



Testing different

Quality reagents formulated
to the specific needs of our
customers.



Investcare 2000 Ltd

INVESTCARE 2000 Limited is a privately owned company founded in 2000 and operated by trading as Investcare-Vet. We are distributors for manufacturers of high quality test kits and reagents used in the diagnostic laboratory in the UK and Europe. We represent Catachem Inc, USA, Megacor GmbH Austria, JJJ Farms, div. of Kent Labs., USA and other manufacturers in the diagnostic sector.



Jonathan Taylor

Director and Owner of Investcare Vet . Active in the field of Veterinary Diagnostics since 1985. Sales and marketing to United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland and Western Europe. Prior to this, graduate Chemical Engineer from Imperial College, University of London. Experience gained in marketing of human and veterinary pharmaceuticals and human diagnostic reagents in an International arena.



Quality products to labs across Europe

We at Investcare supply diagnostic test kits and reagents for laboratories for research and routine testing. We also supply reagents for human diagnostics and research and veterinary diagnostics.

- **Diagnostic Test Kits and Components**
for Human and Veterinary Laboratory

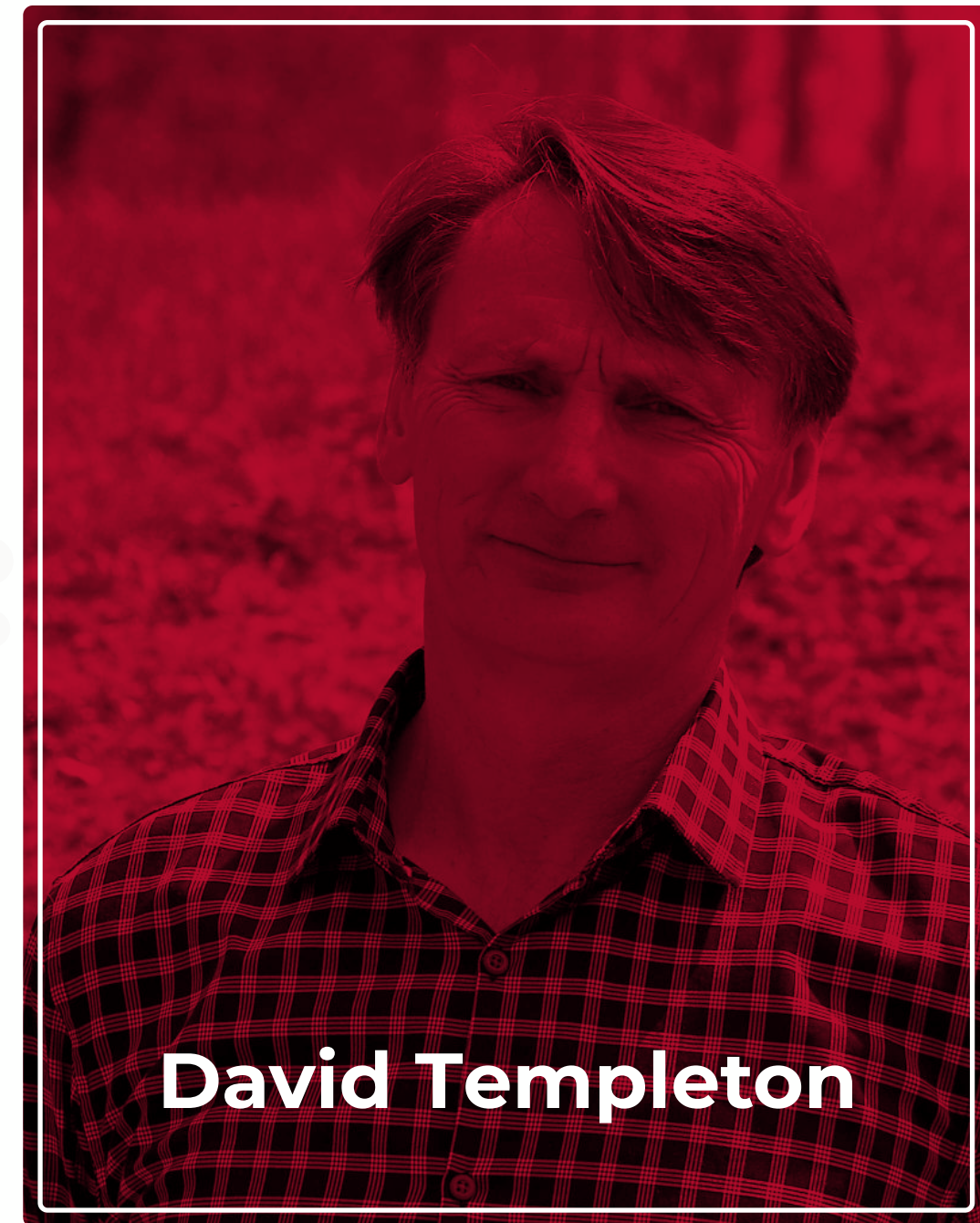
- **Clinical chemistry components**
For the Auto-analyser

