SPECTRO **ARCOS**
For the most demanding elemental analyses in industry and research

The new ARCOS analyzer represents a new pinnacle of productivity and performance for inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometers. It’s a worthy successor to previous industry-leading ARCOS models — as well as the capstone to more than 30 years of SPECTRO experience in producing the world’s leading ICP-OES instruments.

SPECTRO ARCOS excels in industrial and academic applications for the most advanced elemental analysis of metals, chemicals, petrochemicals, and other materials. Its unique new MultiView plasma interface option provides truly uncompromising axial-view and radial-view plasma observation in a single instrument. Its innovative, exclusive solid-state generator offers the industry’s highest power in an energy-efficient, future-proof package.

Its design ensures exceptionally low operating costs over a long, reliable service life. And it packs a modern, ergonomic chassis with proven features such as no-purge UV-PLUS sealed gas purification technology, no-external-cooling OPI-Air interface, simplified sample introduction, and easy accessibility for service and maintenance. Finally, SPECTRO ARCOS delivers unmatched performance, without any need for added techniques or instruments.
SPECTRO ARCOS advantages: analysis without compromise

Revolutionary resolution and sensitivity

SPECTRO ARCOS provides exceptionally high continuous optical resolution over the widest spectral range. This enables easy separation of neighboring lines in line-rich spectra, minimizes spectral interferences, simplifies method development, and improves accuracy. In addition, via direct light paths and other advantages, the system offers the best sensitivity in its class, especially in the VUV/UV range — critical for sub-ppm analyses in metals or in material science applications.

Highest speed

With its fully simultaneous performance, the system can complete a single analysis in as little as 30 seconds. That makes it the fastest in its class. From the simplest sample to the most challenging, SPECTRO ARCOS delivers better analyses at high speed. Result: the user analyzes more samples in less time.

Lowest cost of ownership

SPECTRO ARCOS combines ultra-high performance with an intense focus on long-term cost savings. Examples: patented air-cooled technology eliminates an external chiller with its continuing energy expenses and possible early-replacement costs. And compared to conventional constant-purge designs, its sealed optical system typically saves thousands of dollars annually in gas consumption alone.

Best-in-class stability

Thanks to its uniquely sealed, thermally stabilized optics and extremely robust generator, SPECTRO ARCOS demonstrates superior stability over time. The instrument avoids measurement drift, minimizing reruns and maximizing throughput in process or production control.

Unparalleled ease of use

Every aspect of the system is built for maximum operator safety and ease of use. For example, the plasma torch’s bayonet coupling is self-aligning, eliminating the need for optimization after re-installation. The software is simple and intuitive. And connection points and components allow easy front or side access for no-fuss service and maintenance.

Unique flexibility

The system is designed to provide the fastest and most accurate measurement of any sample typically encountered in industrial or research analysis. MultiView gives users the flexibility to choose axial or radial plasma observation according to their desired application profile.
Innovative technologies for spectacular performance

The new SPECTRO ARCOS breaks ground with the introduction of a bold new approach to the heart of any ICP-OES instrument: its plasma viewing interface.

Truly axial, truly radial, truly radical: introducing MultiView

SPECTRO ARCOS revolutionizes spectrometer design with its optional new periscope-free MultiView mechanism. This lets an operator literally “turn” a radial-view instrument into an axial-view device, or vice-versa, in 90 seconds or less!

Consider a user utilizing a MultiView-equipped SPECTRO ARCOS in radial-view mode to analyze major concentrations, who now needs axial view to analyze sub-ppm trace elements in metal matrices. With the few simple steps shown below, the user can access dedicated plasma view performance — without compromises.

1) Simply remove radial torch and interface
2) Rotate load coil into desired horizontal orientation
3) Install axial torch and interface
4) Reconnect sample introduction system

“Dual” view: a question of compromise

High-sensitivity axial plasma observation excels at trace analysis, whereas high-precision radial plasma observation is ideal for analyses requiring compatibility with high matrix loads, and for organic solutions. Until now, dual-view instruments have been the only choice when users require both.

Conventional dual-view designs privilege axial observation with a direct view, adding on radial-view capability via a small periscope.

Unfortunately, this inherently compromises performance. In the radial view, light must encounter multiple mirrors, suffering up to 15% loss of light (and thus information) at every step; plus, the periscope path cannot be effectively purged. Overall, sensitivity is affected particularly in the UV/VUV range, while stability and precision suffer in case of high matrix loads or organics. In the end, no periscope-based design can provide the performance available with two dedicated single-view models.
Superior power

The generator delivers the highest plasma power available today, with a tested and proven range of 500 W to 2000 W. Combined with the system’s exclusive optics, these serious power reserves enable previously impossible feats of analysis at the highest plasma loads.

For example, the SPECTRO ARCOS spectrometer can actually analyze volatile organic samples such as gasoline at room temperature!

Yet it’s highly energy-efficient. Thanks to the unique SPECTRO ARCOS air-cooled design, the system operates without external cooling, thus achieving low running costs.

Unequaled agility

The generator exhibits high matrix compatibility. Samples can be analyzed in lower dilutions, which results in lower limits of detection.

Additional sample preparation is often not necessary, and specialized techniques such as cooled spray chambers are no longer required.

