

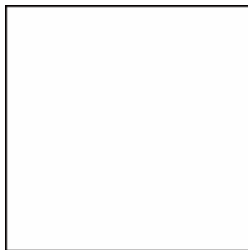
# NI Virtual Instrumentation

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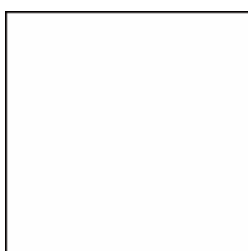
Tuesday  
September 27, 2005



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## Perth technology enhances airport security

Monday, September 26, 2005

**PERTH-based QR Sciences has announced the availability of the QXR 1000 explosive detection device from Rapiscan Security Systems, based on QRScience's proprietary quadrupole technology.**

Last month, **QRSciences** was awarded a \$A2.8 million R&D Start grant by the Australian Federal Government for its quadrupole resonance (QR) technology, which uses radio frequency spectroscopy techniques to identify and detect molecular structures.

"QR technology offers a cost-effective solution to some of the limitations offered by x-ray machines. It is accurate, film-safe, has a low false-alarm rate and requires no operator interpretation," said federal industry minister Ian Macfarlane when announcing the grant.

Macfarlane said the government funding would help QR Sciences build a system that would build on existing technology to provide a screening system better able to detect explosives than traditional x-ray baggage screening.

The QXR1000, incorporating Rapiscan's X-ray system and **QRSciences'** proprietary hardware and software developed in Australia over the past several years, was presented before the United States House Committee on Homeland Security by development and manufacturing partner OSI Systems.

**QRSciences** director and former Heathrow Airport security manager Norman Shanks said the incorporation of QR technology into a new product with immediate applications was a significant and timely achievement.

"Launching the QXR1000 with Rapiscan Systems can provide a new layer of explosives detection capability and added functionality to the approximately 5000 x-ray systems deployed at carry-on checkpoints around the world," said Shanks.

Shanks claimed Rapiscan Systems currently supplied around half of all the x-ray equipment used at airport checkpoints across the globe.

Shanks commended the Australian government's commitment to spend almost \$A200 million upgrading security throughout Australian airports, referencing the independent security review headed by Sir John Wheeler, released last week.

"In agreeing to an independent review of airport security and policy, the Australian Government recognises the critical value of continuing the development of aviation security," said Shanks.

"Specifically, my experience suggests the Australian Government should focus particular attention on explosive detection technology for carry-on luggage as this continues to be a vulnerable target".



QRSciences director,  
Norman Shanks



QXR1000 explosives  
detection device for  
airport security.

QRSciences chief executive officer Kevin Russeth said the government funding received last month would be used alongside \$A30 million from equity investment to help the company commercialise its technology further.

"The focus now for QRSciences is to transition from an organisation based largely on research, development and testing to a commercial enterprise generating an income from an innovative and world-class product," Russeth said.

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