

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INFICON DISPLAYS LATEST LEAK DETECTION TECHNOLOGY AT ATE
Electric-vehicle battery testing will be a discussion topic at the expo

NOVI, Mich. – INFICON is showcasing the auto industry’s most advanced refrigerant and fuel leak-detection systems at the 13th annual Automotive Testing Expo (ATE) on Oct. 25-27 in the Detroit suburb of Novi.

The company also will be polling visitors to its exhibit (Booth #11014) on the need for leak-detection systems to test high-voltage automotive batteries.

“Currently there are no standards for leak testing batteries used on electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles,” said Thomas Parker, INFICON’s North American automotive market sales manager. “The industry needs to learn more about the leak-detection challenges that will be facing battery manufacturers, auto suppliers and their customers.”

Technology on display at INFICON’s booth will include the company’s Ecotec E3000 Multi-Gas Sniffer Leak Detector, its Sensistor Sentrac Hydrogen Leak Detector and a unique “bubbleizer” leak-size demonstrator. The three-day technology forum takes place at the Suburban Collection Showplace and features some of the world’s leading automotive test technologies and equipment.

“Year after year we discuss projects targeted to improve leak detection processes with more and more companies,” Parker said. “The automotive, medical and aerospace industries are all under considerable pressure to manufacture and guarantee leak-free products.”

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INFICON's multi-gas sniffer leak detector, **Ecotec E3000®** is designed to test the latest high-pressure fuel systems, as well as air conditioning systems that use new potentially flammable refrigerants. Ecotec E3000 is suited for the final testing of A/C as well as fuel systems in an industrial 24/7 environment.



INFICON Protec P3000 Helium Sniffer Leak Detector

An Ecotec E3000 can simultaneously detect fuel and refrigerants, as well as helium or hydrogen and is not affected by other materials such as spilled washer or coolant fluids. It can be set-up to detect as many as four different gases at the same time, making it an ideal solution for leak testing air conditioners and fuel-rail connectors in just one step.

Most manufacturers now use final assembly processes that accommodate a mix of vehicle models with different air-conditioning refrigerants randomly arriving at test stations. INFICON's Ecotec E3000 solves the problem of quickly testing for refrigerant leaks, either 1234yf or 134a, without any additional time for equipment changeover or recalibration. Moreover, the E3000 rapidly tests fuel rails and lines for leaks and is resistant to false alarms triggered by other fluids found in the engine compartment.

Ecotec E3000 also is ideal for mixed refrigerant production lines. The phase out of R134a refrigerant over the next couple of years will place some vehicle models with R134a on final assembly lines alongside of newer models equipped with air conditioners operating with HFO-1234yf. A device that can detect both refrigerants and clearly distinguish between the two will be required for this type of mixed production line.

The Ecotec E3000 includes precise operator-controlled background reduction to enable precise pinpointing of leak locations at the lowest detectable levels. In addition, the INFICON device's easy-to-use sniffer accommodates variations in operator techniques. Ecotec E3000's I-Guide™ helps an operator ensure that a correct number of test locations have been covered and verifies that each location is tested for a predetermined time. A self-monitoring device, it notifies the operator of potential problems before they occur.

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Manufacturers can cover a wide variety of test requirements with INFICON's **Sensistor Sentrac**® Hydrogen Leak Detector. The sniffing device can handle manual and robot-assisted leak detection in environments with high levels of tracer gas, providing both selectivity and sensitivity.

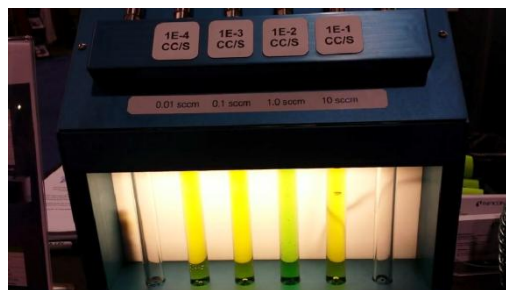


INFICON Sensistor Sentrac® hydrogen leak tester

Looking for leaks with a diluted hydrogen tracer gas is an ideal solution for many industrial applications. Sensistor Sentrac is a user-friendly device equipped with a pressure-sensitive color touch screen. It also makes settings simpler for various production situations and minimizes the risk of time-consuming errors. In addition, settings for a variety of measuring situations can be saved as configuration files and stored on an SD card for safe backup.

Sensistor Sentrac delivers leak-detection results immediately on both desktop and battery-operated models. The ergonomically designed probe handle delivers fast access to frequently used functions through a multi-function button. Probes can be used in rough environments that are wet or dusty. During leak testing, LED lights in the probe illuminate and precisely pinpoint leaks.

INFICON's unique **Bubbleizer** display provides a side-by-side comparison of leaks of 0.01, 0.1, 1.0 and 10 sccm (standard cubic centimeters per minute) in water-filled glass cylinders. Parker noted that a crack 15 microns wide by 1.5 mm long leaks at a rate of 0.003 sccm and is undetectable with a water-bubble test. The same leak can easily be found with a helium leak detector.



The Bubbleizer will be on display at the INFICON booth

For those interested in learning more about leak detection, Thomas pointed out that INFICON recently published a 51-page e-book titled "Leak Testing in the Automotive Industry: A Comprehensive Guide to Leak Detection". It is [available free-of-charge](#) from the company's website.

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Note to Editors: High resolution photos are available on request.

ABOUT INFICON

INFICON is one of the world's leading developers, producers and suppliers of instruments and devices for leak detection in air conditioning, refrigeration and automotive manufacturing. The company has manufacturing facilities in Europe, China and the United States, as well as sales and service offices throughout the world.

More information about INFICON automotive technology is available online at www.inficonautomotive.com. The company's new book, "Leak Testing in the Automotive Industry: A Comprehensive Guide to Leak Detection," can be downloaded free-of-charge at <http://www.inficon.com/automotiveindustry-ebook>.

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