	699	691	700	670	687	893	847	913
<b>1 ng/ml</b>	<b>22598</b>	<b>19526</b>	<b>20056</b>	692	714	719	627	726	732	923	952	917
<b>100 ng/ml</b>	<b>677958</b>	<b>658647</b>	<b>634486</b>	699	783	804	767	732	754	890	933	958

## SEB challenge

# Crossreactivity Results, cont.

## VEE challenge

	<b>SEB</b>			<b><i>B. anthracis</i></b>			<b>VEE</b>			<b><i>Y. pestis</i></b>		
<b>Bkgd</b>	531	594	531	681	614	625	<b>608</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>620</b>	763	763	779
<b>1e06 pfu/ml</b>	585	593	598	673	675	671	<b>669</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>685</b>	770	785	770
<b>5e06 pfu/ml</b>	644	636	610	678	675	611	<b>872</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>880</b>	801	814	822
<b>1e07 pfu/ml</b>	607	572	523	679	642	631	<b>984</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>979</b>	760	730	836
<b>Bkgd</b>	545	586	539	617	637	676	621	673	617	<b>738</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>792</b>
<b>1e03 cfu/ml</b>	557	605	550	664	656	646	605	618	651	<b>1046</b>	<b>1089</b>	<b>1105</b>
<b>1e04 cfu/ml</b>	567	608	597	697	669	698	679	676	670	<b>3502</b>	<b>3552</b>	<b>3640</b>
<b>1e06 cfu/ml</b>	508	573	575	645	648	629	658	659	610	<b>111711</b>	<b>109926</b>	<b>117330</b>

## *Y. pestis* challenge



# Environmental Sample Analysis

## Multi-Array™ PR Plate Set Up

ENV sample	SEB			<i>B. anthracis</i>			VEE			<i>Y. pestis</i>		
Neg. Cntrl.	386	396	389	393	462	428	376	385	413	548	524	465
ENV 1	452	398	402	498	445	501	439	457	420	609	640	597
ENV 2	396	383	347	436	425	437	329	392	340	571	560	499
ENV 3	482	450	399	488	503	487	400	433	416	628	644	644
ENV 4	491	497	418	469	516	475	437	457	473	654	629	620
ENV 1 Spike	25316	25705	24561	1661	1673	1709	997	1059	1019	3065	2940	2897
ENV 3 Spike	23819	23209	22361	1579	1569	1482	827	901	826	2779	2728	2697
Pos. Cntrl.	23224	22839	22499	1642	1553	1466	1248	1297	1254	2490	2381	2484



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# Environmental Sample Analysis Results

## SEB

Day 1

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	371	1.0	-
ENV-1	418	1.1	-
ENV-2	379	1.0	-
ENV-3	449	1.2	-
ENV-4	455	1.2	-
ENV-1 spiked	30181	81.3	+
ENV-3 spiked	28281	76.2	+
positive control	27099	73.0	+

Day 2

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	390	1.0	-
ENV-1	417	1.1	-
ENV-2	375	1.0	-
ENV-3	444	1.1	-
ENV-4	469	1.2	-
ENV-1 spiked	25194	64.5	+
ENV-3 spiked	23130	59.3	+
positive control	22854	58.5	+

Day 3

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	402	1.0	-
ENV-1	483	1.2	-
ENV-2	403	1.0	-
ENV-3	494	1.2	-
ENV-4	499	1.2	-
ENV-1 spiked	16942	42.1	+
ENV-3 spiked	16044	39.9	+
positive control	19064	47.4	+

## B. anthracis

Day 1

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	446	1.0	-
ENV-1	471	1.1	-
ENV-2	449	1.0	-
ENV-3	505	1.1	-
ENV-4	494	1.1	-
ENV-1 spiked	1623	3.6	+
ENV-3 spiked	1701	3.8	+
positive control	1758	3.9	+

Day 2

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	428	1.0	-
ENV-1	481	1.1	-
ENV-2	433	1.0	-
ENV-3	493	1.2	-
ENV-4	487	1.1	-
ENV-1 spiked	1681	3.9	+
ENV-3 spiked	1543	3.6	+
positive control	1554	3.6	+

Day 3

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	476	1.0	-
ENV-1	525	1.1	-
ENV-2	435	0.9	-
ENV-3	502	1.1	-
ENV-4	509	1.1	-
ENV-1 spiked	1621	3.4	+
ENV-3 spiked	1549	3.3	+
positive control	1529	3.2	+





# Environmental Sample Analysis Results

## VEE

Day 1

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	391	1.0	-
ENV-1	420	1.1	-
ENV-2	403	1.0	-
ENV-3	437	1.1	-
ENV-4	420	1.1	-
ENV-1 spiked	929	2.4	+
ENV-3 spiked	836	2.1	+
positive control	1165	3.0	+

Day 2

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	391	1.0	-
ENV-1	439	1.1	-
ENV-2	354	0.9	-
ENV-3	416	1.1	-
ENV-4	456	1.2	-
ENV-1 spiked	1025	2.6	+
ENV-3 spiked	851	2.2	+
positive control	1266	3.2	+

Day 3

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	427	1.0	-
ENV-1	489	1.1	-
ENV-2	348	0.8	-
ENV-3	465	1.1	-
ENV-4	478	1.1	-
ENV-1 spiked	984	2.3	+
ENV-3 spiked	837	2.0	+
positive control	1457	3.4	+

## Y. pestis

Day 1

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	562	1.0	-
ENV-1	611	1.1	-
ENV-2	554	1.0	-
ENV-3	627	1.1	-
ENV-4	641	1.1	-
ENV-1 spiked	3040	5.4	+
ENV-3 spiked	2920	5.2	+
positive control	2693	4.8	+

