



## Application Note 2

## CiTiceL Handling

Toxic Gas CiTiceLs have a rugged design and are relatively insensitive to mishandling. Following these few simple guidelines will ensure correct operation in service:

- ☞ The CiTiceL must not be subjected to any pressure when clamping or handling.
- ☞ The protective mesh should not be removed, and the underside cover-slip (where present) and capillary region must not be poked or prodded.
- ☞ The CiTiceL contains a small volume of strong mineral acid. In the unlikely event of a leak, the contaminated parts should be rapidly and thoroughly rinsed in water.
- ☞ Do not use glue directly on or near the CiTiceL as the solvent will cause crazing of the plastic and damage to the electrodes can result from high concentrations of solvent vapours.
- ☞ CiTiceLs must not be stored or assembled in areas which contain solvent vapours. This includes aerosols used in the environment such as air-freshener, wax polish, window cleaner, and all organic solvents. Formaldehyde, for example, is known to temporarily inhibit the operation of nitric oxide sensors. Other solvents are known to create false high baselines and in some cases may damage the electrodes. When using sensors with printed circuit boards, degreasing agents in particular should be avoided.
- ☞ Sensors in which the PTFE membrane is clearly visible must not be stacked on top of each other as the capillary region is particularly susceptible to damage from PCB pins.
- ☞ Never solder connections directly on to gold PCB pins of a CiTiceL.
- ☞ If for any reason a sensor is removed from its PCB, care must be taken not to bend the pin connections.