## Detecting toxic substances in water by Chlorophyll Fluorescence







QINETIQ

May, 2018

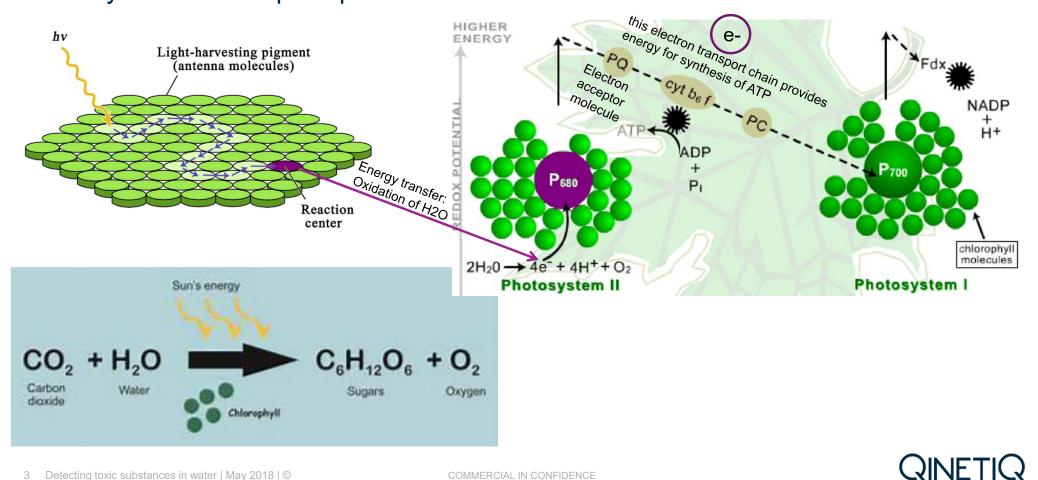
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# Photosynthesis and Fluorescence

Photosystem I

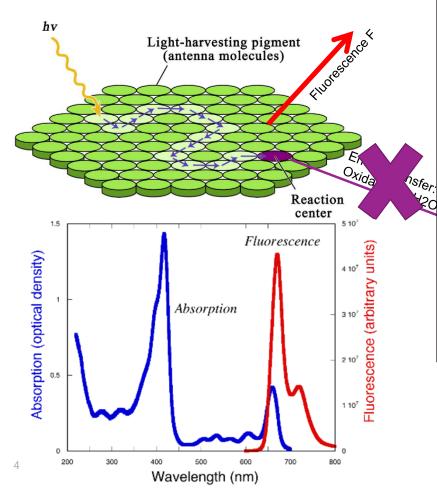
Photosystem II

#### Photosynthesis – the principle



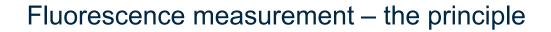
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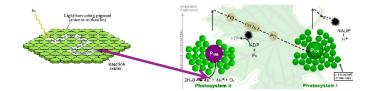
#### Fluorescence – the principle

