July 2015:

Did you know that specialty light sources are used to ensure the quality of baby food?

For almost two years now, the demand for baby milk powder could not be covered. Moreover, the demand for German milk powder from third countries has increased strongly. Amongst other things, this is due to a milk powder scandal in China where babies fell ill and even died because of poisonous milk powder.

With Heraeus analytical light sources, it is possible to track metalliferous substances or chemical compounds such as melamine in food products. For this purpose, Heraeus hollow cathode lamps are used as light sources in the atomic absorption spectroscopy, which is based on the principle of the absorption of light. This method is applied for quantitative and qualitative analysis.

In order to maintain the quality of the milk powder also during the filling and packaging process, it is necessary to have a germfree environment. For the disinfection during the filling of powders, a dry process is needed. Ultraviolet radiation is suitable in this context. Specifically used, viruses and bacteria on packaging surfaces are deactivated within seconds. In comparison to wet chemical processes, the disinfection with Heraeus UV systems is reliable and environmentally friendly at the same time.

Further questions related to the “International Year of the Light”?
Write us an e-mail to hng-presse@heraeus.com.