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PRESS RELEASE

IDE Inc. Designs New Osmometers for Wescor

SCOTTS VALLEY, CA (July 24, 2009) — IDE Inc. of Scotts Valley, CA, is pleased to announce the recent introduction of the new IDE-designed Wescor *Vapro Plus* pressure osmometer with self-cleaning thermocouple. Wescor, once again turned to IDE for the design of their new instruments, having collaborated successfully with IDE on five previous Wescor products.

IDE provided the design research, industrial design, human factors design, systems component packaging, keypad layout and physical UI, and detailed mechanical design of the *Vapro* enclosure assembly. Wescor's newest benchtop clinical laboratory instrument was introduced at AACC Chicago, on July 21, 2009. The new Wescor *Vapro Plus* represents the most advanced and up to date method of osmolality determination.

Innovated Design Solutions

IDE's design team recommended a new manufacturing process, Reaction Injection Molding, for the new instrument's enclosure, allowing many critical mounting features to be integrated into the design of the housings, eliminating extra parts and maintaining excellent, repeatable manufacturing tolerances for easy and accurate assembly.

Based on ergonomic and human factors considerations, IDE's design team recommended a motorized implementation for managing sample processing and collaborated with Wescor's internal mechanical engineering team on its development (Wescor concentrating on the internal motorized mechanism and IDE concentrating on the external, user interaction elements).

A Family Design Strategy

In Parallel with *Vapro Plus* design, IDE's design team also began work on its sister product, the *Vapro Colloid*, creating an industrial design that presented a strong family product identity and some shared component packaging and enclosure tooling commonality. The design process for the *Vapro Colloid* was similar to the *Vapro Pro*; however the *Vapro Colloid* required unique solutions for its fluidics, sample processing and user interaction.

About Wescor

Wescor has been designing and manufacturing medical laboratory equipment for sample preparation and diagnostic measurement since 1970, and is the world leader in sweat testing equipment for the laboratory diagnosis of cystic fibrosis. Wescor's family of clinical laboratory equipment enjoy an excellent reputation throughout the world. Wescor is part of the privately held ELITech group. Information about Wescor's products can be found at www.wescor.com.

About IDE Inc.

IDE Inc. is a Scotts Valley, California product design firm providing multi-disciplined product design services to technology-based companies throughout the world. IDE clientele include many of the world's most successful and innovative companies. Visit IDE's web site at www.ideinc.com.

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