

Kromek prepares to launch liquid-detection products

UK technology company Kromek announced in mid-September 2008 that it has almost completed development of a range of liquid-detection products for airport security.

The company, formerly known as Durham Scientific Crystals, announced that its single-bottle Threat Liquid Detection System will be launched in November in Dubai and in December in Washington, DC. The 311+ Scanner for screening liquids in so-called '3-1-1' bags (3 oz bottle, one quart-sized bag and one bag per passenger) will be launched "within the next five months", it added.

The scanners use cadmium telluride materials to identify the substances. Cadmium telluride is highly sensitive to x-rays and gamma rays, which allow for improved imaging in airport security applications.

Using these materials Kromek is also developing a 3-D, colour x-ray imaging system for baggage screening. The cadmium tel-



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■ Kromek stated that its 311+ Scanner for liquids screening will be launched by early 2009.

luride detectors produce images that are already in digital form and so are of a higher quality. The checkpoint baggage screening machine under development uses a new type of imaging that allows the operator to view a 3-D image of an object.

This is designed to allow the operator to rotate the image on screen to give a good indication of the contents of the bag. Rotation is achieved by the geomet-



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■ The Threat Liquid Detection System from Kromek is designed to screen one bottle at a time.

ric configuration of the detectors. Operators would be able to view the objects on one screen instead of two because they can view each bag from a variety of angles on one screen.

"Kromek is currently carrying out the development of its baggage imaging systems in conjunction with the UK Home Office and is in talks with a number of parties for licensing this technology," the company stated. *BV*