- **PCR tests for all veterinary samples**
for the Diagnostic Laboratory

- **Bacteriological Culture Media**
for the Veterinary Laboratory



Catachem Inc. was founded in 1984 by Luis P. Leon. It quickly became a leading manufacturer of clinical chemistry reagents for continuous flow automated analysers. As more flexible random-access machines gradually replaced these analysers, the company adjusted its reagent product line to fit this new need.





Focus

The company changed its focus in the mid-1990s and began developing more specialized assays for both veterinary and research use. The veterinary product line became more significant as Catachem increased its presence in the veterinary field, and many of these reagents were reformulated to cope with the diversity of samples encountered in a veterinary practice.

Aim

Catachem's aim is the production of high-quality, useful test reagents that are produced in such a way as to maximize value and to minimize their carbon footprint. For example, their new reagent boxes are made from 100% recycled and similarly recyclable cardboard, while packing materials are biodegradable.



A catalyst for quality

Catachem continues to work closely with its customers to design specialty chemistry tests and tailor these to the specific needs and demands of the veterinary laboratory. For example, veterinary blood samples are frequently milky and turbid due to high levels of lipids. Catachem has developed a unique clearing agent, CataKlear (CLR-525), for even the most lipemic samples, allowing accurate analysis of the sample's components. Animal blood can also become hydrolyzed during the trauma involved in obtaining a sample. Catachem reagents are optimized to handle the "less-than-perfect" samples that veterinary laboratories regularly encounter.



Catachem Inc. Top Products

Catachem Inc. is a leading, U.S.-based manufacturer of clinical chemistry reagents for use on automated analysers for both veterinary and human diagnostic labs. They reagents offer strong performance in terms of accuracy, precision, stability and cost.



Bromide (UV, Gold Chloride)

Potassium bromide is a drug used alongside phenobarbital to control nervous system disorders in dogs. Like most drugs, it can be toxic at high levels. As dogs are genetically variable in size, it is important to measure the levels of circulating bromide in the animal's blood to ensure correct dosing.

Catachem's bromide reagent can accurately test from the lowest level of detection of 5 mg/dL to 400 mg/dL. Toxicity in most dogs starts at around 120 mg/dL, with the animal becoming lethargic. As levels increase, animals can become comatose.

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Fructosamine (NBT, Two Point Kinetic)

Diabetic animals also produce high levels of fructosamine, a molecule in which glucose in the blood binds to certain blood proteins in a process called glycation. Measuring fructosamine levels gives a much more accurate assessment of an animal's glycemic control than measuring glucose, as the latter fluctuates throughout the day. Monitoring fructosamine over time, like the monitoring of glycated hemoglobin (HbA1c) in humans, allows the vet to assess the effectiveness of treatment. Catachem has a single liquid stable fructosamine reagent for this purpose.

**Single liquid stable fructosamine assay with an 18 month shelf life.
Fructosamine, is valuable in assessing diabetic status and in
monitoring the treatment of diabetic animals**

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Sorbitol Dehydrogenase (SDH) (UV)

SDH is a very specific indicator of liver disease especially in large animals (horses and cows) in which it is regarded the method of choice for detecting hepatocellular injury. Catachem's assay at 340 nm can be run on most analysers either using a factor or using an SDH calibrator.

The latter is often preferred with this assay and a new lyophilized calibrator produced by Catachem has made this approach more cost effective

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Plasma Free Hemoglobin Kit (PFH) (TMB, Colorimetric)

Normal plasma should not contain free hemoglobin. If blood is taken from an animal and is processed or manipulated in any way (dialysis, heart pump, etc.), or if the animal has suffered intravascular hemolysis caused by a number of disease states, damage to the red blood cells will be evident as hemoglobin is released into the plasma. Catachem has developed an extremely sensitive assay to accurately measure tiny amounts of hemoglobin that may be present in a plasma sample.

