

Atlas Weathering Services chooses Kipp & Zonen UVS Radiometers

Kipp & Zonen is proud to announce the recent purchase of twenty-seven UVS broadband global UV-A and UV-A/B radiometers by Atlas Weathering Services Group of the USA. Atlas is a global leader in the field of material testing and advanced weathering services, with test laboratories located in New River, Arizona (DSET Laboratory) and South Florida (SFTS Miami and SFTS Everglades).

These weathering test sites utilize the latest technology in weather reporting instrumentation, such as total solar (Ultraviolet, Visible and Infrared), total UV and narrow-band UV radiometers, and pyrheliometers. The Atlas laboratory test instruments are directly traceable to national and international standards, including the World Radiometric Reference (WRR) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).



Broadband UVS Radiometer

In the spring of 2005 Atlas made the decision to replace its ageing fleet of Total UV Radiometers and to host an independent inter-comparison amongst the leading broadband UV radiometer manufacturers to identify the best performing instruments available. Kipp & Zonen accepted the challenge with confidence and supplied a dual-band UVS-AB-T model to Atlas/DSET New River, Arizona for the inter-comparison. In addition to instrument performance, price, delivery time, and in-country support were all criteria of consideration. After a three month evaluation Atlas deemed Kipp & Zonen the victor.

As a result, Atlas purchased nineteen Kipp & Zonen UVS A-T and eight UVS-AB-T models for the Arizona and South Florida Test Facilities locations. These radiometers will be

used to acquire high accuracy global UV-A and UV-B solar irradiance data, in order to assess the short and long-term durability of manufactured goods to UV radiation.

Atlas offers a range of materials testing services, including outdoors accelerated weathering testing for characterizing short and long-term UV and visible solar radiation impact on manufactured goods. The range of materials tested includes plastics, rubber products, paints, textiles, and building materials. The test data supplied by Atlas to the manufacturer is critical for determining the durability of the end product; in many cases such material testing is compulsory to ensure that the manufacturer's products meet industry standards.



Intercomparison at Atlas' test facility in Arizona

Atlas also designs and builds turn-key weathering systems that are distributed world-wide, and is buying further Kipp & Zonen UVS radiometers to integrate into these systems ■

SUMMARY UVS RADIOMETERS

Atlas Weathering Services Group in the USA hosted an inter-comparison of broadband UV radiometers to identify the best model available to update their weathering test facilities in Arizona and South Florida. Kipp & Zonen's UVS series was the winner and 27 instruments are now deployed at the two sites ■