

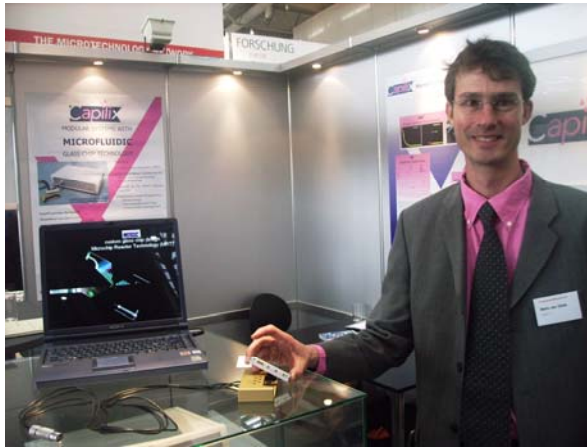
Press release:

CapiliX Capella platform gives future microfluidics adepts a pole-position start

Enschede (NL) – Hannover (GER), October, 2005



CapiliX proudly announces the Capella modular microfluidic platform. We give our customers a pole position start in microfluidics (MF). Our customers have their own ideas on how they think that MF can help to reduce the costs of their own business and make it more competitive for the future. So we don't sell standard MF solutions but we are supporting the development needed for this with our Capella research dedicated tool.

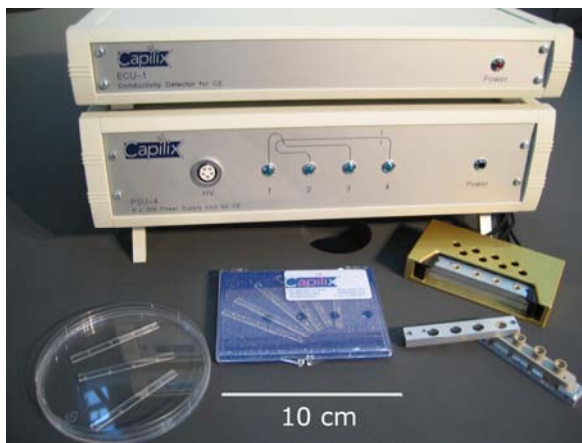


The Capella platform helps to work with the bare MF (glass) chips (=MFC's), being a highly modular and very open system having a perfect connectivity to other related equipment.

We think glass is the material of choice at the development stage of a new MF product because it has a high compatibility to MEMS technologies that are the basis for these new developments. Integration of more functionality onto the MFC is needed to take the best advantage of having this miniaturized.

CapiliX itself is focusing on new detection principles using on-chip integrated optics technologies, because we think that much gain will be possible with highly sensitive miniaturized detection techniques like this.

In some cases plastics might be a better solution in the end, but we can also offer you the experience of translating a glass process into plastic. Also Capella is suited to handle plastic chips, so a plastic head start can also be made right away also.



The Capella MCE platform is shown in the picture. The heart of the system is a microfluidic chip cartridge (MCC). The MCC is holding the microfluidic glass chip, holding the micro structures that can manipulate the tiny amounts of liquid. Access to the micro structure is given by the 4 luer-lock compatible wells, in which sample volumes of 20 upto 100 microliter can be injected. In the standard configuration this injection can be done manually, but the highly open and modular concept of Capella also allows access for use of any kind of autosampler robot.

The cartridge docking station (CDS) connects the MCC to the PSU-4 and the on-chip integrated detection system(s). The PSU-4 is having 4 independent high voltage power supply (2kV) channels to pump the liquids through the microfluidic channels. The CDS is put on an Olympus IX71 inverted microscope so the analyst can look at what is happening. This is really needed when optimizing the MCE for new applications.

All fluid flows are controlled and monitored with dedicated Labview based software that runs on any PC with a Windows 2000 (or later) operating system and a free USB-port. The software also takes care of handling of all the data, which can easily be exported to any kind of format for further analysis or archiving. Also this system can be triggered by external signals.

CapiliX has tested Capella with various detection techniques. (DUV)-LIF gives the opportunity to analyze organic compounds with high sensitivity without having the need for labelling. Electrical conductivity (EC) detection is very suitable for analysis of small (inorganic) ions and in the Capella platform it can be combined with LIF, what gives more information in certain applications. Furthermore we see good opportunity to develop customer specific on-line analysis systems around this platform.

There are many patents already in the field of MF, making it difficult to develop new products. To tackle this we have a proven licensing strategy, so new combinations of technologies can become successful.

For more information on the CapiliX Capella platform and where to meet us at trade shows please look at <http://www.capilix.com>. CapiliX gives 10% discount for customers that came visit us at one of the trade shows this year.

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