

# BrucePac Implements TEMPO® to Improve Laboratory Productivity

---

## Case Study *BrucePac*

---



# BrucePac Implements TEMPO® to Improve Laboratory Productivity

## BrucePac



### Context

- Headquartered in Silverton, Oregon, BrucePac is a leader in providing specialty-designed cooked poultry, pork and beef products. BrucePac also provides their customers with custom meat formulations to suit particular needs or niches.

In late 2010, BrucePac management faced the challenge of reducing overtime of microbiology personnel while meeting testing demands. For their routine microbiology testing, one technician prepared samples, while another technician plated the resulting solutions. Additionally, technicians often worked weekends to manage testing demands and reporting.

### Objectives & Action

- Explore automated techniques that would enable the lab to (a) reduce the amount of weekend work and (b) orient technician time on more value-added activities rather than preparing plates and manually counting bacterial colonies.

After meeting with representatives from bioMérieux in the fall of 2010, BrucePac management decided to implement the TEMPO® solution for the following routine parameters: Total Aerobic Count, Coliforms, *Escherichia coli*, and Coagulase Positive *Staph aureus*.

### Key Results

- After a three-month implementation period, BrucePac converted an average 3,100 tests per month to the TEMPO® solution on ALL food matrices tested.

As a result of implementing the automated TEMPO® solution, BrucePac technicians were able to (a) process existing sample volume in 50% less time, (b) minimize the amount of weekend work, and (c) streamline the testing process. Post-TEMPO® implementation, only one technician is now required to meet requirements for routine microbiology testing at BrucePac.

*“On the reading side of the TEMPO® process, getting results takes one-third of the time it used to take. This has enabled the allocation of resources to other tasks and improved opportunities for advancement and greater responsibilities for our technicians.”*

*–Monica McLaughlin, Laboratory Manager, BrucePac*

