The History of Magnetic Sector Mass Spectrometry at VG - Micromass - Waters

Mike Morris, Bob Bateman, Tim Riley, Lance Nicolaysen, Viki Brooks

EARLY DAYS

The commercial history of mass spectrometry in Manchester dates back to the 1940s with the development of a mass spectrometer by Metropolitan Vickers for the separation of Uranium isotopes. Later, James Chadwick at the University of Manchester became AEI (Associated Electrical Industries) and VG Micromass businesses with Waters in 2002.

In 1970, VG Micromass MM6 was introduced, with the Q7 (m/z range 120) and the Q8 (m/z range 1200). This was followed by the VG 70 series focusing instrument to be built in this orientation.

VG Micromass MM - 12

EARLY DAYS

The timeline for the evolution of the company is shown in the figure below, highlighting the full integration of the VG Micromass businesses with Waters in 2002.

1965 VG Instruments Group formed (Metropolitan Vickers Ltd).
1967 VG Micromass formed, specialises in MS.
1969 VG Micromass formed in Manchester. RG Instruments.
1970 VG Analytical Parent.
1971 VG introduced the first true sector instrument.
1972 VG production rate tripled in the US at the Aragon Group.
1974 VG Biospectrum.
1975 VG Instruments Group published by Photos Instruments.
1992 VG Autoscope.
1993 VG ZAB four sector tandem mass spectrometer.

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