This test can be run on most clinical chemistry analysers, unlike those in the past. The test is sensitive and accurate enough to measure hemoglobin at levels approaching 2 mg/dL (1.2 μ mol/L) and demonstrates linearity on most analysers to 100 mg/dL (60 μ mol/L).

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Beta-Hydroxybutyrate

Diabetic animals build up high levels of keto acids in their blood. The measurement of keto acids is, therefore, of considerable value in the diagnosis and treatment of diabetic animals. Two keto acids are produced in a diabetic animal: beta-hydroxybutyrate and acetoacetate. The latter is produced in smaller amounts and is inherently unstable, while the former, beta-hydroxybutyrate, is comparatively stable.

Catachem has a simple and accurate assay for beta-hydroxybutyrate (C444-0A) that can be applied to most clinical analysers. Unlike some competitive products that use a strong formazan dye that stains cuvettes and instrument reagent lines, the Catachem reagent uses alternative chemistry that eliminates these problems.

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Ethylene Glycol – Qualitative (Control Included)

Ethylene glycol is a key component in most antifreeze products. The ingestion of ethylene glycol can quickly poison the patient and lead to irreversible liver and kidney damage if not quickly diagnosed and treated. If ethylene glycol is shown to be present in a patient's blood, treatment is relatively simple.

This reagent is sensitive to ethylene glycol levels as low as 5 mg/dL. Like Catachem Quantitative test, it is also unaffected by ethanol treatments allowing its use when an animal is on ethanol therapy during recovery.

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Ethylene Glycol (Kinetic Rate, UV) (Calibrator, Controls Included)

Catachem's qualitative in-office test requires no instrumentation and uses the same enzymatic technology as its quantitative partner. Although it is subject to somewhat more interference, the test offers the veterinarian a useful tool in an emergency, time-sensitive situation. The test kit comes with all components needed to evaluate whether an animal has ingested ethylene glycol. Each test uses a parallel control to ensure that reading errors are eliminated. The C504-0B kit includes material to carry out three individual tests.

Accurate quantitative test to determine ethylene glycol levels. Reagent has been designed to eliminate interferences from propylene glycol which is sometimes used as an additive to some veterinary drugs and foodstuffs.

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Bile Acids Enzyme Cycling

Bile acids are measured in animals primarily to detect hepatic injury where fasting levels can be compared to postprandial levels to evaluate liver function. A more specific use is in the determination of Bile Acids malabsorption possibly due to ileal dysfunction.

Catachem's method is a multi-enzymatic colorimetric method resulting in color formation in the 540-550 nm range Triglycerides levels of up to 1000 mg/dL will not interfere with the assay which will accurately measure bile acids to a level of 250 $\mu\text{mol/L}$. Levels of concern for both cats and dogs start at around 25 $\mu\text{mol/L}$.

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Nonesterified Fatty Acids (NEFA)

Nonesterified or "free or unsaturated" fatty acids, generally referred to as VeiSpec™ NEFA in its food supply. Higher concentrations of NEFAs in the animal's serum, indicate Taspeat Ki insufficient glucose to meet the animal's energy needs, a situation in which the Econ animal is essentially under nourished. This negative energy balance is deleterious to the growth, health and productivity of an animal, especially in a dairy cow.

Catachem's assay for NEFAs involves the enzymatic conversion of NEFAS using two key enzymes to generate hydrogen peroxide which is quantified using a colorimetric detection system in the 520 nm-550 nm range. The assay has a 30 day working reagent stability and can be applied to most automated chemistry analysers.

test-kit/reagent/mixture

Get in touch

A portrait of Jonathan Taylor, a man with short grey hair, wearing a dark suit and a red tie. The background is a red-tinted office setting with framed pictures on the wall.

Jonathan Taylor
Director of Investcare Vet

With experience in Veterinary diagnostics since 1985, he is leading sales and marketing to United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland and Western Europe

A portrait of Ruslan Gaiderbek, a man with short dark hair, wearing a dark jacket. The background is a red-tinted office setting with a patterned wall.

Ruslan Gaiderbek
Sales executive

Responsible for export sales and distribution to Eastern/Southern Europe Baltics and Western Asia



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