



INTELLIGENT SENSING TO DETECT & PROTECT

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CogniScent unveils its DNA sensor technology

Grafton, MA. January 23rd 2008. CogniScent today unveils its proprietary DNA sensor technology in a peer reviewed paper published in the prestigious Public Library of Science Biology online journal. (<http://biology.plosjournals.org>)

In designing artificial noses, the challenge has been to generate a sensor library with the requisite combinatorial complexity capable of detecting explosives, toxic chemicals and other volatile compounds in the real world. A further requirement is that the sensors can be manufactured with exact chemical precision and reproducibility.

In a new study published this week in the open-access journal *PLoS Biology*, CogniScent founders Joel White and John Kauer and colleagues at Tufts University Medical School demonstrate a previously unreported property of deoxyribonucleic acid. They show that single-stranded DNA molecules tagged with a fluorescent reporter and dried onto solid surfaces can respond to vapor phase odor pulses in a sequence-selective manner. Joel White, CogniScent's Vice President of Technology said "Now what we can do is take a microarray of 20,000 sensors and pick out those sensors that best respond to the odors of interest and incorporate them into our ScenTraK™ detection device".

This study not only highlights DNA's potential for use in a novel and powerful odor detection system, but it also highlights its potential to play other novel roles in vivo, for example as a small molecule receptor, well outside of its familiar one as the repository of information in the genome.

The full text of the paper can be read by following the link below:

<http://tinyurl.com/ypcoab>

About CogniScent, Inc.

CogniScent, Incorporated develops high-performance detection systems using broadly responsive sensors to detect, identify and discriminate airborne chemical compounds. CogniScent's *ScenTraK*™ technology can provide customized detection solutions in the security, medical and industrial markets. Founded in 2002 and based on research undertaken at Tufts University Medical School, CogniScent is funded through Department of Homeland Security research contracts, joint ventures and private investors. More information can be found at www.cogniscentinc.com.

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