Celebrating 50 Years of J&W GC Column Innovation
– Agilent customer Q&A

To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Agilent J&W GC Column innovation we asked a selection of customers to share their thoughts about their use of J&W GC columns over the years.

Milan Eliáš
Dept of Physical and Macromolecular Chemistry, Charles University

Radim Stepan
Czech Agriculture and Food Inspection Authority

Kangzhuo Yang
Wu Liang Ye Liquor Company

Xue Huifeng
Petrochemical Industry Influencer

Huwei Liu

When did you first learn about or use J&W GC Columns?

Milan Eliáš: In 2017 at the J. Heyrovsky Institute of Physical Chemistry, Academy of Science.
Radim Stepan: During my university studies in the year 2000.
Kangzhuo Yang: 2017.
Xue Huifeng: I have been using HP series GC column since 1987. I can't remember the exact time that I knew about the J&W GC column, it's around 90's when we saw J&W during the BCEIA.
Huwei Liu: Around 1997, at that time J&W Scientific was a partner of HP.

What made you try the J&W GC columns initially?

Milan Eliáš: We were, and still are, using Agilent GC instrumentation for analyzing our samples of catalytic experiments. When using Agilent columns, everything can be properly set via the program, and you can set specific conditions of your column just by easy set up.
Radim Stepan: Reliability of results.
Kangzhuo Yang: My company installed a set of 7890-5977 GCMs in the lab, and so I started to use the J&W GC columns.
Xue Huifeng: We have used HP columns for long time due to the performance, especially the analysis of gasoline hydrocarbons by HP-PONA. With high performance, long lifetime, good stability, and low bleeding. We trust Agilent and continue to purchase J&W columns after the acquisition.
Huwei Liu: I have a 6890 GC in my lab. It works better with Agilent columns.

What is your best memory or experience of J&W columns?

Milan Eliáš: Agilent columns are easy to work with. They survive even not gentle treatment, they have long lifetime, with no decrease of their qualities.
Kangzhuo Yang: Most of my work is done using J&W columns. I use DB-WAXUI for quantitation of volatile phenolic compounds in liquor. I get fantastic results, it's impressive!
Xue Huifeng: The first fused silica column we used is from HP.
Huwei Liu: In 2002, I invited Walter J to come to Peking University for the presentation of theory and choice of GC column.

What comes to mind when you hear, "J&W GC Columns"?

Milan Eliáš: Agilent has more advanced technology in terms of quality and possibility. Mechanical site of instrument is one of the tops. You can buy one instrument and then modify it based on your needs. Technical support is fast and professional. You can send your question and they respond in a matter of day or two - with reasonable solution. You can do the user service (and little more advance service) on your own with no problem. Control software is understandable and gives you more option to set your conditions (valid for both acquisition and data process method) - no need to have an extra program or difficult settings. And one program can control more instruments - so one computer for all Agilent instrumentations.
Radim Stepan: Quality, endurance, and stability.
Kangzhuo Yang: Genuine parts from Agilent.
Xue Huifeng: A big vender of GC columns. Also the co-founder, Walter, had written some books about gas chromatography.
Huwei Liu: The gentleman with the white hair, and a column that's high quality and standardized.

What makes Agilent J&W columns different?

Milan Eliáš: They are many types of them. The user can use the one, that is suitable for his purpose. From standard GC-use to a very specific one. It is also possible to consult your conditions with a technician and set the proper combination of more columns - all for reaching the best results.
Radim Stepan: The number of different types of columns (stationary phases, dimensions) compared to other producers.
Kangzhuo Yang: Lots of choice of phase and specifications, and all available. And the column is quite durable.
Xue Huifeng: Broad portfolio, difference specs, and high performance.
Huwei Liu: Large scale of manufacture and standardized.

If you could tell the Agilent J&W team one thing, what would it be?

Milan Eliáš: When you do special column set up (combination of more columns), add all parameters to the box, so we can more define condition for GC methods
Radim Stepan: Thank you!
Kangzhuo Yang: Expect more communication with end users, and develop more products to meet customer needs.
Xue Huifeng: Expect mid to high polarity column with high temperature tolerance, for compose analysis

of complex heavy oil sample with high boiling point.