

Happy New Year to All

Mass Spec would like to wish all their customers a very Happy New Year and all the best for 2009!

We had a very busy, successful 2008 and would like to thank all our customers for their support over the last twelve months.

We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break and the New Year is off to a good start.

Konik Success at BMSS and Dioxin 08!



The end of last year was very busy for us at Mass Spec UK following the launch of our new Konik Pestilizer GC MS K2 system at Dioxin 08 in August and BMSS in September.

The launch was a huge success, we received excellent feedback and we are still incredibly busy from the interest we received during the shows.

We would like to thank all those that came to see us at the show and if you have yet to see the new Konik Pestilizer GC MS K2, contact us on 0161 785 0828 to arrange a demonstration.

Congratulations Tony Needham - 10 years at Mass Spec UK!



Last year was a very special year for Service Engineer, Tony Needham as he celebrated 10 years at Mass Spec UK.

At Mass Spec we value the happiness of our staff as well as our customers which results in the dedication and loyalty we have seen from Tony.

We would like to thank Tony for all his hard work and support over the years and hope we will be presenting him with an award in another 10 years time.

As we look back over the 10 years Tony has worked with Mass Spec UK we wonder just how well we and our customers know him. So we let our roving reporter put him under the spotlight

Above: Tony receives award from Barrie Nixon

R.R. You have just recently celebrated your 10 year milestone with Mass Spec UK. How have you enjoyed your time with Mass Spec UK?

T.N. It doesn't feel like I have completed 10 years already, the time seems to have just disappeared. I spend a lot of time on the road and therefore have spent a lot of time on the M6 car park at Birmingham! I have really enjoyed working with everyone in the company and look forward to whatever the future brings.

R.R. What is a typical day like for you at Mass Spec UK?

T.N. If it is in the office then a normal day would involve catching up on the paperwork & emails, taking calls from customers, scheduling work and looking at what repairs are required.
If it is a day out on site then it can be anything up to 5 Hours in the car, either completing a service or running through a variety of checks to try and solve a problem. I really enjoy being out on site, spending time with the customers, when I visit a customer to complete a service I will catch up on how their family is doing as well as their Mass Spectrometer.

R.R. What's the most memorable day you've had in your time at Mass Spec UK?

T.N. My second day at Mass Spec UK is definitely my most memorable when I accidentally chopped off the end of Barrie Nixon's finger! We had just parked up to visit a customer, Barrie had got something out of the boot, gone round to the rear passenger door and asked me to close the boot. I didn't realise until I saw Barrie hopping up and down that he was leaning on the car and I had closed the boot trapping his little finger! Barrie pulled his hand away, leaving the end of his finger behind! We went in to notify the customer of our arrival and asked for a first aider who gave me a bag of frozen veg to retrieve the finger end. To make matters worse, feeling a little squeemish I did not want to touch the end of the finger so I used my key to flick it into the bag but I missed and it landed on the gravel car park. Later at the hospital they decided there wasn't much they could do with the chopped off bit and sewed his finger closed without it and informed me that he had also cracked the bone.

If that wasn't enough a few months later I was working on a job at a company near High Wycombe. The problem was proving to be very difficult, I had been on site for 3 days and thought I had been through all possible faults. Barrie had been helping me over the phone with possible causes of the problem and decided that he would jump in the car and travel down to see if he could help resolve the problem.

I carried on looking into the fault while Barrie was travelling, after a couple of hours I finally discovered what was causing the problem and rectified it.

The system working perfectly, I phoned Barrie to tell him didn't need to come down but he was only 10 minutes away! We both apologised to the customer for the time it had taken, but they were pleased we had stuck with the problem and resolved it. (I then bought Barrie a few beers as a way of apologising for his wasted journey.)

Looking back, keeping my job with Mass Spec UK that first year is perhaps the biggest achievement!

R.R. What are your passions outside of work?

T.N. My main passion is playing golf at the weekend (or whenever I can). Last year two friends and I raised £1240 for Macmillan nurses, by playing four rounds of golf in one day. It was a tough day but we may just try to do it again in 2009.

HINTS AND TIPS

Do you spend too much time and money on sample preparation? We can help you save time with the Konik Pestilizer. Using the patented K2 interface, it allows for simplified sample preparation, minimum use of solvents, lower detection limits and a reduction in analysis costs.

To find out more contact Mass Spec UK on 0161 785 0828 today.

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Do you know someone who may find our newsletter interesting? You don't need to keep forwarding our newsletter on, they can receive one too.

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