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Advanced Software Package Designed to Reduce Sample Analysis Time for Analytical Microscope Users

Thermo Scientific Pathfinder X-ray microanalysis software works in tandem with scanning electron and transmission electron microscopes to extract essential information

COLUMBUS, Ohio – (July 25, 2016) – Analytical microscope users conducting research and routine analysis can now perform more comprehensive and efficient microscopic studies on complex samples using a new X-ray microanalysis software package that complements electron microscopy imaging instruments.

Thermo Scientific Pathfinder X-ray microanalysis software, which debuts at Microscopy & Microanalysis 2016 (Booth #1402) at the Columbus Convention Center, is designed to process incoming data from X-ray detector technology and provide a real-time statistical map of the chemical constituents within a sample.

Scientists in fields such as metallurgy, geology, semiconductor, failure analysis, product development and applied research can reduce their analysis time from hours to minutes when pairing Pathfinder software with their scanning electron microscopes and transmission electron microscopes.

“Researchers and scientists in microscopy labs are challenged to obtain consistent, reliable and rapid answers when analyzing the most complex chemical and elemental samples,” said Kevin Fairfax, business director, surface analysis and microanalysis, for Thermo Fisher Scientific. “Pathfinder software is designed to deliver actionable results. It takes advantage of advanced computing power and features an intuitive design that supplements an electron microscope image by rapidly identifying the chemical phases in the sample. Pathfinder represents an industry shift toward push-button operation that eliminates the need for subjective user interpretation.”

Additional benefits of the Thermo Scientific Pathfinder X-ray microanalysis software include:

- COMPASS phase mapping, which classifies statistically distinct phases in the sample and combines energy-dispersive spectroscopy and wavelength-dispersive spectroscopy analysis with the structural and morphological information from the electron microscope;
- A spectral match database that automatically identifies and maps analyzed regions based on a spectral fingerprint;
- Advanced algorithms for background subtraction, peak deconvolution and quantitative analysis to initiate accurate data analysis;
- Full compatibility with internal data servers, enabling off-line data analysis that frees the microscope for other purposes; and
- A unique set of 29 image filters that provide new data enhancement tools to provide users with a clear, understandable picture of their SEM/EDS and SEM/WDS data.

More information on Pathfinder X-ray microanalysis software can be found at www.thermofisher.com/pathfinder.

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