Day 2

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	512	1.0	-
ENV-1	615	1.2	-
ENV-2	543	1.1	-
ENV-3	639	1.2	-
ENV-4	634	1.2	-
ENV-1 spiked	2967	5.8	+
ENV-3 spiked	2735	5.3	+
positive control	2452	4.8	+

Day 3

Sample	ECL Raw Signal	S/N	Result
buffer negative	583	1.0	-
ENV-1	684	1.2	-
ENV-2	549	0.9	-
ENV-3	814	1.4	-
ENV-4	717	1.2	-
ENV-1 spiked	3859	6.6	+
ENV-3 spiked	3741	6.4	+
positive control	2935	5.0	+



## Wrap Up

- We have developed four 15-minute washed assays on the Sector PR, a novel bioassay platform from Meso Scale Discovery
- Assays demonstrated excellent sensitivity and specificity
- Overall sensor performance was comparable to the ORIGEN<sup>®</sup> 1.5
- Exquisite CV's were achieved - below 5% in most cases
- Assay protocols have been developed for both washed and nonwashed formats. The nonwashed format is under development



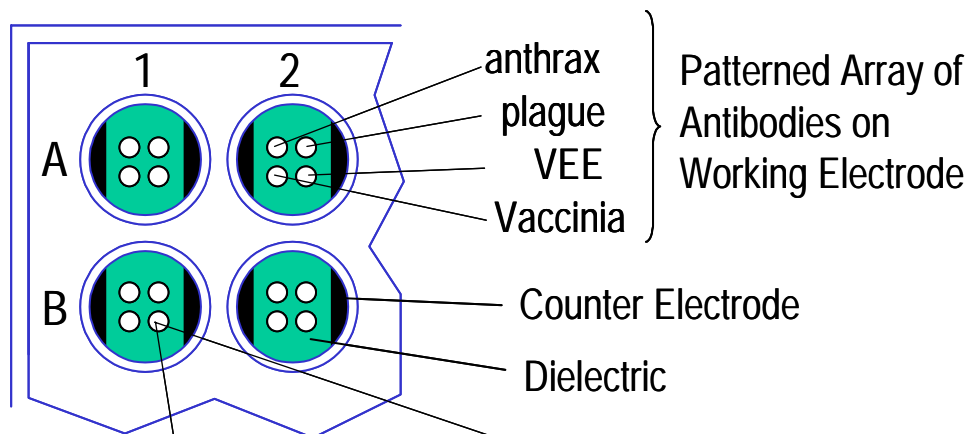
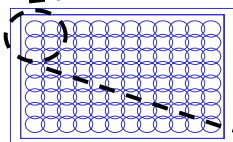
## Wrap Up, cont.

- ENV samples were challenged with four antigens in Multi-Array fashion
- Cross-reactivity studies performed on the Multi-Array plates showed no evidence of nonspecific interaction
- The Sector PR assays are very sensitive, robust, and cost effective
- The Sector PR is shoe-box sized, is light and portable, and has no fluidics



# Future Objectives

Plate



- **Multi-spot Pathogen Test**

- B. anthracis*

- VEE

- Y. pestis*

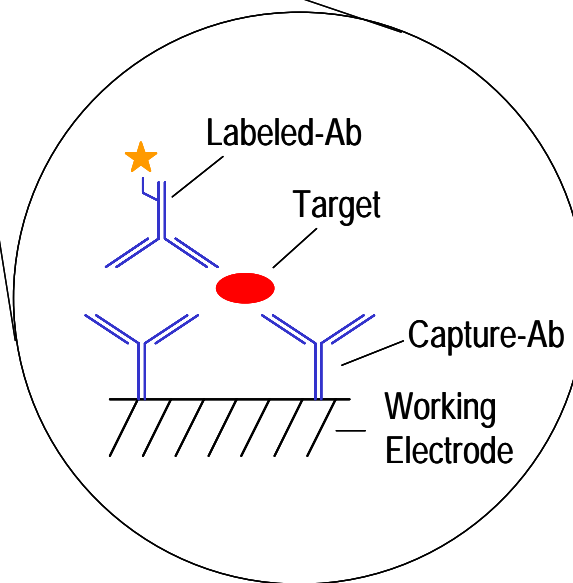
- Vaccinia

- **Multi-spot Toxin Test**

- Ricin

- SEB

- C. botulinum*





# Future Objectives, cont.

- Investigate feasibility of dried-down reagents in MSD 96-well plates using StabilCoat<sup>®</sup> buffer and lyophilization buffer
- Proceed with assay development of additional biowarfare agents
- Refine wash and nonwashed assay formats
- Continue to evaluate MSD next generation bioanalysis platforms
- Evaluate sensor potential for portability, ease of use, sensitivity, and speed



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# Technology Watch

## Instrument



**Ruggedized  
Sector PR**



**Strip Reader**

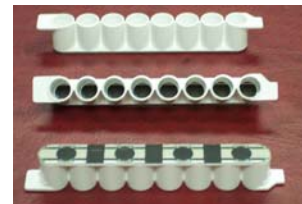


**Cartridge Reader**

## Consumables



**96-Well Plate,  
4-Spot Plate,  
Multiple Strips  
of Wells.  
Dried reagents  
in wells**



**Single Strip  
of Wells.  
Dried  
reagents  
in wells**



**Cartridge  
contains  
all consumables**





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## ECBC Biosensors Team



## Meso-Scale Discovery™



Mr. Vittal Vasista  
Dr. Eli Glezer  
Dr. George Sigal

