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Access details: Access Details: Free Access

Publisher Taylor & Francis

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Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713400837>

Letter from the Editor

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To cite this Article Lochmüller Editor-in-Chief, C. H.(2007) 'Letter from the Editor', Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry, 37: 3, 141

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/10408340701465335

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10408340701465335>

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Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers:

A review journal need not only consider retrospective views of once-important areas and that is true for a journal devoted to chemical measurement science. If we could find the right people willing to risk looking forward 20, 10 or even 5 years, I would love to see paers predicting what will be important in measurement research in the future. It would certainly be an opportunity to be proved wrong but it could be an opportunity to bask in how prescient one was back then! If this sounds like another call for guessing what the next golden era in Analytical Chemistry will be like—perhaps it is!

I would like to propose two possible areas one very macroscopic and one sub-microscopic. Every time I read about improvised explosives, “dirty bombs” and such I speculate on how hard it would be today to economically survey containerized freight for explosives, biocides and perhaps even nuclear waste- management by-products. Could containerized freight be monitored at sea and the results transmitted to centers where decisions to permit or deny port access could be made? Without breaching the containers, of course. At the other end of the physical scale is the ever expanding world of nano-structural elements. If these are to be used as inert or even active carriers for drug substances broadly-defined, how will the rate of transport into the bloodstream from oral dosage forms be monitored? How ill the rate of release of the active ingredient and the integrity of that ingredient be monitored? Of course, the question need not be limited to biological/medical uses of these nano-structures as chemical delivery agents.

Feel free to write with suggestions and feel even freer to write and volunteer to write a challenging article!

Sincerely,

C. H. Lochmüller

Editor-in-Chief