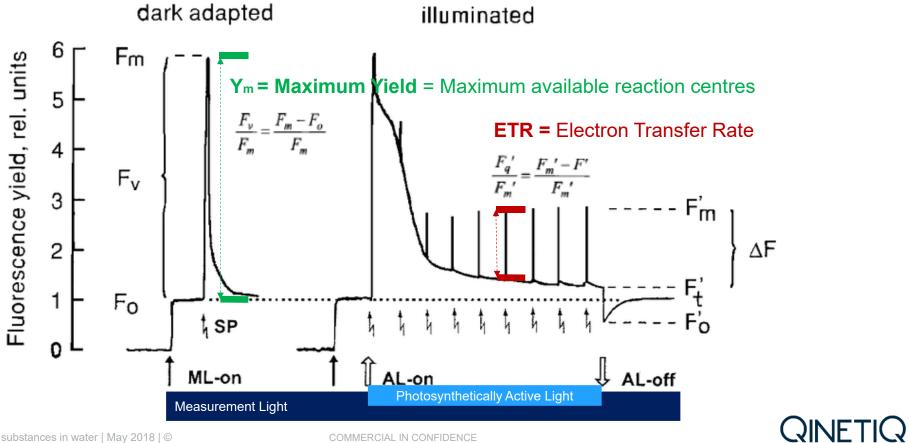




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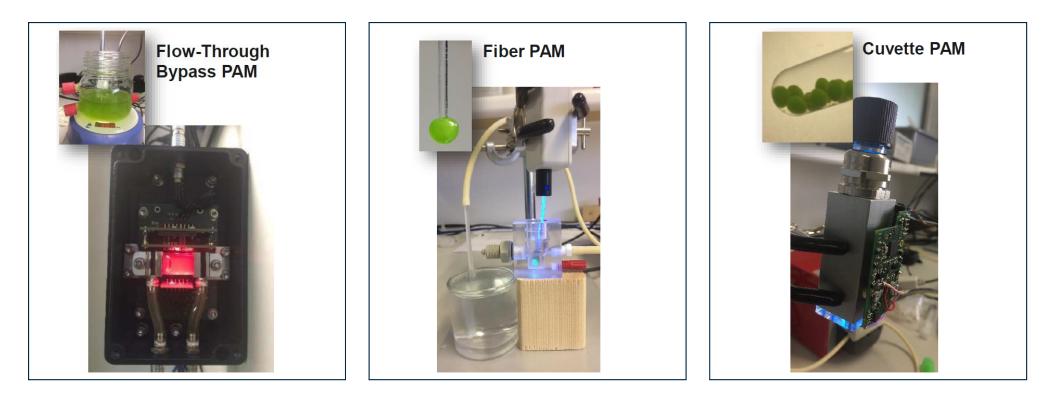
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On-line Chronic and Acute Monitoring for Ecotoxicology with Algae

Photosystem II

**Photosystem I** 

#### Different configurations were validated for accuracy and maintainability



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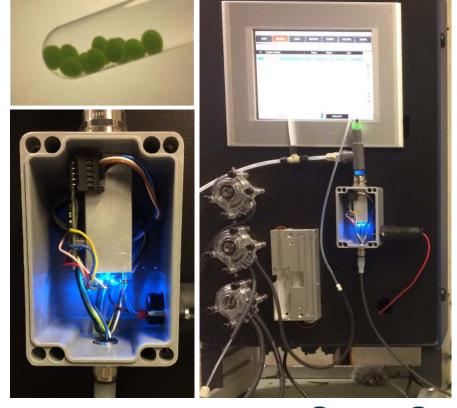


#### CAMEO-A® – the sensor gives two clear values, no scientific background necessary

- Our analyser is based on a cuvette PAM

   Yield
  - ETR
    - $\rightarrow$  health of the sample
    - $\rightarrow$  determination of toxicity





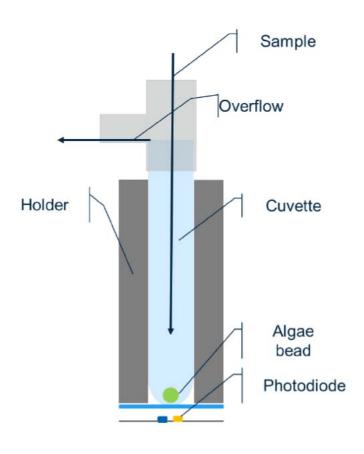
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#### CAMEO-A – the sensor is easy to use

- No algae culture maintenance necessary
- Continuous monitoring  $\rightarrow$  quick detection
- · Algae bead remains separate from the sample or reference liquid
- · No interference with suspended solids
- No pre-treatment nor filtering necessary  $\rightarrow$  representative samples
- No interference with the sample colour
- High tolerance for salts (up to 15 mS/cm)



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CAMEO

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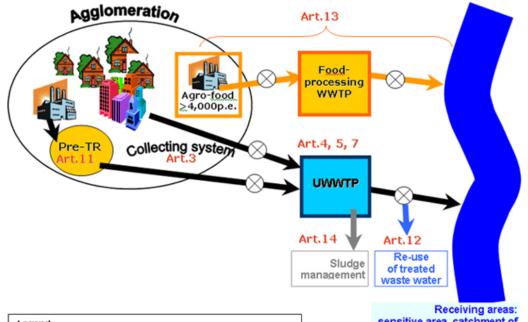
# CAMEO · A · · and ecotoxicity

