

# Explosive Detection Kit Competitive Comparison

	TraceX <sup>®</sup> Explosives Kit	Wipes	Pens
<b># of explosive families detected in one test cycle</b>	9	1-4 <sup>1</sup>	1-3 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Trace detection</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes or No <sup>1</sup>
<b>Bulk detection</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Time for results</b>	< 3 minutes total	2-12 minutes <sup>2</sup>	2-12 minutes <sup>2</sup>
<b>Ease of use</b>	Single swab and crush	Multiple swab and crush cycles, until a positive indication occurs	Multiple swab and crush cycles, until a positive indication occurs
<b>Interpretation of results</b>	Results clearly indicated	User interprets results based on color formed after serial analyses	User interprets patterns from multiple pens
<b>User safety</b>	All chemicals contained inside plastic case	Possible user exposure to chemicals	Possible user exposure to chemicals
<b>Potential for sample contamination</b>	Low <sup>3</sup>	High <sup>3</sup>	Medium <sup>3</sup>
<b>Ruggedness</b>	Each kit encased in protective plastic case	Fragile ampoules are minimally protected	Fragile ampoules have limited protection provided by pen casing
<b>Heat source required</b>	No	Yes or No <sup>1</sup>	No

<sup>1</sup> Depends on specific product.

<sup>2</sup> Each test can take ~2 minutes; total time depends on number of tests run in series.

<sup>3</sup> For TraceX Explosives kit, sampling site is protected by cover, and user swabs with handle. For Wipes, user touches sampling site when swabbing. In some kits, reuse of dropper may introduce contamination.

For Pens, user must avoid touching tip of pen (which is sampling site).