



## Detection of Viruses with the Fieldable GreyScan Trace Virus Detector (TVD-1)

Samantha Ollerton; sam.ollerton@greyscandetection.com; +61 438 891 824

GreyScan Pty Ltd, Unit 9, 435 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne VIC 3207, Australia

**Currently, there is no way to detect and verify the absence or presence of SARS-CoV-2 and other viruses on surfaces outside of a laboratory setting with the performance required.** The NIH determined that most secondary cases of the virus transmission of SARS-CoV-2 are occurring in community settings that are not cleaned to the same rigorous protocol as health care settings. The virus lives on surfaces and continues to infect secondary populations for quite a while. The inability to test and certify the lack of the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 outside of a laboratory setting will have a serious economic impact on the U.S, immobilizing a fearful population. It is critical to have a tool analyze surface contamination order to help stop the spread of the virus. Eventually, proof of cleanliness in public and private sector venues will be a critical step in creating enabling society to return to daily functions, repairing the global economy.

**GreyScan Pty Ltd proposes to re-engineer an existing \$25M commercialized technology designed for trace detection of certain explosives to detect viruses, starting with SARS-CoV-2.** The GreyScan ETD 100™ is a breakthrough technology designed to detect certain categories of common explosives. The GreyScan ETD 100™ has engineered an existing laboratory analytical detection technology, Capillary Zone Electrophoresis (CZE) into a fieldable system contained within a pelican case that can be set up within ten minutes and used to screen for explosive devices by swabbing surfaces. The major engineering designs that that were necessary to design a compact, fast, reliable and fieldable screening instrument that can be run with a minimally trained operator is the baseline technology that facilitates the rapid re-engineering of this technology into a fieldable virus detector. This baseline engineering represents a multi-million-dollar effort with world class scientists that can be directly applied to the rapid development of field detector for viruses.

**Operation:** The sample is collected from surfaces by swabbing the area with a disposable sample trap. After collection, the sample swab is inserted into the GreyScan device. CZE can differentiate between molecules by measuring the time it takes a substance of interest to reach the detector.

**This approach to virus screening is extremely reliable and novel.** While CZE has not yet been exploited for detection of pandemic viruses, as timely laboratory biochemical techniques have been used in the past, it has an extremely low false positive rate for explosive trace detection. Second, there are currently no fieldable devices for trace contamination verification, and GreyScan's ETD solutions through CZE technology have demonstrated the fastest process in the world for CZE detection in the field. Bringing detection of the COVID-19 virus to locations for onsite detection will rapidly increase the pace at which the government can address contaminated areas.

The project will be performed in three phases. **Phase I will develop methods for using CZE technology to separate and identify the virus.** During this phase, the detection and sampling methods will be developed. At the end of this phase, a new method of virus detection will be demonstrated in a laboratory that is evolutionary to viral detection in that it will be faster and less complex than existing laboratory methods. As progress in Phase I occurs, methods developed in Phase I will be used in **Phase II to re-engineer the existing fieldable GreyScan detector for virus detection** resulting in a cheaper, faster, reliable, and simpler method for SARS-CoV-2 detection, a major win for surveillance in its own right. **Phase III will support the establishment of an industrial base required for commercialization. The total effort can be accomplished in 15 months. Production will be accomplished in the USA, creating jobs and exporting from the states.**