

825 Lab Link provides the Titrando with direct access to computer networks

Titration is one of the most widespread analytical methods. In almost every laboratory you will find a titrator, be it a simple «stand-alone» instrument or a fully automated titration system consisting of several titrators and sample changers. The analytical results produced by these instruments can be printed out on paper or stored in databases. In the course of the development toward the paperless laboratory, electronic data archiving is continually increasing in importance. Today the compatibility of the titrator with LIMS or long-term archiving programs is much in demand.

While the further development of the titrators led to increasingly more compact instruments, the laboratory space saved in this way was very quickly occupied by the PC. At first the computer was used for storing the analytical data, later for programming and controlling the titrator and finally for converting and then exporting the data to a superordinate network database. Today the PC has established itself in the laboratory as a flexible and efficient user interface. However, the disadvantages are also known:

- Computer, monitor, keyboard and mouse require a great amount of expensive laboratory space.
- Computers must be individually configured.
- In order to ensure smooth operation, comprehensive PC support is necessary. Regular software updates and hardware extensions or replacements are practically unavoidable.
- The Windows™ operating system can only be protected by elaborate measures.
- In the laboratory the keyboard and mouse are constantly at risk from chemicals.

Must users resign themselves to this situation?

With the Titrando system a completely new type of user interface has been introduced into analytical laboratories: the Touch Control. For the first time a control and operating element is available that combines the functions and performance of a computer with the advantages of an instrument specifically designed for laboratory use.

The attraction of the Touch Control idea is that the software is the same as that of the PC Control system. Functionally identical and fully compatible, the Touch Control offers the same performance as a PC, but requires only a fraction of the bench space. A touch-sensitive color display allows intuitive and flexible control of the Titrando. Even the problem of limited storage capacity involved with non-PC systems has been solved in the Touch Control by the use of standard CompactFlash memory cards. A decisive advantage of the Touch Control is also the extremely easy installation and maintenance of the system. It is just no Windows™ PC.

The 825 Lab Link now invalidates even the last argument for using a PC in the laboratory: connection to a computer network. This new instrument allows you to connect your Titrando system directly to an in-house network (Intranet, LIMS, LAN).

With a footprint of less than one DIN A6 sheet the 825 Lab Link performs the communication between Titrando and network. Data exchange takes place via a TCP/IP connection. Any number of Titrando systems consisting of Titrando, Touch Control and Lab Link can be connected to a network. The Lab Link Server software takes over the administration in the network and makes available freely definable network directories for storage purposes.



The Titrando is connected to the RS 232 interface of the 825 Lab Link, the network to the RJ45 socket.

825 Lab Link offers a wide range of possibilities

Storing results

At the end of the determination the results file is stored on the server. This means that the results can be viewed at any time by other Titrandos users. The server offers practically unlimited memory space and is safeguarded regularly so that data loss can be excluded. The coded format of the results files protects them against manipulation.

PC/LIMS report

If the analytical results are to be transferred to a LIMS then the Titrandos's own PC/LIMS report must be activated. When the titration has been completed an ASCII file containing all the raw data of the determination in a defined format will be transmitted to the server. For a LIMS or long-term archiving program it is easy to read out the necessary data.

Storing methods

Methods can also be stored on the server and thus be made accessible to other Titrandos users. If they are configured accordingly then all the Titrandos in the network can access the same determination methods. This can, for example, be used to make released methods available within a company rapidly and economically.



Backup

The Titrandos's backup function allows all the settings and methods as well as the user administration to be saved on the network. This means that if a system breakdown occurs the Titrandos or a replacement system will be ready for use within minutes. Selective recovery, e.g. of the user administration, on a new Titrandos, is also possible.

E-Mail

As soon as a fault occurs in the system or a result does not meet the specifications, the Titrandos will send an appropriate E-Mail to a freely definable address. The user is thus immediately informed about the status of the Titrandos system or about the results – any time and anywhere. Using suitable software tools, this E-Mail can even be sent as an SMS message to your cell telephone or your pager.

825 Lab Link provides the non-PC-controlled Titrandos with direct access to computer networks, thus opening up a wide range of possibilities: unlimited and secure memory space for results and methods, exchange of determination methods and configurations, connection to LIMS and long-term archiving programs. Never has a titrator been so communicative!



Thanks to its compact design, the 825 Lab Link can be used in any laboratory.

*There is no idea
so simple
and powerful
that you can't
get zillions
of people to
misunderstand it.*

Alan Kay