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Waters acquires charge detection mass spectrometry technology

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To overcome limitations of conventional mass spectrometry in characterizing complex large molecules in cell and gene therapies



Waters Corporation has acquired the technology assets and intellectual property rights of Megadalton Solutions, Inc., an early-stage developer of Charge Detection Mass Spectrometry (CDMS) technology and services.

Megadalton Solutions has developed CDMS instrumentation that makes it possible to analyze extremely large proteins and protein complexes, such as those used in cell and gene therapies, that would otherwise be difficult to analyze with conventional mass spectrometry.

Waters became a strategic investor in the company and in 2021 brought Megadalton's CDMS technology into the Waters Immerse™ Cambridge innovation and research lab for advanced testing and development.

"Large molecule mass spectrometry with CDMS offers an important tool for the characterization, analysis and quantification of next-generation biologics, such as cell and gene therapies, which is an area of high interest among biopharmaceutical and biomedical research customers," said Dr. Udit Batra, President and CEO, Waters Corporation. "Large molecules can be extremely challenging to characterize with conventional mass spectrometry because of their complexity. We are looking forward to further developing and commercializing the Megadalton CDMS technology to help customers analyze and quantify large molecules in applications such as cell and gene therapy drug development."