

Analytik contact:
Ksenia Semina, +44(0)759 571 0508

Media contact:
Jezz Leckenby, +44(0)1799 521881

Analytik reports on the ASD FieldSpec HandHeld 2 spectrometer's use in the Amazon rainforest by the Tropical Forest Science group at Oxford University.

Cambridge, UK, 9th September 2014: Analytik, leading suppliers of innovative analytical instrumentation, report on how handheld spectroscopy is being used at the University of Oxford's Environmental Change Institute.

Dr Chris Doughty is a lecturer in ecosystem ecology within the Environmental Change Institute (ECI) at the University of Oxford. He is also a Junior Research Fellow in the Tropical Forest Science group of the ECI.

Chris describes his work and vision where a handheld spectrometer becomes a vital part of his laboratory on the move. "Our goal is to use leaf spectroscopy to predict leaf traits (photosynthesis, leaf chemistry, etc.). We then hope to develop these techniques to eventually use airborne remote sensing above the forest to better predict the carbon balance and health of tropical forests." Currently he is coordinating research at seventeen rainforest plots in six sites across the Amazon basin. At these plots, intensive monitoring of forest carbon cycling and allocation will: 1) provide baseline estimates of current forest carbon storage, and 2) track ongoing changes in forest carbon cycling. These results will help to develop the next generation of coupled atmosphere-biosphere models and guide international climate policy.

Chris' enthusiasm for his research is clear: "I love studying tropical forests because they are important stores of biodiversity and carbon, but they are often difficult to study due to their remote locations. Our work will hopefully make it easier to measure and understand forests in the most remote regions."

Speaking of his choice of the portable Vis-NIR FieldSpec system, he noted, "I had previously learned on another ASD spectrometer from 400-2500 nm and an integrating sphere. Moving to the new FieldSpec HandHeld 2 has provided me with a system that is robust in the field, easy to carry and ideal for my diverse working environments."

The FieldSpec HandHeld 2 spectroradiometer performs rapid, precise, non-destructive and non-contact spectral measurement in a truly portable design. The HandHeld 2 minimises field data collection time while maximising the quality of spectral results.

To find out more about the ASD FieldSpec spectrometer, visit: <http://www.analytik.co.uk/portable-remote-sensing-spectroradiometry-fieldspec-handheld.htm>

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Attachment:



The ASD FieldSpec HandHeld 2 Spectrometer, being used in the Amazon rainforest

For a high resolution copy of the image, either right click to download or contact Jezz Leckenby at Talking Science.

About...Analytik are leading suppliers of innovative analytical instrumentation to the UK and Ireland. Delivering cutting-edge solutions from global technology providers, coupled with responsive service and flexibility has enabled Analytik to build an impressive customer base since forming in 2003. Analytik's partners include Agilent Technologies, ASD Inc., a PANalytical company, SciAps, GL Optic, GeSIM, Ocean Optics, CAMO, CPS Instruments, Videometer and Schmidt + Haensch. Solutions include portable and handheld spectrometers (FTIR, NIR & Raman), spectral imaging systems, light measurement systems, non-contact nanolitre dispensing systems, nanoparticle size analysers, polarimeters and refractometers.

For further information: Please contact Analytik direct or their marketing agency:

Analytik Limited
2 Cygnus Business Park
Middle Watch, Swavesey
Cambridge CB24 4AA
T +44(0) 759 571 0508
F +44(0) 870 135 2488
www.analytik.co.uk
kzenia.semina@analytik.co.uk

Talking Science Limited
39 de Bohun Court
Saffron Walden
Essex CB10 2BA UK
T +44(0)1799 521881
M +44(0)7843 012997
www.talking-science.com
jezz@talking-science.com