CHALLENGES ON SAMPLE PREPARATION PROCEDURES DUE TO MINIATURIZATION OF INSTRUMENTATION. **Suhas Narkhede,** Questron Technologies Corp., 6660 Kennedy Road, Mississauga, ON, Canada.

To reap the full benefits of ongoing miniaturization and other advancements in sample analysis instruments, the need for sample prep to keep pace and deliver the requisite reduction in sample size, reagent usage, improved safety, and cost economics have become of paramount importance. Without this balance in sample analysis and sample prep, the overall benefits to analytical labs remain less than optimal. One effective solution to the sample prep challenge lies in enhanced automation in sample prep. Vulcan automated workstation for sample prep delivers accurate yet small quantities of reagents consistently to a large number of small samples in a HEPA filtered, contamination-free environment. The end result delivers better prepared samples ready for modern day spectroscopic analysis.