



Upgrades & Accessories

“Upgrading to the latest technology on our instrument, ensures we can retain our competitive advantage by delivering the latest technology to our customers”

Dr. Elma van der Lingen
 Manager Advanced Materials Division, Mintek.



Nova™ 200 NanoSEM application upgrades at Mintek, South Africa

“Our world-class research and development expertise is supported by a physical infrastructure of modern laboratories, pilot plants and workshops. The expertise of our engineers, scientists and technologists is the core value we offer our customers, but without the right tools with the right capabilities they cannot deliver that value,” said Dr. Elma van der Lingen of Mintek, South Africa’s national mineral research organization.

“The FEI Company and Apollo Scientific, FEI’s representative in South Africa, supported us throughout the process of upgrading our microscope with various new capabilities. It’s great to see that FEI is able to bring the latest technology to their existing customers and has the right infrastructure in place to support new technologies.”

The challenge:

Research is fundamentally unpredictable. It is quite common to discover new areas of interest that are crucial for taking the next step. If you provide services for outside researchers, it will be their discoveries that generate demand for new capabilities. Exploring these new areas requires investment in new accessories and/or upgrades.

The solution:

Dr. Elma van der Lingen and her team at Mintek are committed to innovation. When confronted with needs for advanced functionality they were able to upgrade their Nova™ 200 NanoSEM with a GAD (TV-rate low vacuum Solid-State BSED) detector, Helix™ (UHR low vacuum SED) detector, EBSD system and a lithography system to support their world-class research and development.

The result:

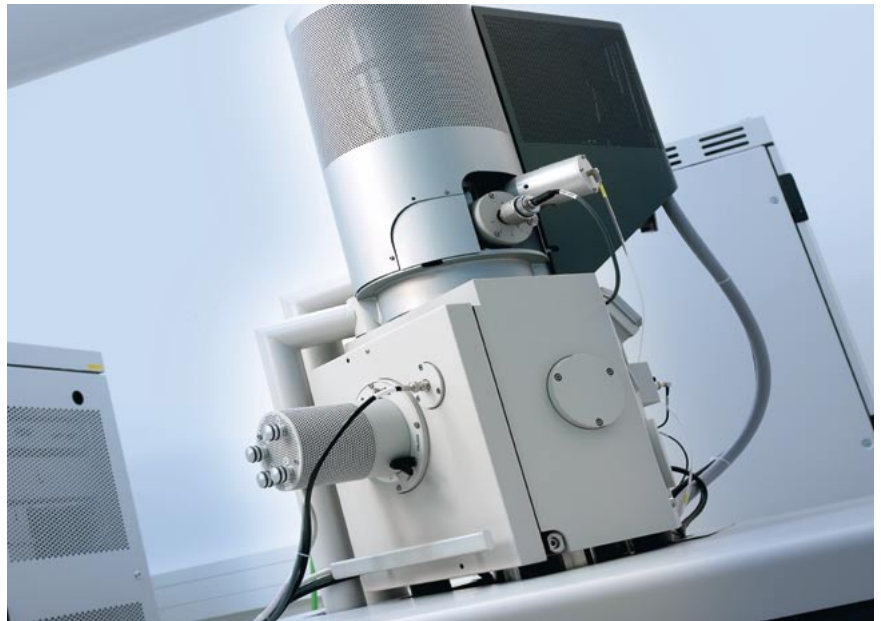
Upgrading their SEM over time with the latest technology allowed them to support diverse application requirements that were unanticipated at the time of the initial instrument purchase. The upgrades enabled significant new results in their catalyst research, reinforcing their position as a leading research institution and service provider.

Upgrade plan

- Nova™ 200 NanoSEM – installed early 2006
- GAD detector + Helix™ detector – installed early 2007
- EBSD system – installed mid 2007
- Lithography system – installed late 2008

FEI's support structure in service, applications and training demonstrates their commitment to supporting their customers after the initial instrument purchase. Their unique web based owner's forum (fei.com/owners) enables users to:

- Learn and stay updated on new developments and applications
- Share expertise and knowledge with peers
- Discuss and communicate with FEI specialists
- Check for the latest upgrades & accessories



All of the users at Mintek have registered with the owners forum. It has helped them maintain a close relationship with the FEI Company and Apollo Scientific. Through it they can easily check for new application developments, upgrades and enhancements that allow them to continue to lead in their fields of interest.

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Register on: www.fei.com/owners to learn more about latest developments, applications, upgrades and accessories.