Sonatest: A leading manufacturer in the world of non-destructive testing

Sonatest Ltd's main brand and business drivers are capability, simplicity, reliability and desirability. Focusing on these elements sets the company and its products apart from all its competitors. Striving to bring desirable and innovative products to the NDT market, Sonatest engineers work in close consultation with end user customers and technical experts in the field. By embracing this within the product development process, Sonatest sets itself apart from its main competitors.

In June 2010 and as a result of Sonatest's latest stage of the product development programme, Sonatest launched its new Phased Array Instrument the 'veo' (**www.sonatestveo.com**) at the 10th European Conference on NDT in Moscow, Russia.

Wayne Woodhead, Managing Director of Sonatest Ltd, tells me, "Phased Array is an exciting technology that is becoming regarded as the future of Non Destructive Testing for critical inspections and productivity improvement. The new veo brings Sonatest's design values of Simplicity, Capability and Reliability into this rapidly expanding market, giving users an effective, efficient tool to meet their demanding needs. The veo builds on Sonatest's success in the ultrasonic flaw detector market, with a global sales network supporting our customers throughout the world. Launched at the European Conference for NDT (ECNDT) in Moscow June 2010, initial reaction has been very positive and we are looking forward to a very successful future."

Sonatest veo Open Day June 2010

Carol Stevenson & Corinna Cuciureanu receive Business & Industry Today's 'Company of the Year' Award

Sonatest's UK-based R&D team

Together with its Russian distributors Panatest, Sonatest ran seminars on the veo and its performance in the fields of Pipeline and Weld Inspection and Aerospace and Composite Testing. ECNDT 2010 was attended not only by people from across Europe but also from as far afield as China, Mongolia and Siberia and Southern America! The veo 16:64 is the first model to be released; further models are due to be launched over the next year. The initial application focus for the veo is for Weld and Pipeline Inspection, but is also used across all sectors such as Aerospace, Infrastructure, Transport and Power Generation.

Alongside this launch of the new Phased Array products to the market, Sonatest Ltd also held an International Sales Meeting in May 2010 with its Global Distributor Network at Cranfield University. Attendees were from 30 different countries, signalling the first steps in launching the veo globally. Further workshops and roadshows are due to be held in different territories in the months ahead. Additionally in June 2010 Sonatest hosted its first veo Open Day for clients in the UK, at its headquarters, together with partner Alan Kicul, Director of The Pipeline Training Company. Joined by colleagues from Phoenix Inspection Systems demonstrating scanning systems, invited guests who attended were experts from National Grid, Inspection & Consultancy Services Ltd (IACS), O'Neill Project Services, NRL, Fastflow Energy and Entrepose UK. It was a successful day and the first of a series of Open Days to be held this year.

Sonatest's client base has global coverage and varies from large industrial corporations and service companies through to individual users. Industry coverage is broad but the keys areas are Aerospace, Petrochemical, Transport, Castings and Forgings, Manufacturing, Power Generation, Automotive and R&D. Exports account for a growing proportion of Sonatest's production and it currently has over 90 Distributors and Agents across the globe, operating in over 80 countries. Its customer base covers a wide range of industries globally. This diversity is evident in the range of applications in which Sonatest's products are used, from the testing of oil pipelines, railway infrastructures and manufacturing through to aerospace components, Sonatest's customers rely on its innovative products to ensure structural integrity and safety.

Founded in 1958, Sonatest headquarters is based in Milton Keynes but the pioneering company also has research and development facilities based in Quebec, Canada. From the UK based HQ, Sonatest design and manufacture a wide range of high performance ultrasonic equipment and NDT accessories. The Sonatest range of portable digital ultrasonic flaw detectors has a reputation for quality, reliability, high performance and exceptional value. The range starts with low cost basic products for corrosion measurement and weld inspection through to high-end performance models for more demanding applications such as aerospace composites. Sonatest thickness meters also range from low cost to high performance models, including two A-scan display units. To complement its instruments Sonatest manufactures a complete range of ultrasonic transducers and can offer bespoke transducer types to suit individual applications.

Test & Calibration Engineers at Sonatest Ltd UK HQ

Sonatest, Phoenix and Pipeline Training Company team up on a 48 inch Pipe Weld Scan

Sonatest has a rolling program of in house product development and design. New products utilising modern and progressive technologies are already being worked on over the next few years.

This leading-edge company's products are used by some of the world's foremost companies such as Boeing, Airbus, Shell, Eon, Network Rail and many others. Such companies rely on NDT to ensure the reliability and safety of products and services meet exacting standards; Sonatest's instrumentation makes up part of that product portfolio, enabling such criteria to be met.

For more information on Sonatest and the fantastic range of products it has to offer telephone 01908 316345 or visit www.sonatest.com Alternatively if you would like to visit one of the company's exhibition stands Sonatest will be exhibiting at the NDT 2010 Show September 14th-16th in Cardiff and the US based NDT Annual Show November 15th-19th in Houston, amongst other Shows, please check the Sonatest website.

"Now you see it" the veo 16:64 Phased Array Flaw Detector