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Thermo Fisher Scientific Highlights Solution for Meeting Lead Screening Law for Children's Products at Toy Fair 2009

Handheld Thermo Scientific Niton XL3 700 Series XRF Analyzers with TestAll Technology Provide Fast, Easy Lead Screening of Toys for Compliance with the Consumer Product Safety Act of 2008

BILLERICA, Mass. (January 29, 2009) – Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., the world leader in serving science, will demonstrate its handheld Thermo Scientific Niton XL3 700 Series x-ray fluorescence (XRF) analyzer with TestAll™ technology at Toy Fair 2009, Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, New York, NY, Booth #5119. Visitors who bring samples to the booth will receive a free screening certificate documenting the results of the nondestructive measurement. Thermo Fisher Scientific is the world's leading manufacturer of handheld x-ray fluorescence (XRF) analyzers.

The passage of the Consumer Product Safety Act of 2008, H.R. 4040, reduces the permissible levels of lead in paint, sets allowable levels of lead in all other materials, implements an alternative standard for measuring lead in surface coatings, and permits the use of XRF analyzers for screening purposes.

An effective screening program using handheld XRF analysis greatly reduces the chances that lead-containing materials will enter the manufacturing process or accidentally end up on store shelves. This starts with a process that includes rapid screening of metals, polymers and components at the (subcontractor's) receiving dock, in the warehouse, during product assembly and even at vendor sites, including testing through packaging to save time.

Handheld Niton® XL3t 700 Series XRF analyzers, now available with GOLDD™ technology, provide quick and easy screening of toys, apparel and other consumer goods for lead, cadmium, mercury and other toxic metals. Importers, brand owners and retailers can implement a standardized inspection protocol for incoming shipments to verify compliance, while simultaneously requiring supply chain documentation based on empirical testing.

TestAll Technology

New TestAll technology, with its automatic mode selection, determines whether lead is present on the surface coating or in the substrate of the sample undergoing testing. It then applies the appropriate analysis mode, helping to eliminate guesswork for faster, more efficient screening and allowing non-technical users to easily perform measurements with minimal training.

This new software, along with the optional Painted Products mode, makes the Niton XL3 the only handheld XRF analyzer capable of differentiating between lead on the surface of an object, such as paint or glaze, and lead that exists in substrates, such as plastic, metal or wood.

“With civil penalties growing to a maximum of US\$100 thousand per individual violation and US\$15 million for ongoing violators, and states attorneys general permitted to enforce federal law, the need for stakeholders to rapidly identify lead-containing products has never been greater,” said Jon Shein, Thermo Fisher’s director of global marketing for the Niton Analyzers business unit. “Our analyzers have the ability to quickly and reliably provide rapid screening solutions, which accrue from the instruments’ portability, ease of use, speed and non-invasive nature.”

About Niton Analyzers

The handheld Thermo Scientific Niton XL3 Series, the winner of both the 2008 R&D 100 Award for technological innovation and a 2008 Product of the Year Award in the Product Safety category from *Creative Child Magazine*, provides a fast, reliable, and nondestructive means of screening toys, jewelry, apparel, furniture, and electronic components for restricted substances such as lead and cadmium. Using the x-ray fluorescence (XRF) technique, the instruments are equipped with a VIP™ tilting touch-screen display and easy-to-use, intuitive software, permitting rapid screening of incoming shipments, as well as existing inventory and providing significant savings in both time and costs as compared to the exclusive reliance upon fixed laboratory analysis. The Niton XL3 also features wireless Bluetooth™ or USB data transfer, optional variable-spot size and integrated CCD camera, and component image storage for regulatory due diligence. Additionally, all readings are encrypted and locked against editing, which preserves and protects the data from each sample analysis, ensuring that results are not accidentally or intentionally compromised. Further, TestAll technology automatically selects the correct analytical mode.

Operating as either a handheld tool or integrated into an optional test stand with included PC-based software, the Niton XL3 portable XRF analyzer provides quantitative analysis of lead and other toxic metals in seconds. Plastic toys, painted parts, plastic and metal jewelry, crystal and gemstone settings, soldered chain links, ceramics, apparel, and furniture can be quickly screened for the presence of lead.

For more information in advance of Toy Fair 2009, or to schedule an on-site demonstration, contact a local Niton Analyzers representative or contact the Thermo Scientific Niton Analyzers business unit directly at (800) 875-1578 (toll-free US), +1 978 670-7460, by e-mail at niton@thermofisher.com or by visiting its website at <http://www.thermo.com/niton>.

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About Thermo Fisher Scientific

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