

NEWS RELEASE



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Neogen develops fastest *Listeria* test with no enrichment

LANSING, Mich., July 10, 2017 — Neogen Corporation (NASDAQ: NEOG) has developed an innovative test that detects *Listeria* in environmental samples in under 60 minutes — without the need to enrich samples.

Neogen's new *Listeria* Right Now™ test system can detect all species of *Listeria*, including the pathogenic *L. monocytogenes*, in under 60 minutes through their ribosomal RNA (rRNA). The system's effectiveness has been validated by NSF International to detect low levels of *Listeria* in environmental samples with greater sensitivity and speed than any other method available. The test is also under review for AOAC Performance Tested certification to further validate its accuracy.

"The advanced technology in *Listeria* Right Now truly changes everything about testing the environment for *Listeria*. Contamination of *Listeria* in the environment can now be determined, and cleaned as necessary, before food production begins and the quality and safety of a food product is compromised," said Ed Bradley, Neogen's vice president of Food Safety. "The new test system enables food safety professionals to very quickly implement corrective actions, which could include improving sanitation efforts or processes. Using *Listeria* Right Now also means that companies no longer have to grow potentially dangerous cultures in their facilities during the testing process, nor store test cultures for potential follow-up testing."

The innovative *Listeria* Right Now process starts with taking an environmental sample to capture any *Listeria* present. The entire swab sample is placed in a tube that contains a lysis buffer that breaks up any bacteria present, and releases its rRNA. If *Listeria* is in the sample, the test's reagents will amplify thousands of copies of its rRNA — and make the *Listeria* easily detectable by *Listeria* Right Now.

In the validation study of *Listeria* Right Now comparing the test against the reference cultural method, NSF International confirmed the effectiveness of this new test. The evaluation determined that under the conditions employed in this study, the enrichment-free *Listeria* Right Now method is as sensitive as the enrichment-based culture reference method.

Neogen Corporation develops and markets products dedicated to food and animal safety. The company's Food Safety Division markets dehydrated culture media and diagnostic test kits to detect foodborne bacteria, natural toxins, food allergens, drug residues, plant diseases and sanitation concerns. Neogen's Animal Safety Division is a leader in the development of animal genomics along with the manufacturing and distribution of a variety of animal healthcare products, including diagnostics, pharmaceuticals, veterinary instruments, wound care and disinfectants.

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