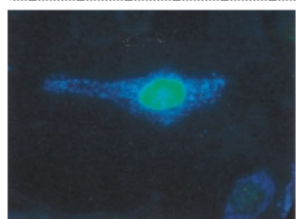


## ON THE MARKET

## VISUALIZING SUBCELLULAR STRUCTURE



In Living Colors:  
Subcellular localization vectors.

Clontech has launched the Living Colors **subcellular localization vectors** for dynamic localization studies in mammalian cells, allowing researchers to study organelle structure and function in living cells, in real time and without chemical staining. Each vector encodes a fusion of enhanced fluorescent protein and a localization tag that targets the fluorescent protein to a particular subcellular structure or organelle, be it actin filaments, microtubules, mitochondria, endoplasmic reticulum, or the nucleus. Labeled structures can be viewed directly and non-invasively by fluorescence microscopy. The vectors are available with a choice of different color variants, including enhanced cyan and yellow variants.

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## PICTURE PERFECT



Photonic Science's Fast Digital Imager.

The Fast Digital Imager from Photonic Science is said to eliminate the unavoidable trade-off between superior megapixel image quality (1,300 × 1,030) and speed of acquisition. The **digital imager** features state-of-the-art CCD drive technology and deep thermoelectric cooling. Photonic Science says the system is flexible—whether you need to increase the frame rate (up to 140 f.p.s.) or achieve reliable on-chip integration (up to 10 min). CCD selection is said to ensure a large signal-to-noise ratio (flexible choice of 10 or 12 bit) and enhanced sensitivity (few microlux). The imager is supplied as an integrated, digital, high-resolution system dedicated to color, FISH, GFP/BFP, ratio, time-lapse or dy-

namic 3D automated microscopy. An intensified version of this camera is available.

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The new Kodak Digital Science Image Station 440CF is a compact, **multipurpose, benchtop imaging instrument** designed to provide real-time chemiluminescence, fluorescence, chemifluorescence, and chromogenic detection, densitometry, and imaging on a range of sample types, including X-ray films, membranes and gels. NEN began the worldwide distribution of the Image Station for Kodak Scientific Imaging Systems last year, along with NEN's line of complementary reagents, kits, films and membranes. The system uses an electronically cooled, full-frame-capture CCD camera to visualize scientific samples that are in a flat format (for example, gels, blots and chromatograms) using various detection methods. Images develop on screen in real time. In this way, researchers can capture images at their optimum exposures, without guesswork, and then analyze them with Kodak Digital Science 1D analysis software.

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AlphaScan 7000—the all-in-one densitometry system.

Flowgen's AlphaScan 7000 **imaging densitometer** is a complete system for documenting, archiving and analyzing densitometry samples. The system uses high-speed, single-pass scanning technology and AlphaEase software to capture and analyze PAGE gels and large protein gels, quantitate PCR results and perform plate/dot analysis, MW/R<sub>e</sub> calculations and high-density array analysis. The company also offers Phoretix 2D software for the analysis of protein gels, with the option of a 2D gel database for multiple gel comparisons. The instrument features 12-bit, three-channel pixel depth, a density range

of 3 OD (optical density) and 3,600 d.p.i. for continuous tone samples. It is also capable of registering 4,096 gray scales or 68 billion colors. A large 21 × 35 cm scanning area for imaging multiple or large samples in a single scan pass is standard. A similar sized sealed scanner is also available for capturing images from wet samples.

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## LIPOSOME TECHNOLOGY

LiposoFast instruments from Glen Creston are intended for the rapid and cost-effective **production of liposomes by extrusion**. Design features include uniform size distribution of liposomes, the ability to produce small sample batches (from 0.2 ml) and autoclavable contact parts for ease of handling. With these instruments a lipid emulsion is repeatedly extruded back and forth through a controlled pore diameter membrane, producing a uniform suspension of small unilamellar liposomes. Constant extrusion pressure is said to provide reproducible results in about 5 min. Models are available with manual, pneumatical or pressurized gas-powered extrusion.

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O<sub>2</sub> TENSION MEASUREMENT OPTIONS

The OxyLite system from Oxford Optronix is a new **system for measuring tissue oxygen tension (pO<sub>2</sub>) and temperature** continuously and precisely from the same site. Researchers can therefore determine whether tissue hypoxia/ischemia arises from limitations in blood flow or limiting factors in oxygen diffusion. Features of this instrument include a fast response time and zero oxygen consumption. It is said to be sensitive and stable—particularly in 'hypoxic' conditions. A significant feature of the system is that it is a multichannel instrument (that is, there are 2- or 4-channel formats), enabling multiparameter measurements to be performed from more than one tissue site.

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