

Press Release

The **foodproof**[®] *Listeria* Genus Detection LyoKit: A new and unique method for the detection of all “sensu stricto” *Listeria* species.

- Potsdam, May 2017 -

BIOTECON Diagnostics has developed a unique lyophilized foodproof real-time PCR-test for the detection of all *Listeria* „sensu stricto“-species with 24 h.

Microbiological methods for the detection of *Listeria* spp. with the pathogenic species *Listeria monocytogenes* including enrichment, isolation on agar plates and confirmation usually take several days. Therefore, real-time PCR and other rapid alternative methods have been developed to shorten the time from sample to result for the detection of this dangerous pathogen.

BIOTECON Diagnostics has now developed a new, lyophilized real-time PCR assay for the detection of all the *Listeria* Genus “sensu stricto” species. The company also provides several DNA extraction kits for all kind of tasks, like the **foodproof** StarPrep Two Kit for manual extraction, the **foodproof** StarPrep Two 8-Strip Kit for high-throughput manual extraction in deep-well plates or the **foodproof** Magnetic Preparation Kit II for automated DNA extraction with the **foodproof** RoboPrep Fusion.

To shorten the time for enrichment, BIOTECON Diagnostics has incorporated a rapid *Listeria* enrichment broth from a leading media supplier: **foodproof** *Listeria* StarBroth. By this combination of products, a safe detection of *Listeria* Genus and *Listeria monocytogenes* is now possible in less than 24 h in all kind of foods and raw materials. In addition, the ISO 11290 reference broth, ½ Fraser, has been included in the validation as well. In this case, depending on the DNA extraction protocol and the food matrix, the enrichment time has to be prolonged to up to 48 h.

The product validation included most relevant food categories like meat, milk and milk products, fruits and vegetables and environmental samples.

About *Listeria* „sensu stricto“:

Listeria spp. currently includes 17 species. They are gram-positive, rod-shaped, and facultatively anaerobic bacteria. Only *Listeria monocytogenes* causes listeriosis, a very serious disease, which kills almost 150 people every year alone in the USA. The disease mostly affects pregnant women, newborns, adults with weakened immune systems, and the elderly. Depending on the degree of relationship to *Listeria monocytogenes*, the genus *Listeria* can be sub-divided into *Listeria* sensu stricto species and *Listeria* sensu lato species. The six sensu stricto species share common phenotypic characteristics; this group includes the pathogen *Listeria monocytogenes*. The 11 *Listeria* sensu lato species represent three distinct monophyletic groups, which may warrant recognition as separate genera. Some of the *Listeria* sensu lato species should not be used as an indicator of growth for *L. monocytogenes* because they show different characteristics, e.g. they do not grow in refrigeration temperatures. The sensu stricto definition includes the species *L. monocytogenes*, *L. seeligeri*, *L. ivanovii*, *L. welshimeri*, *L. marthii* and *L. innocua*. Only these six species closely related to *Listeria monocytogenes* and often occurring in the same habitat are detected with the new **foodproof** kit. Therefore the new **foodproof** *Listeria* Genus Detection LyoKit can be used as a direct indicator of growth of *L. monocytogenes*.

For more information about the new **foodproof** *Listeria* Genus Detection LyoKit please view: www.bc-diagnostics.com.

BIOTECON Diagnostics is located in Potsdam, Germany. Since almost 20 years the company is a competent partner for all molecular biological and microbiological challenges in the food and beverage industry. In the companies' focus are the development, production and marketing of real-time PCR based rapid test methods including automation solutions.

Contact:

Public Relations:

Alois Schneiderbauer, CBO

Phone: +49 (0) 331 2300-200

Fax: +49 (0) 331 2300-299

Email: bcd@bc-diagnostics.com

BIOTECON Diagnostics

Hermannswerder 17

14473 Potsdam – Germany

Phone: +49 (0) 331 2300-200

Fax: +49 (0) 331 2300-299

Email: bcd@bc-diagnostics.com

Web: www.bc-diagnostics.com

Product Information:

Benjamin Junge, Senior Product Manager

Phone: +49 (0) 331 2300-200

Fax: +49 (0) 331 2300-299

Email: bjunge@bc-diagnostics.com