

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Biocatalytic Hydrogenation Optimisation**

The **DrySyn OCTO Mini reaction station** from **Asynt** is enabling researchers to optimise and expand the applications of **HydRegen** - an innovative, heterogeneous **biocatalytic hydrogenation technology** currently under development within the group of **Prof. Kylie Vincent** at the **University of Oxford (UK)**.

HydRegen technology provides a flexible platform of enzyme-modified carbon particles which facilitate cofactor-dependent biocatalysis for chemical synthesis. This pioneering technology addresses 2 key challenges with implementing NADH-dependent biocatalysis. The use of H<sub>2</sub> as a reducing equivalent allows up to 100 % atom efficient biotransformations. The rapid, one-step enzyme immobilisation method is applicable to most biocatalysts and allows simple removal and re-use of the enzymes. In application, handling enzyme cascades as heterogeneous catalysts combines the advantages of biocatalysis and catalytic hydrogenation for highly selective [hydrogenation](#) or [deuteration](#) reactions.

Dr Sarah Cleary, a postdoctoral research associate within the Vincent Group commented "My job is to transition the HydRegen reaction set up from the glovebox to the benchtop, and ultimately to scale up the batch reactions. The recent addition of the mini DrySyn OCTO kit has been advantageous as it allows us the flexibility to optimise our catalyst on a smaller scale. The quality construction of the DrySyn OCTO kit provides a good airtight seal which is critical for reaction chemistries like HydRegen that require air-free conditions. The ability to screen eight

#### **Asynt Ltd**

Unit 29 Hall Barn Road Industrial Estate Isleham Cambridgeshire United Kingdom CB7 5RJ  
T: +44 (0)1638 781709 F: +44(0)1638 781706 enquiries@asynt.com www.asynt.com



reaction variations in the mini OCTO parallel reactor under controlled H<sub>2</sub>, temperature, and stirring has greatly expedited the process of optimising our system in a reproducible fashion. And because I work in a shared lab space, the OCTO has also been particularly convenient since it has a very small footprint".

The DrySyn OCTO Mini is an 8-position reaction station that provides powerful magnetic stirring and heating, inert atmosphere and reflux, all within a tiny footprint. Accommodating individual reaction volumes of up to 6ml, the DrySyn OCTO mini has been designed to use low-cost reaction tubes to save as much as possible on consumables for your lab. To further increase your throughput, up to 3 DrySyn OCTO mini reaction stations can be used together on a single standard magnetic hotplate stirrer therefore enabling up to 24 parallel reactions.

For further information on the DrySyn OCTO mini reaction station please visit <https://www.asynt.com/product/drysyn-octo-mini/> or contact Asynt on +44-1638-781709 / [enquiries@asynt.com](mailto:enquiries@asynt.com). For further information on the science behind HydRegen technology please visit <http://vincent.chem.ox.ac.uk/hydregen.htm>.

Asynt is a leading supplier of affordable products, consumables and services for chemists in industry and academia. With staff of trained chemists - Asynt can draw upon this in-depth applications knowledge to provide a high level of customer support for its DrySyn Heating Blocks, Controlled Lab Reactors, Synthesis Tools, Evaporators, Circulators, Temperature Control Systems, Vacuum Pumps and Lab Safety Equipment.

**JUNE 2019**

**asyntpr95.doc**

**Asynt Ltd**

Unit 29 Hall Barn Road Industrial Estate Isleham Cambridgeshire United Kingdom CB7 5RJ  
T: +44 (0)1638 781709 F: +44(0)1638 781706 [enquiries@asynt.com](mailto:enquiries@asynt.com) [www.asynt.com](http://www.asynt.com)

Registration No: 5160407

VAT No: GB 838 5592 82

**Illustrative image:** (available on request)



*For more information please contact:*

Media: Dr Bill Bradbury +44-208-546-0869 / [info@primetek-solutions.com](mailto:info@primetek-solutions.com)

**Asynt Ltd**  
Unit 29 Hall Barn Road Industrial Estate Isleham Cambridgeshire United Kingdom CB7 5RJ  
T: +44 (0)1638 781709 F: +44(0)1638 781706 [enquiries@asynt.com](mailto:enquiries@asynt.com) [www.asynt.com](http://www.asynt.com)

Registration No: 5160407 VAT No: GB 838 5592 82