



bioMérieux Gains International Modification/Matrix Extension Approval for its Automated Solution: VIDAS[®] UP Salmonella Phage Technology (SPT)

AOAC Performance Tested MethodSM 071101 Approval Underscores VIDAS Excellence in Food Safety Testing

DURHAM, N.C. (March 29, 2012) – [bioMérieux](#), a world leader in the field of *in vitro* diagnostics, today announced that its VIDAS[®] UP *Salmonella* (SPT), an automated test for the detection of *Salmonella* species, has been granted Performance Tested Method Modification/Matrix Extension approval by AOAC INTERNATIONAL for 375g Ground Turkey, 375g Almonds and Chicken Rinsate.

One additional matrix (375g ground beef) was validated using a new enrichment protocol (BPW plus vancomycin). This level of certification assures VIDAS UP (SPT) users that the test meets stringent AOAC standards for excellence in pathogen detection.

AOAC INTERNATIONAL is an independent, not-for-profit association committed to providing and facilitating the development, use and harmonization of validated analytical methods and laboratory quality assurance programs and services. AOAC *Performance Tested MethodsSM* are accepted and recognized worldwide.

“bioMérieux continues to maintain its focus on scientific initiatives to improve performance, speed and workflow for rapid pathogen detection,” said Stan Bailey, Ph.D., director of scientific affairs for bioMérieux Industry. “This recognition is a result of our ongoing commitment to helping food manufacturers and processors ensure the safety of their food products and avoid unnecessary foodborne illness.”

VIDAS UP *Salmonella* (SPT) is a new, simplified protocol using buffered peptone water (BPW) enrichment plus a proprietary *Salmonella* enrichment supplement followed by an automated analysis and interpretation by a novel recombinant phage protein based technology for use with the automated VIDAS[®] or miniVIDAS[®] instruments for the detection of *Salmonella*.

Salmonella is a bacterium that causes one of the most common intestinal infections worldwide (Salmonellosis). In the United States alone it is implicated in more than one million cases of foodborne illness annually, according to a 2011 report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Of these cases, approximately 20,000 result in hospitalization and 378 result in death.

Most persons infected with *Salmonella* develop diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps 12 to 72 hours after infection. The illness usually lasts 4 to 7 days, and most persons recover without treatment. However, in some persons, the diarrhea may be so severe that the patient needs to be hospitalized.

About bioMérieux Food Safety

bioMérieux has been a global leader in providing innovative solutions to address food safety testing issues for more than 20 years. bioMérieux's food safety focus encompasses prevention, detection, and quality assurance. The company offers extensive global resources and local expertise in microbiology and food safety, driven by cutting-edge research and science to bring powerful new tools to the food industry. bioMérieux's food testing solutions, including prepared culture media, VIDAS[®], TEMPO[®], Bact/ALERT[®], VITEK[®] 2 and DiversiLab[®], reflect its commitment to improving public health through a safe and nutritious food supply accessible globally. To learn more about food safety and quality solutions from bioMérieux, visit www.biomerieux-industry.com or call 1-800-634-7656.

About bioMérieux

Advancing Diagnostics to Improve Public Health

A world leader in the field of *in vitro* diagnostics for over 45 years, bioMérieux is present in more than 150 countries through 39 subsidiaries and a large network of distributors. In 2011, revenues reached €1.427 billion with 87% of sales outside of France.

bioMérieux provides diagnostic solutions (reagents, instruments, software) which determine the source of disease and contamination to improve patient health and ensure consumer safety. Its products are used for diagnosing infectious diseases and providing high medical value results for cancer screening and monitoring and cardiovascular emergencies. They are also used for detecting microorganisms in agri-food, pharmaceutical and cosmetic products.

bioMérieux is listed on the NYSE Euronext Paris market (Symbol: BIM – ISIN: FR0010096479).

Additional information can be found at www.biomerieux-usa.com

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