



BNC announces the first handheld wand metal and radiation detector

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Berkeley Nucleonics (San Rafael, CA) -- Berkeley Nucleonics is announcing the first Dual/Detection metal and radiation detection handheld wand for personnel and package inspections. The Model MetRad 1 opens a new class of instrumentation, meeting both the ANSI N42.32 requirements for Personal Radiation Detectors (PRDs) and offering conventional metal detection for law enforcement and first responders. The MetRad 1 can quickly locate hidden metallic objects, weapons or clandestine radioactive sources in seconds.

Berkeley Nucleonics, a recognized leader in handheld technology for law enforcement, designed the new scanner to allow users to reduce the number of devices required to perform security task. The familiar shape and alarm indicators avoid unnecessary panic or concern should a benign medical radiation alarm trigger. Additionally, with the scanning operation common with metal-only wand scanners, the user can achieve excellent geometry with respect to any illicit nuclear source. The proximity of the detector to the source is 'extremely relevant' to fast identification of nuclear materials, so moving the wand close to the target provides an exponentially greater chance of interdiction.

"Our MetRad 1 is an intuitive handheld metal detector with added capability to detect and locate radioactive substances in scanned objects and personnel. I expect the new class of instrumentation will substantially reduce clearance times, lower the total number of instruments required at checkpoints and expand security measures at large public events", remarks an excited Allan Gonzalez, Nuclear Products Manager for the company. "It's gratifying to reduce the overload of detection gear our law enforcement colleagues are often required to deploy."

The company has introduced a new, highly sensitive, large volume gamma detector which is coupled with ruggedized, low power electronics (SiPM) to ensure long uninterrupted use. The alarm system offers different color LEDs for various alarm types and can be quickly silenced when situational conditions warrant. The COTS battery (standard 9V) offers 500 hours of continuous use and the IP65 packaging rating ensures indoor/outdoor operation in rain or snow. An internal charging circuit allows users who wish to keep units in a charging station to use standard AC Line Power to charge their units in between shifts.

New users of the MetRad 1 can benefit as well from the Berkeley Nucleonics suite of AIH and CHP accredited training programs. Our web-based, classroom and field exercises are ideal for users new to the radiation detection field or users tasked with developing protocols using a suite of various instruments and technical personnel. Courses are offered on a regional basis and on-site as required by customers.

For more information on the MetRad 1 or other tools for Law Enforcement and Nuclear Detection, see the company website or call 800-234-7858.

Berkeley Nucleonics Corporation
info@berkeleynucleonics.com | www.berkeleynucleonics.com
2955 Kerner Blvd, San Rafael, CA 94901 | 800-234-7858



About Berkeley Nucleonics -

Berkeley Nucleonics Corporation (BNC) is a leading manufacturer of precision electronic instrumentation for test, measurement, and nuclear research and industry. BNC has its corporate headquarters in San Rafael, California with additional manufacturing facilities and sales offices located throughout the United States and Europe. Founded in 1963, BNC is a recognized leader in the field of isotope identification and conducts hundreds of short courses on radiation detection and isotope identification for Federal, State and private agencies.

Media Contact:

Matteo Kraftsow, 415-453-9955x220 or matteo@berkeleynucleonics.com

Technical Contact:

Allan Gonzalez, 415-453-9955 x270 or allan@berkeleynucleonics.com



Berkeley Nucleonics Corporation
info@berkeleynucleonics.com | www.berkeleynucleonics.com
2955 Kerner Blvd, San Rafael, CA 94901 | 800-234-7858