

# Rigaku to Supply Two XtaLAB Synergy-ED Electron Diffractometers to UK's Leading Crystallography Facility

*The National Crystallography Service (NCS) in the UK will establish the National Electron Diffraction Facility featuring 2 Rigaku XtaLAB Synergy-ED microEDs.*

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The National Crystallography Service (NCS) is a critical component of the UK's research infrastructure, providing access to world-leading research facilities across the nation, underpinning many scientific discoveries and

developments. To ensure the NCS continues to provide cutting-edge

capabilities, they will establish the National Electron Diffraction Facility, which will feature [Rigaku XtaLAB Synergy-ED](#) electron diffractometers, opening up many new research possibilities.



Rigaku XtaLAB Synergy-ED at RESE.

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We are ecstatic about the market reception this new instrument has had, culminating in acceptance by internationally recognized & respected facilities like the UK's National Crystallography Service .”

*Dr. Mark Benson (Rigaku)*

Facilities at the University of Southampton and University of Warwick will benefit from XtaLAB Synergy-ED installations, enabling the elucidation of the structure of nanocrystals that are very difficult or impossible to measure using X-ray techniques. The XtaLAB Synergy-ED has already proven that it can generate crystal structures where even synchrotrons have failed.

Many fields such as pharmaceuticals, electronics, batteries, catalysis, energy storage, solar cells, etc. have relied on X-ray diffraction (XRD) for crystallographic determinations to yield a better understanding of the structure and behavior

of materials. However, with an increasing requirement to analyze nanocrystals, even though it is

the gold standard for structure determination, XRD struggles due to the minute size of these crystals. Electron diffraction capabilities will accelerate many R&D programs where growing crystals large enough to analyze by XRD is virtually impossible.



Rigaku - Providing cutting-edge X-ray solutions for 70 years.

Researchers at the NCS will find the transition to electron diffraction quite simple because the user-inspired CrysAlis Pro user interface of the new XtaLAB Synergy-ED diffractometers is exactly the same as for the [Rigaku](#) XRD systems they are already using. This extends to the powerful built-in structure determining software.

Simon Coles, Professor of Structural Chemistry and project lead for the University of Southampton site, said, "The NCS has pushed the limits of what is possible with X-ray crystallography. We are excited to be able to extend our reach from microcrystals to nanocrystals using electrons, which will expose many new- opportunities to transform structural analysis."

Dr. David Walker, Facility Manager of the X-ray Diffraction Research Technology Platform and project lead at the University of Warwick, went further to say, "Electron diffraction capabilities will help revolutionize our understanding of the structure of many economically important materials. We look forward to partnering with the University of Southampton and Rigaku to offer cutting-edge crystallography services."

Dr. Mark Benson, General Manager, Global Sales and Marketing for Single Crystal for Rigaku, commented, "Launching the world's first turnkey electron diffractometer was an extremely proud moment for everyone involved. We are ecstatic about the market reception this new instrument has had, culminating in acceptance by internationally recognized and respected facilities like the National Crystallography Service in the UK. We are looking forward to working with them to further exploit this technology."

The NCS is grateful for a £3.2 million research grant awarded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. The new facilities will be open for business for academic and industrial partners from July 2023.

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