

SPECTRAL EVOLUTION

Identifying Mineral Samples Indicative of Asbestos

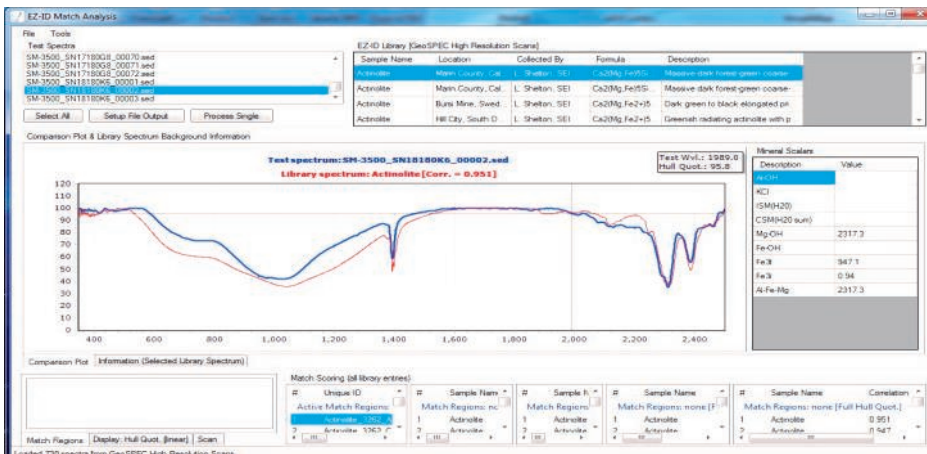
The oreXpress field mineral analyzer with EZ-ID mineral identification software was used to scan rock samples provided from a site in China. The samples were discovered to contain minerals commonly found with asbestos deposits. The samples, taken from trenches were scanned on-site and later analyzed using EZ-ID at the main exploration camp. The oreXpress delivers high resolution/high sensitivity across the 350-2500nm spectral range. Designed for field use, the oreXpress is lightweight and rugged with three photodiode arrays and no moving optical parts. Using three libraries, the USGS mineral spectral library and the optional SPECMin and GeoSPEC libraries, EZ-ID allows a geologist to match an unknown sample against a known library sample for fast identification. In addition, by selecting match regions, the geologist can ask the identification program to focus on specific prominent features.



Sample of chrysotile split to show distinctive asbestos fibers.



In addition to chrysotile, EZ-ID can also be used to identify asbestos related amphiboles including actinolite and tremolite.



The oreXpress is a field spectrometer designed to provide high resolution/high sensitivity collection of mineral spectra in situ. When used with EZ-ID mineral identification software it offers a mineral analyzer that can be used at outcrops or trenches or logging core in a core shack.

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