# A UNIVERSAL SITE CALIBRATION MODEL

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RemScan®



# Outline

- RemScan
  - What is it?
  - Typical use case?
- Universal Calibration
  - Motivation
  - Implementation
  - Latest results
  - Use Cases
- Conclusions

# RemScan

- Handheld NIR-MIR spectrometer + Chemometrics + GUI
- Used for in-field TPH measurement of soils
  - More applications coming soon!
- Rapid Screening tool
- Used for medium to large scale soil remediation projects
- Provides:
  - Rapid and accurate screening
  - Increased site sampling
  - Spatially resolved measurements
- Customers include:
  - Global Petro-chemical companies
  - Analysis laboratories
  - Universities
  - Research organisations
  - Government bodies





# A Typical Use Case

- An area has become contaminated with petro-chemicals
- Customer samples their site with guidance from Ziltek
- Samples that represent the soil variation are identified mathematically from IR spectra
- Dilution series are produced and scanned with RemScan (sometimes we use natural sampling)
- These data are used to generate calibration models for field use
- Typically achieve accuracies better than ±200 mg/kg for TPH concentrations < 1,000 mg/kg</li>





# Site Specific Models

#### Pros:

- Accurate
- Reliable
- Utilises well known algorithms
- Specific to clients needs

#### Cons:

- Labour intensive
- Set-up overhead
- Site drift decreases accuracy
- Required for every new site





# Universal Calibration

- The goal is to have a Universal calibration model which will allow:
  - Use anywhere in the world
  - Zero set-up time
  - Minimal training
  - Rapid site assessment
  - Cost effective for short term / small projects
  - Short term instrument rental



# Methodology

- >200 samples
- Sourced primarily from Victoria
- Some South Australian samples



- >200 samples
- Sourced primarily from Victoria
- Some South Australian samples <sub>E</sub>





Broad variety in soil lithologies

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- Sourced primarily from Victoria
- Some South Australian samples E



#### **Dilution series produced from samples**

- Scanned on RemScan
- >10,000 spectra



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## Current UniCal Performance

- >300 soil samples from Ziltek's soil library
- >1,500 validation spectra collected and predicted
- The Root Mean Squared Error of Prediction (RMSEP) on validation data is:
  - 1,800 at 10,000 mg/kg
  - 500 at 0 mg/kg
- These levels of accuracy have already provided great benefits to clients

#### Universal Calibration Model Predictions on Training and Testing Data



## Current UniCal Performance

- Spiked dilution series of local (SA) soil
- Single lithology
- Prediction statistics :
  - RMSEP = 380 at 10,000 mg/kg
  - RMSEP = 240 at 0 mg/kg
- Excellent linear trend for a single soil
  - $R^2 = 0.995$
- Easily scaled with a couple of lab assays (GC-FID) to increase accuracy of results

#### Universal Calibration Model Predictions on a Single Soil Type



# Potential UniCal Use Cases

- Small to large scale remediation projects
- Rapid spill response / site assessment
- Power utility transformer leaks
- Railway contamination
- Wind farm contamination
- Soil acceptance for landfill
- Rental companies

## Conclusions

- Ziltek have developed a Universal Calibration model for TPH in soil
- Beta version to be released to selected customers for final testing and refinement Q3 2019
- Expected full release Q1 2020
- Please contact us if you have any inquiries:

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