



TOXMATE

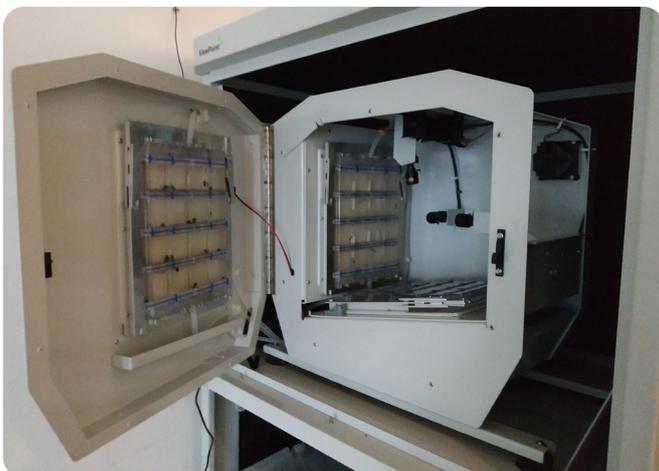
Micropollutants under video surveillance

ViewPoint specialises in analysing the behaviour of laboratory animals and is diversifying into real-time water biomonitoring. It has teamed up with the Carnot Water & Environment (INRAE) ecotoxicology lab in order to benefit from the latter's expertise. This partnership made it possible to develop a station – ToxMate – that continuously measures water quality by analysing the behaviour of three aquatic invertebrates.

Carnot Eau & Environnement Institute

Scientific / technological breakthrough

Carnot Water & Environment Institute is partnering this solution which touches upon one of its key strategic development focuses: monitoring water quality. This has helped finalise the online method used to assess the toxicity of water on the crustacean *Gammarus fossarum*, and then extend it to two other species naturally present in freshwater aquatic environments, namely an annelid (*Erpobdella testacea*) and a mollusc (*Radix auricularia*). The method's sensitivity is therefore expanded to a wider range of pollutants. The study concluded with deployment and validation in real urban wastewater plant-type conditions at two study sites. Carnot Water & Environment Institute also helped protect the technology by filing two patents in co-ownership.



Competitive advantage for the economic stakeholders

This research has helped the company to develop a disruptive product in a new market. The partnership with Carnot Water & Environment Institute (INRAE) focuses on a key requirement of water managers and their environmental performance targets. This public/private partnership also facilitates the acceptance of the application by major industrial corporations. As ViewPoint begins to market ToxMate, it is getting strong feedback from potential customers and the company is gearing up for a major expansion. The number of people working on this project (currently 6) is set to double over the next few years and revenue will grow both in France and Europe and on the international export market.

Le partenaire

- VIEWPOINT is a Lyon-based company that develops tools used to study the behaviour of laboratory animals and markets them internationally. Its production site and development team are based just outside Lyon.