

May 12, 2020

Important Announcement from Biospherical Instruments Inc.

Sadly, the impact on our budgets by the Coronavirus pandemic, as well as the reduction in global funding for Earth science in general, has made it clear that there is insufficient revenue to maintain the activities of Biospherical Instruments (BSI) moving forward. As a result, we anticipate that BSI will only be able to operate until **July 10th** of this year, after which operations will be officially suspended and we will be working to vacate the building that we first occupied in 1991.

The “Stay-at-Home” order issued by California Governor Newsom that temporarily closed Biospherical Instruments (BSI) starting on March 20th has been partially lifted, and we are now included in efforts for the conditional reopening of low-risk businesses. BSI is making every effort to complete existing orders for calibrations and repairs, and to fulfill instrument orders taken prior to suspending operations. Keep in mind that the last day we can accept any new orders is dependent on our existing workload, stock-on-hand, and any lead times for custom components. **As a result, any new orders should be placed AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. All quotes and sales orders will be processed and confirmed on a first come - first served basis.**

We’ve come a long way since 1977, when the original instruments that BSI manufactured were released commercially. The need to measure light at the highest accuracies has been a technology-forcing goal from the very beginning. It has been our pleasure to work with the scientific community by making instruments that were used to meet this need. As the funding climate changed over the years, we worked very hard to adjust to reduced budgets and the ever-present need to “do more with less.” The harsh reality is that present funding levels in conjunction with the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic have removed the niche that once supported BSI.

There is a **new Price List available upon request** detailing calibrations and instruments that are still being offered for sale based on available inventory; they are built to order, and importantly, share many common components. As the remaining parts inventory is consumed, some new instruments will become unavailable for sale, and some older instruments may become unserviceable because of the absence of parts. Also important is that many items, such as custom cables or connectors, **have lead times that will become prohibitively long if orders are not received promptly.**

As of now, we have not identified any domestic companies or resources capable of repairing or calibrating our instruments after we suspend business operations in July. We understand that this will create hardships for research community partners. We have tried, but not yet found, a solution that fills this need. We have been actively searching to find an organization that is interested in stepping up. Please feel free to contact me if you are aware of an entity that is potentially willing to take on, for instance, the calibration responsibilities, including our calibration hardware and metrological records. Additionally, if our existing technology set is of interest, a technology transfer might be possible.

The details concerning what happens after July (our web site, support email, and other knowledge-based activities) are still evolving, and we cannot as yet answer questions regarding these issues. For now, perhaps it is sufficient to say that as long as www.biospherical.com is active, we will have people willing to engage our customers.

We hope that this message finds you healthy and safe. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact support@biospherical.com, which will be seen by a group that is working from home.