



## GreenTrapOnline remote rodent monitoring – FAQ's

### 1. What is GreenTrapOnline (GTO)

GTO is a remote monitoring system using passive-infra red (PIR) sensors to detect rodent activity by sensing their movement and body heat. A case study where we have used the system within a structurally complex building may be viewed by clicking [HERE](#)

### 2. How are the GTO detectors used?

*We know that rodents are often reluctant to enter conventional bait and trap stations, so we do not use them. Instead, GTO detectors are installed in one of three ways:*

- i. On a mounting bracket; these would typically be used where there is no chance of human disturbance; on high level ledges, in false ceilings, inside wall cavities etc.
- ii. On a length of upturned plastic guttering; this is an attractive environment for a mouse as the tunnel provides overhead cover without any artificial floor.
- iii. Inside a [Neo bait station](#). Although this is a bait station, its entrance tunnel mimics our guttering; it has no floor. Locating the detector inside the box will provide protection from human interference and adverse environments such as wet conditions.

### 3. How can I be sure that the activations are genuinely recording rodent presence?

The detectors are activated by either a combination of body heat and motion, by vibration, or by a combination of heat-motion and vibration. If someone picks up or knocks a detector then they will certainly cause a vibration detection. If they get close enough then the heat sensor will also activate. ***We ignore all such activations.*** Only the heat and motion activations that are not accompanied by a vibration detection are counted, as these are the ones that are genuinely highlighting rodent presence.

### 4. How many detectors will I need?

That obviously depends on the site and any known or historical rodent activity. A survey would determine where detectors would be needed. We would typically NOT replace conventional baits and traps on a one-for-one basis, as the primary objective is to put the GTO detectors where mice are most likely to be moving.

### 5. Acheta isn't a servicing company so why are you providing this service?

*Acheta is an independent consultancy, and we **DO NOT** provide a commercial pest control service. However, we believe that our customers should understand what is going on in their own buildings, and that GTO will help them achieve this. With most pest control companies seemingly unwilling or unable to adopt this technology we have made the decision to offer it ourselves.*

### 6. Will I still need to employ a pest control contractor?

Certainly. GTO only detects rodents; it does not control them. You will still need to employ a contractor to routinely inspect the site, and they'll probably want to maintain their own network of conventional rodent monitors, at least until they see the benefits that GTO brings. You'll also need them to react to any activity that GTO highlights and, of course, to monitor and control insect pests and maintain fly control units.



### **7. What about the frequency of service; could that be reduced?**

Service frequency can certainly be reviewed, and it may well be possible to reduce this, particularly if your conventional monitors are currently being inspected every week or two by either your own personnel, or a contractor. Any such decision should be made on the basis of a risk assessment, and this is a decision that you may want to take after GTO has been installed for a while. *We will work with you to help make this decision.*

### **8. If I still need a contractor why is GTO a benefit to me?**

Knowledge is power. Why rely on your pest control contractor? Findings from a routine or call out inspection may be days or weeks out of date. GTO provides real-time information about rodent activity inside your premises. In our experience it is much better to know about such activity before it has time to multiply and spread. Furthermore, if you are able to reduce service frequency, that will inevitably provide savings in your pest control contract cost, or time savings if your own employees are inspecting rodent baits or traps. Furthermore, GTO can be installed in difficult to access areas, potentially reducing the need to frequently access high level or enclosed spaces such as false ceilings, wall and floor voids.

### **9. Will GTO tell me when activity has been eradicated?**

Proving a negative is amongst the most difficult things to achieve, but GTO provides evidence of infestation clearance. *If all the rodent has to do is move, and your network of detectors is picking up nothing, then what better evidence is there?*

### **10. What will auditors say?**

Remote monitoring is still a relatively unfamiliar technology within the pest control industry, let alone the auditing community. We anticipate that this will change. If you encounter any problems with auditors, we will provide the supporting evidence that you need to address any concerns that they raise.