Longest lifetime

Finally, this generator is extremely robust and trouble-free. Its advanced design is completely short-circuit-proof.

In addition, with no parts subject to wear, the generator minimizes time and expense for maintenance or repair. It’s designed to provide excellent uptime and the longest possible service life.

Ultimate new power source

Plasma power enters a whole new era with the system’s innovative generator. This unique component is based on laterally diffused metal oxide semiconductor (LDMOS) technology. SPECTRO ARCOS is the first ICP-OES analyzer to deploy this type of powerful and extremely rugged solid-state generator.
Proven solutions for superiority, simplicity, and savings

**Highest-performance optical system [1]**

The analyzer’s innovative Optimized Rowland Circle Alignment (ORCA) optical technology utilizes few mirrors, providing a direct, high-luminance light path that minimizes light loss.

In addition, SPECTRO aRCOS delivers excellent, constant resolution over a wide spectral range. It’s proven to provide the industry’s best transparency in the spectral range below 180 nm. This simplifies method development, even in heavy metal matrices, and allows easier processing of line-rich spectra. Result: best-in-class measurement accuracy.

**No expensive gas purging [2]**

The UV-PLUS sealed optical system is permanently argon-filled, recirculating gas through a small cleaning cartridge good for at least 2 years of life. This eliminates the waste and expense (typically more than $3000 per year) required by costly conventional designs, which must consume purge gas on a constant basis, and may also risk system contamination by purge gases. It also helps SPECTRO aRCOS achieve high stability and excellent low wavelength performance. So it provides stable analytical results immediately, without purge delays at startup.

**No complicated, costly external cooling [3]**

SPECTRO produces the only known completely air-cooled ICP-OES analyzer on the market. (All others are water-cooled.) Its unique, innovative OPI-AIR interface saves users from having to buy, install, power, and maintain an elaborate, expensive — and often short-lived — external cooling system.
Ergonomic benchtop design

The system’s modernized design fits on any standard laboratory bench, with polyurethane/aluminum construction that’s resistant to chemicals and corrosion. Its layout includes thoughtful features such as ultra-short fluid paths. Users enjoy easy, safe accessibility to components from both sides and front for fast, convenient service or maintenance.

Easy, flexible sample introduction system

The spectrometer’s thermally insulated, illuminated compartment provides plenty of room to accommodate a large variety of sample introduction systems. Preadjusted setup makes for rapid startup, without the need for comprehensive optimization.

Intuitive interface

The instrument’s smart user interface is quickly mastered and provides simple, intuitive, routine operation.

High-performance services

So that SPECTRO ARCOS spectrometers keep functioning with utmost reliability, SPECTRO offers AMECARE Performance Services. More than 200 service engineers based in over 50 countries help ensure uninterrupted performance as well as maximum ROI over the instrument’s life. Available programs include proactive performance maintenance, performance upgrades, applications solutions, consultation, targeted training, and ongoing support. Unique, secure new AMECARE M2M remote monitoring even offers ongoing diagnostics and alerts!
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Polychromator
- Thermally stabilized to +15°C ± 0.5°C
- ORCA hollow section design in triple Paschen-Runge mounting
- 750 mm focal length
- Holographic concave master grating: 2 x 3600, 1 x 1800 g/mm
- Grating material Zerodur
- MgF2 optical components
- Full 1st order wavelength coverage
- Wavelength range: 130 (160) - 770 nm
- Entrance slits width: 15 µm

Detector
- 32(29) linear CCD arrays
- 3648 pixels per array
- Optical/pixel resolution: 130(160)-340 nm
- Thermally stabilized optical system (+15°C ± 0.5°C)
- Dynamic range up to 9 orders of magnitude
- Shortest integration time: 0.1 ms
- Shortest measurement time for one analysis: 2 s

UV System
- UV-PLUS system
- Gas (argon) filled hollow section, sealed, no consumable purge gas required
- Dual window entrance optics, easy to maintain
- Automatic gas purifying system
- Lifetime of purifying cartridge: 24 months

RF Generator
- LDMOS solid-state design
- Frequency: 27.12 MHz, free running type
- RF power output: 0.5 to 2.0 kW
- Power efficiency: > 85%
- Power stability: ±0.1%
- Automatic plasma ignition
- Fully computer controlled
- Air cooled (no external cooling required)

Dimensions and Weight
- Spectrometer 1068 x 1582 x 756 mm (HxWxD) (42.1 x 62.3 x 29.8 inch)
- Footprint 1065 x 646 mm (WxD) (41.9 x 25.4 inch)
- Spectrometer approx. 240 kg (530 lb)

Environmental Conditions
- Room temperature: 15-35°C (64-95°F)
- Specified instrument performance at 18-25°C (64-77°F)
- Relative Humidity: < 80% noncondensing
- Atmosphere: Free of corrosive vapors and high dust pollution

Exhaust System Requirements
- Capacity: 2 x 300 m³ per h (177 cft/min), separately adjustable between zero and maximum

Argon Supply Requirements
- Grade: 4.6 (99.996%)
- Pressure: 6.5 bar (109 psi)

Electrical Requirements
- 230 VAC ± 5%, 50/60 Hz
- Approx. 4.5 kVA power consumption
- 30-32 A instrument required line protection (slow blow fuse)

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