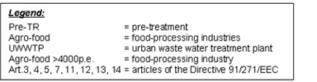
Photosystem I

Photosystem II

# Water is not a commercial product but rather a heritage which must be protected, defended and treated as such !

- Companies are bound to European Legislation 91/27/EEC EC directive concerning urban waste water treatment
  - Planning
  - Regulation
  - Monitoring
  - Information and Reporting
- · Monitoring of toxic substances by
  - Group parameters  $\rightarrow$  no information on ecotoxicity
  - Specific analyses  $\rightarrow$  never complete
  - Ecotoxicity testing  $\rightarrow$  Whole Effluent Toxicity





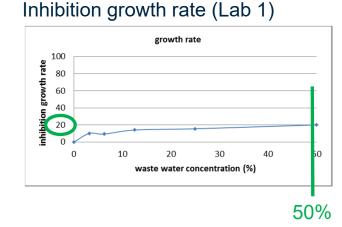
Receiving areas: sensitive area, catchment of sensitive area, normal area, less sensitive area

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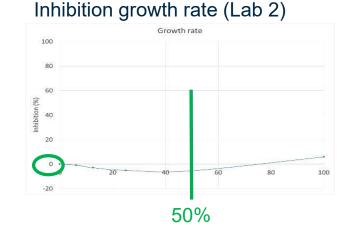
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#### We focus on monitoring of the algae trophic level

- Pseudokirchneriella subcapitata (freshwater algae)
  - Reference is made to OECD guideline 201
  - Based on inhibition of growth rate
  - Lab tests / Sampling / 3 days test: snapshot analysis
  - Interpretation of results



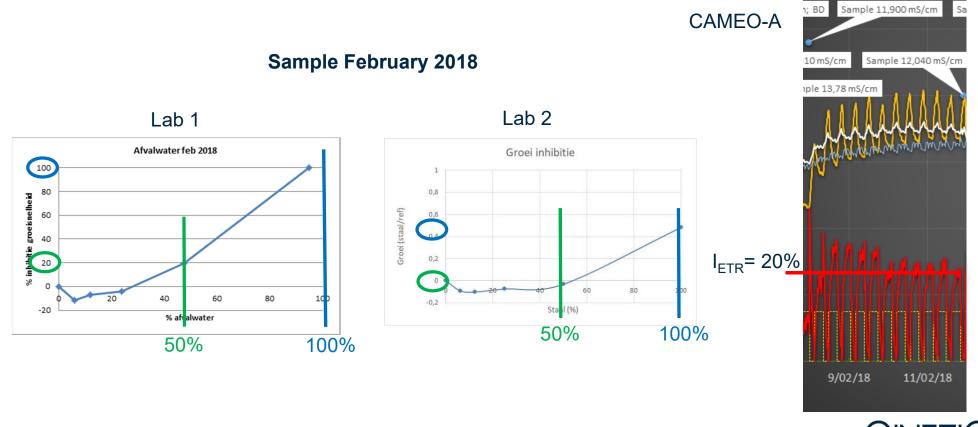
#### Sample May 2016



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#### CAMEO-A – detailed in-depth data compared with analyses by accredited labs



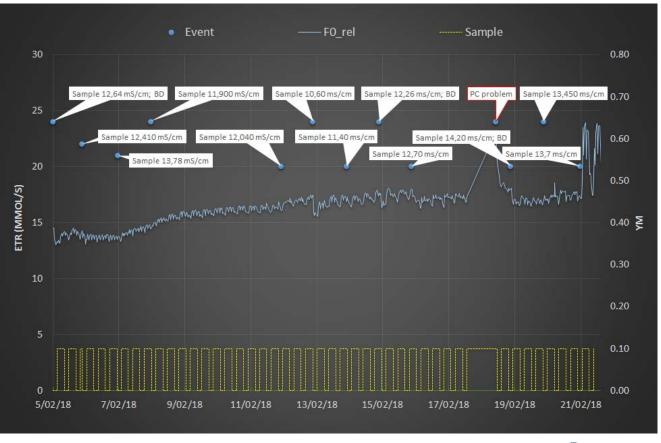
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#### CAMEO-A – detailed in-depth data step-by-step

- Events are shown
- F0 (relative)
- Sample (high) vs Reference medium (low)

