

# GC-MS (Multi-Residue) Screening for Pesticides; Emerging Organic Pollutants (EOP's) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP's).

The GC-MS Target Based Screening methods allow for virtually all GC-amenable pesticides as well as hundreds of other organic pollutants to be identified from a single sample, incorporating over 950 target Chemicals and including both VOCs and SVOCs into a single unique target database.

# Our Laboratories

- ❑ Four laboratories, each one specialising in specific areas of environmental testing & analysis
  - Soils and Contaminated Land
  - Wastewater Analysis / Forensic
  - Centre for Analytical Research & Development
  - Clean Water Analysis & Microbiological Analysis

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[www.natlabs.co.uk](http://www.natlabs.co.uk)



# Water Framework Directive (WFD)

A strategic framework for managing the water environment

# Water Bodies

## The Water Framework Directive applies to all:

- Surface freshwater bodies (including lakes, streams, canals and rivers);
- Groundwaters;
- Transitional water bodies (estuaries);
- Coastal waters out to 1 mile from low-water (low-tide).

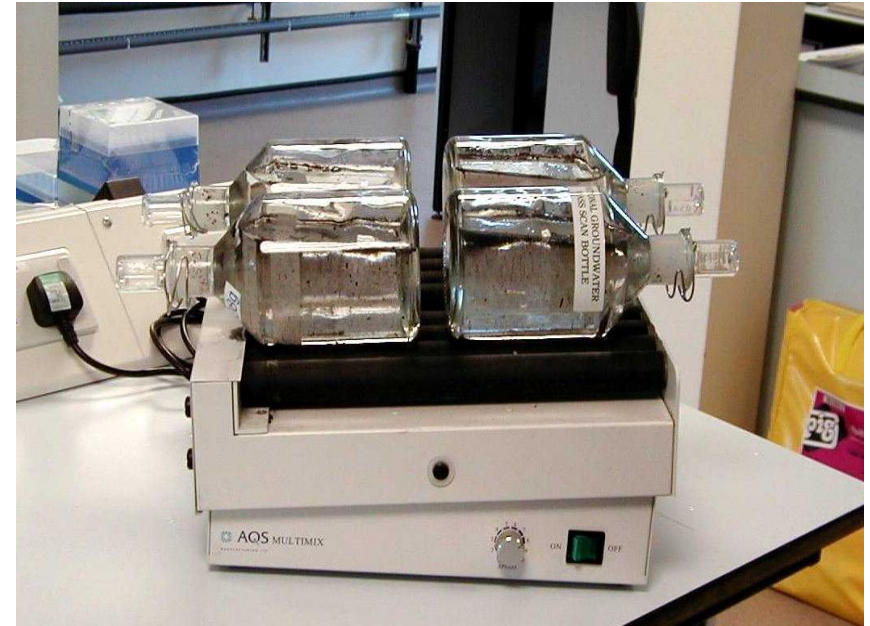
This contrasts with most existing EU Directives which only applied to designated or identified waters.

# Initial Specification

- Screening method to detect the Presence / Absence of Organic substances in a given water body
- Identification of both VOCs & SVOCs from a single sample
- Provision to add new substances
- Typical Limit of Detection (LoD)  $0.1\mu\text{g/l}$
- Economical option for validating the pressures and risks to water bodies.

# Sample Extraction

- Dichloromethane solvent
- Extraction 15min
- Bottles are rocked from side to side whilst being rolled
- Maximise solvent-matrix interaction
- Reduced formation of emulsions



# Instrumentation

## ❑ Hardware

- 5975C inert XL MSD with Triple-Axis detector (TAD)
- 7890A GC System
- 7683B Series Injector
- Programmed Temperature Vaporization Inlet (PTV)

## ❑ Software

- GC/MSD Chemstation
- Deconvolution Reporting Software (DRS)  
Automated Mass Spectral Deconvolution  
and Identification Software (AMDIS)  
NIST08 Mass Spectral compound library
- Hazardous Industrial Chemicals (HIC)  
database 567 compounds, Retention Time  
Locked (RTL)





## ❑ GC Instrument Conditions

- Inlet – Cold splitless 20 C (0.2) - 720 - 300 C (key parameter)
- Oven: 40 C (0.2) - 10 - 300 C (15)
- Constant pressure
- RTL to Fluorene at 15.577mins
- Run time: 36mins
- 30m x 0.25mm ID x 0.25um HP5-MS UI

