

For Mailroom Applications

ASAP II™ For Postal Processing

IDENTIFY: Automated biological threat identification.



ASAP II System showing SASS 2300 air sampler with RAPTOR bioassay module.

ASAP II is an automated biological detection and identification system for mailrooms and similar installations. The system can be configured to meet a customer's exact threat deterrent needs. The biothreat-oriented component of the system can be set up to detect and identify from four to eight bioagents. Periodically, or on demand, a concentrated wet biosample is transferred to the bio-identification system. In fifteen minutes the system will identify the presence of any of the pre-selected agents, and automatically notify the operator if the mail is clear or if a pathogen has been detected.

These systems are typically used in a negative pressure room equipped with a down draft table and can handle

thousands of pieces of mail per hour. An air sampling module in the system continuously samples air drawn into the downdraft table while mail is being jogged or opened over the table's perforated top surface, providing appropriate samples to the biological identification components. Sampling is a continuous process that goes on until processing of a batch of mail is complete, whether it is a few or several hours.

The cost of consumables in these systems is kept to a minimum by using disposable/reusable bioassay coupons that can be reused many times over a 48-hour period. This system is designed to be operated by general mailroom personnel and is fully automated, requiring little operator assistance.

FEATURES

- Many different threats can be monitored for and identified
- Wet bioassays detect spores, bacteria, viruses and toxins
- Reliable: 99.3% functional availability
- Targets may be detected whether in aerosol, liquid or solid form
- Minimal or no sample pre-preparation
- Fast; 15-20 minutes per bioassay
- Low per-measurement costs
- On-board storage of all fluids and reagents: up to 5 days.
- Sample collection periods can range from minutes to hours

APPLICATION AREAS

- Government or corporate mailrooms
- Clean Rooms
- Food processing
- Homeland security
- Indoor air quality

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Specifications for ASAP II for Postal Processing

Characteristic	Description
Use profile:	Automated/programmed/continuous identification of targeted toxins, viruses, bacteria, spores, industrial chemicals, explosives, and nuclear materials. Batch sample examination also supported.
Duty cycle:	Continuous. Functional availability >99.3% (1).
Air sampling rate:	325 LPM from downdraft table or alternate sources
Sample preparation:	None for aerosol samples, none or minimal for liquid samples; solids must be minimally extracted with buffer.
Bioassay profile:	Four simultaneous assays performed on 1 cc samples using a credit card-size assay coupon. Coupon and associated re-useable reagents provide from 20 to 50 assays over a 24 to 48 hour use period (2).
Total bioassay time:	15 to 30 minutes for collection and identification combined, is typical.
Bioassay Sensitivity:	Dependent on analyte; 1-10 ppb is typical for toxins, 3 x 10 ⁴ CFU/ml typical for bacteria and spores
Fluids Handling:	Bi-directional peristaltic pumps.
Fluids storage:	5-day supplies of buffer, disinfectant and distilled water for aerosol collector.
User Interface:	Windows™ user interface.
Physical Size:	Usually installed as an under-counter system with video monitor on counter-top
Weight:	Less than 150 lbs. (68 kg) typical installation
Temperature range:	Operating: above freezing to 50C; storage: -29 to 66C.
Alarms	Large green/amber status light; annunciator optional.
Communication:	RS-232 bi-directional serial link is standard.
Data storage/programmability:	Raw/processed data storage. Operating protocols are RS-232 re-programmable.
Power Consumption:	Less than 100 W @ 115 VAC, nominal, excluding X-ray. X-ray system requires 183-253 VAC, 50 Hz. 10 Amp max.
Humidity:	5% to 95%, non-condensing.
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NOTES:

- (1) Functional availability is the percentage of total work time that the system is functional, averaged over a 90 calendar day period.
 (2) Maximum usable life measured in a 25°C postal room environment. Other applications may result in different consumable lifetimes.

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