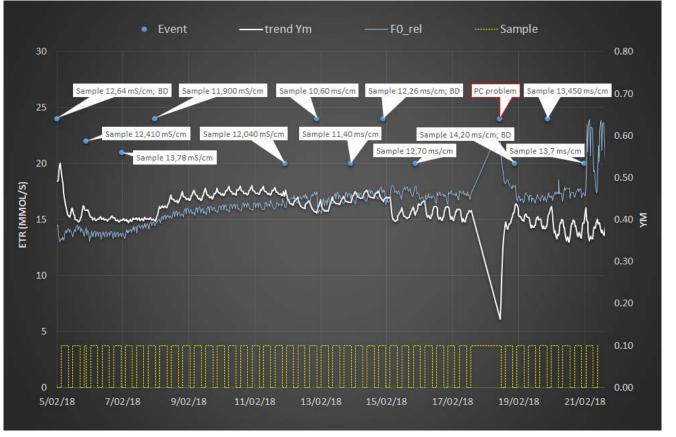


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#### CAMEO-A - detailed in-depth data step-by-step

- Events are shown
- F0
- Sample vs Reference medium
- Yield (max. available reaction centres)



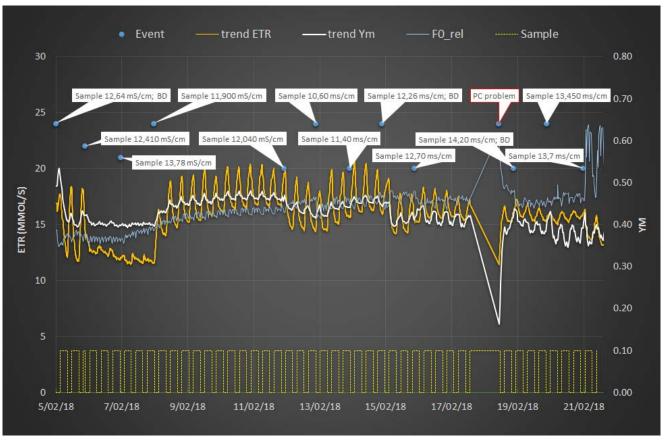
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#### CAMEO-A - detailed in-depth data step-by-step

- Events are shown
- F0
- Sample vs Reference medium
- Yield (max. available reaction centres)
- ETR



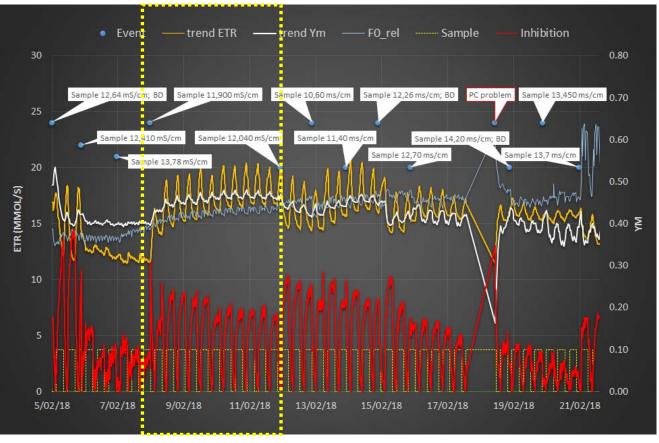
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#### CAMEO-A – detailed in-depth data step-by-step

- Events are shown
- F0
- Sample vs Reference medium
- Yield (max. available reaction centres)
- ETR
- Inhibition ETR (right axis up to 40%)



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#### CAMEO-A – Benchmarking test with $Zn^{2+}$ (50 µg/l and 400 µg/l)

---Yin\_0,05 ---Yin\_0,4 ---ETRin\_0,4 1,0 0,9 0,8 Inhibitie (fractie van maximum waarde) ETR inhibition 400 µg/l 0,7 0,6 ETR inhibition 50 µg/l 0,5 Yield inhibition 400 µg/l 0,4 0,3 Yield inhibition 50 µg/l 0,2 0,1 0,0 0,5 1,5 0,0 1,0 2,0 2,5 3,0 Tijd (dagen)

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#### Conclusions

- CAMEO-A can be used in an industrial water treatment for process optimisation and early warnings.
- CAMEO-A is operational friendly.
- CAMEO-A provides an on-line measurement but doesn't replace the standard methods. Toxicity can be predicted.

• More benchmarking is still planned.

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Belgium

QINETIQ MicroBioTests Inc.



# Thank you



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