



SORBY NANO
INVESTIGATION CENTRE

SORBY NANO NEWS

www.sorbynano.org

Keeping you up-to-date with news and events at the Sorby Nano Centre

Issue 4/November 2008

Events hosted...

Sorby Nano & Olympus Open Day – 2nd & 3rd September.

[Sorby Nano](#) hosted an industry focused event in early September to raise awareness of the innovative microscopy techniques that are available to business to help them research and develop new products and processes. This was held in conjunction with [Olympus](#) who demonstrated their latest optical microscope the [LEXT OLS3100](#), which is housed on [North Campus](#). The event was fully booked and companies travelled from as far as Liverpool and Manchester to attend.

The Olympus LEXT is the next generation in 3D laser confocal metrology. Sorby Nano and Olympus have worked together over the last year to showcase the latest developments in optical and electron microscopy. These advances in equipment combined with our expertise contribute towards R&D of new and existing products for local and regional companies. Olympus have developed the new technology – the LEXT OLS3100 – to meet customer demands for fast performance, easier operation and greater accuracy.

The confocal laser scanning microscope allows ultraprecise measurement and observation with the highest levels of reliability. It minimises manual operation and improves the ease of use for everyone including first-time users. Olympus offers a wide range of microscopes and accessories for observing surfaces, analysing new materials and studying nanoparticles. Other equipment, including the BX51 for brightfield and darkfield applications were available on the day. This provides imaging for materials analysis, including grain size, weld analysis, particle size and phase analysis. A range of stereo microscopes from routine to the high end research were also on show.



In this issue

Page one

Sorby Nano & Olympus Open Day

Did you know?

Page two

Customer profiles

Visits

Other news

In the press

Looking forward

Did you know?

The theory of nano is now being used to build radios! Made from a single carbon nanotube, nano radio is being researched by US scientists.....

<http://www.thenakedscientists.com/HTML/content/news/news/1173/>

Picture left: Olympus LEXT OLS3100 microscope

On the day presentations were given by Vickie Roberts from [Olympus](#), Dr Martin Highett from [Sorby Nano](#) and Malcolm Nichols from [Enspec UK](#) (a provider of comprehensive forensic engineering and plant inspection support service for pharmaceutical and petrochemical companies).

Please Note: It is anticipated that this successful demonstration event will be repeated in early 2009.



Picture right: Olympus and Sorby Nano Team

OLYMPUS

Call us on +44 (0)114 222 5981



Customer profiles

[Ceramisys Ltd](#) (manufacturer of innovative bone graft biomaterials for orthopaedic repair and soft tissue enhancement) has utilised Sorby Nano services to analyse the size and morphology of the next generation of products that they have in development. It is anticipated that these studies will evaluate how the product performs at the nanoscale and how these properties can be harnessed to provide enhanced therapies in the future.



Agilent Technologies

Other news...

September



Marketing Officer, Emma Needham attended The Power of Marketing – East Midlands Annual One Day conference. This event was hosted by the [Chartered Institute of Marketing](#) and included informative workshops on the latest hot topics in the marketing sector, such as direct e-marketing and understanding legislation. Keeping up-to-date with these current issues ensures that Sorby Nano adopts the correct policies.

The [Department of Engineering Materials](#) hosted an Industrial Forum event to build upon the current links between The University of Sheffield and industry. Centre Manager, Dr Martin Highett gave a presentation on how Sorby Nano can improve industrial R&D processes with our microscopy expertise and equipment. In addition to other presentations and networking opportunities, the forum gave local companies the chance to learn what the University can offer them. However, more importantly it gave the University a valuable insight into what industry wants from the University by listening to our customers needs. The event was well attended by key industrial figures from the region, as well as the Master Cutler Gordon Bridge who has a passion for manufacturing.

October

Northern Manufacturing Exhibition - 1st & 2nd October.

Sorby Nano exhibited at the regions largest engineering event – [The Northern Manufacturing & Technology](#) Exhibition, Sheffield. This event was well represented by local and regional industry, it gave us a chance to catch up with many of our existing customers and also acquire new leads from the region and beyond.

Visits

Dr. Nigel Skinner, New Business Development Manager from [Agilent](#) came to North Campus for a site visit. Agilent are a premier measurements company who specialise in electronics, communications, life sciences and chemical analysis sectors. Dr. John Hinton, R&D Officer for Sorby Nano gave Dr. Skinner an overview of our capabilities in nanotechnology and a tour of our facilities.

If you would like a tour of the Sorby Nano facilities then please contact us.

In the press



NGF EUROPE Ltd approached Sorby Nano to analyse the size of glass flakes in one of their products to understand the effect of the manufacturing process on the glass flake size distribution. The data collected by R&D Officer Dr. John Hinton for [NGF EUROPE Ltd](#) contributed to a paper presented at the International Tire Exhibition and Conference Akron, Ohio, 16-18 September 2008.

Looking forward...

Look out for a 2009 desk calendar heading your way from the Sorby Nano Centre in early December. The calendar contains the winning scientific images from the 2008 Kroto Artwork Competition. The images can viewed on-line at www.sciencewords.net

We are pleased to announce that Sir Harry Kroto, 1996 Nobel Prize winner in chemistry has confirmed he will be visiting North Campus again in June 2009 for the Annual Symposium. Watch this space for more details!