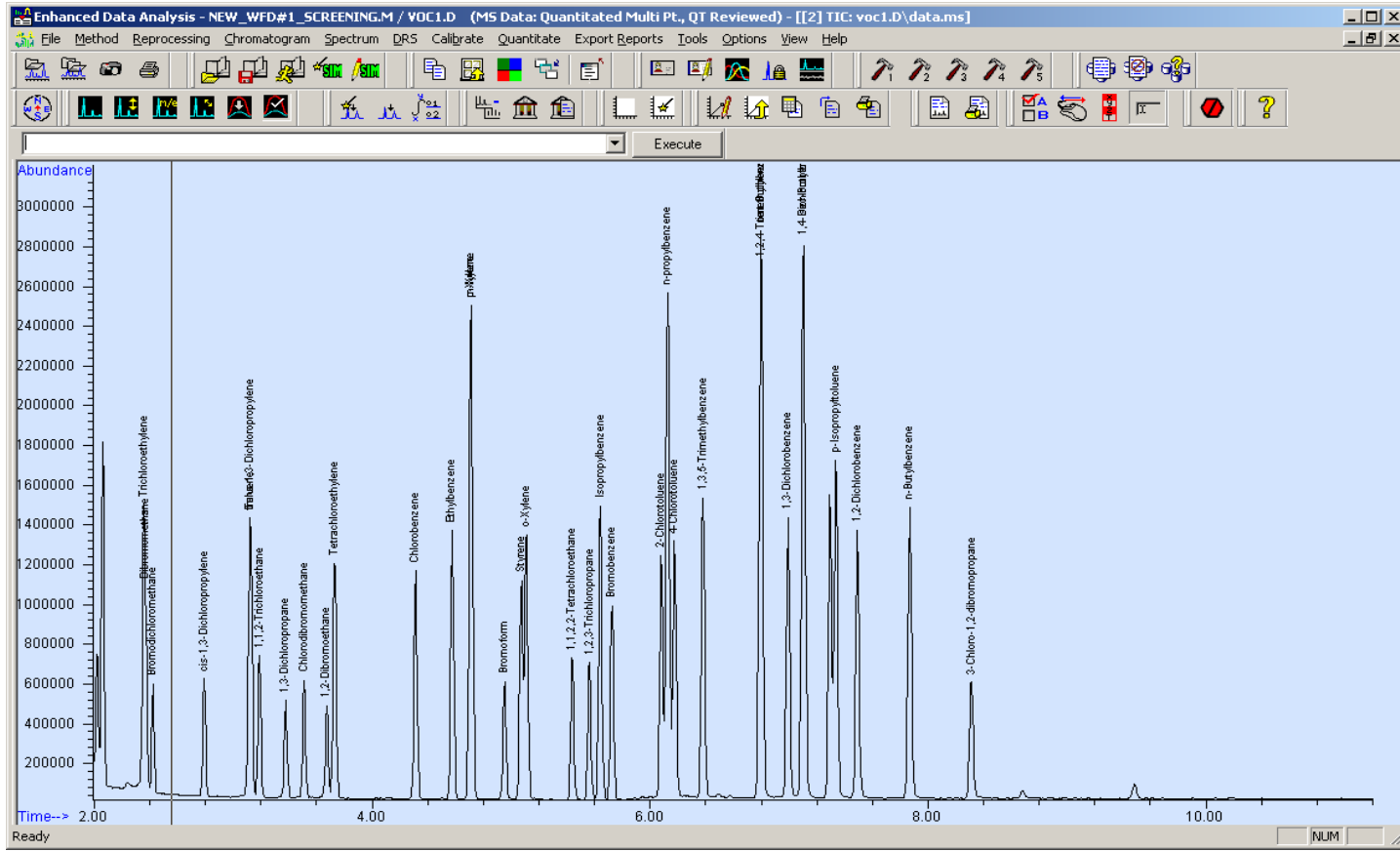
## ❑ MS Instrument Conditions

- Acquisition mode – Full Scan
- Scan range 35 – 565u
- Source and Quad temps. 250 / 150 C

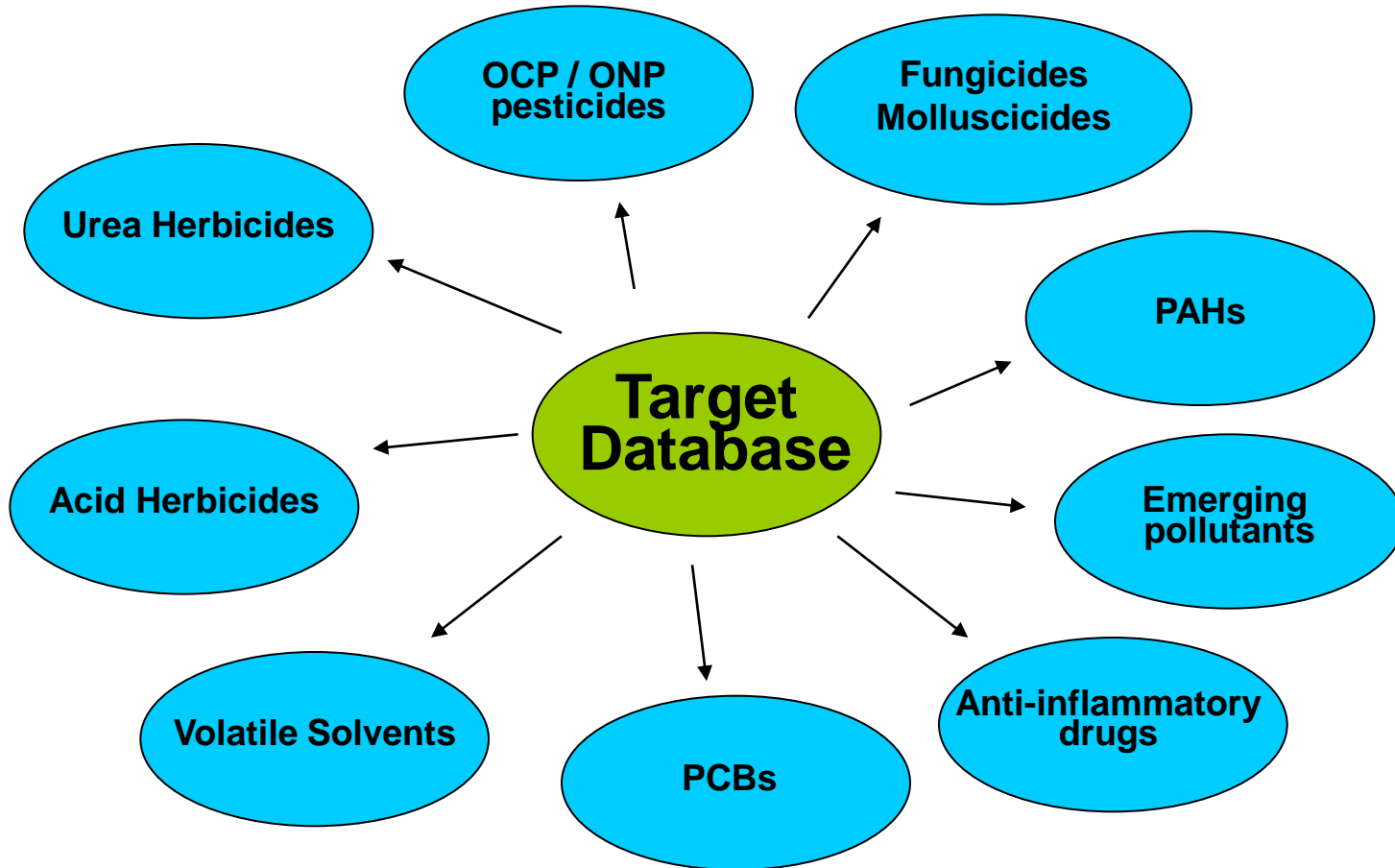
# VOCs Inclusion

- The 5975C inert XL MSD with Triple-Axis detector (TAD) has enabled us to include many of the volatile solvents
- This delivered the necessary increase in sensitivity
- Our previous GCMS screen method used a 10 $\mu$ l solvent vent injection (2 x 5 $\mu$ l)
- Not a suitable technique for the analysis of volatile solvents
- Use a 1 $\mu$ l splitless, cold inlet, injection

# VOC Chromatogram



# Make it Relevant



# Limit of Detection

## River water fortified with targets at 0.1 µg/l

Target Compound	River
2-Chlorophenol	√
Trichloroethylene	√
2,4-D methyl ester	√
2,4,5-Trichlorobiphenyl	√
p,p'-DDE	√
Pyrene	√
Aldrin	√
Atrazine	√
Benzo (a) pyrene	√
Caffeine	√
Metaldehyde	√
Carbetamide	√
Chlordane	√

Target Compound	River
Dichlorvos	√
Ethyl Benzene	√
Fenchlorophos	√
Hexachlorobenzene	√
Methoxychlor	√
Pentachlorobenzene	√
Pirimicarb	√
Simazine	√
Trietazine	√
Vinclozolin	√
Propachlor	√
Tetrachloroethylene	√
Methoxychlor	√

# Reporting Limit

In fact, 75% of the targets tested were detected at «0.02µg/l

			Amount (µg/l) approx.	AMDIS		NIST	
R.T.	Cas #	Compound Name	Chem Station	Match	R.T. Diff Sec.	Match	Hit Num.
2.4158	79016	Trichloroethylene	0.02    0.01	48	4.8	90	1
7.7070	108623	Metalddehyde	0.02    0.02	45	-0.8	82	1
17.8784	1912261	Trietazine	0.02    0.01	40	-3.2	60	1
21.4323	129000	Pyrene	0.02    0.01	93	-4.4	93	2
24.6484	72435	Methoxychlor	0.01    0.01	90	-7.8	80	1



# Hours to Minutes

- ❑ DRS has enabled us to dramatically increase the number of samples processed
- ❑ Now processing over 24 samples per day compared with just 8 using the traditional manual GCMS screen method approach
- ❑ Realised a real cost saving to the business
- ❑ Year on year increase since introducing the method in 2007/08 predicted workload of 650, actual received 1600 samples
- ❑ Demand continues to grow, predicted workload for 2009/10 of 3500 samples



# Summary

- Large number of target compounds, over 800
- Combined VOC / SVOC detection
- Increased accuracy of target identification
- Fast data interpretation, from hours to minutes
- Low detection limits, even in complex matrices
- Strong link with (and support for) WFD
- Tailored to suit individual requirements
- Economical option for the identification of organic substances

# Other Applications

- Sewage & Trade effluent discharge
- Potable raw water monitoring
- Sea life centres & aquaria
- Supporting University research projects
- Fish farms (freshwater & saline)
- Pollution investigations