

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Date: 04.12.09****Image Attached****-Copy Starts-*****ProtoCOL 2 is upgraded to offer faster route for
determining effectiveness of vaccines and anti-microbials***

Cambridge, UK: Synbiosis, a world-leading manufacturer of automated micro-biological systems, today announced its ProtoCOL 2 system for colony counting and inhibition zone analysis has been upgraded to allow rapid statistical analysis of flu and bacterial vaccine potency and antibiotic susceptibility testing results.

Integral to the Synbiosis ProtoCOL 2 colony counter and zone measurement system, the ProtoCOL 2 software has been upgraded so numerical data can be automatically transferred into programmes for statistical analysis to produce ED50 calculations as well as parallel line, slope ratio, Probit, 4-parameter logistic curve and single dose models. This innovation will save scientists valuable time, as data can be transferred via a single button click rather than manually entered.

The ProtoCOL 2 system's simple user interface has also been designed to include provisions for electronic signatures; a full audit history of both image and written data and different permission levels for secure access to the data. This ensures the software can be integrated into any 21 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 11 environment, making the ProtoCOL 2 an ideal system for use in a GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) compliant facility.

Martin Smith of Synbiosis commented: "With the increased demand for swine flu vaccines and antibiotics to treat pneumococcal infections, pharma and biotech firms are under pressure to dispatch these to market quickly. One method of shortening the delivery timeline is to accelerate testing and release of these products."

Martin Smith continued: "This is why we are delighted Synbiosis' technical team has identified the transfer of data for analysis as a bottle neck and spent considerable time and effort developing software that can overcome this challenge. Their excellent advances ensure pharma companies can now install

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News Release

ProtoCOL 2 is upgraded press release continued.....

and begin using a ProtoCOL 2 system for clinical quality assurance, safe in the knowledge that they can easily obtain accurate efficacy data, which will help them deliver their vaccines and anti-microbial therapies into hospitals and pharmacies more rapidly.”

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Note to Editors

About Synbiosis

Synbiosis is a world-leading supplier of integrated imaging solutions for automatic counting and analysis of microbial colonies and zone measurement. The ProtoCOL 2 and aCOLyte systems from Synbiosis are installed in food, pharmaceutical, environmental and research microbiology laboratories world-wide. Synbiosis uses established distribution channels to market its products internationally.

Synbiosis, founded in 1998 is a division of the Synoptics Group based in Cambridge UK. The Group's other divisions, Syncroscopy and Syngene, specialise in digital imaging solutions for microscopy and molecular biology applications respectively. Synoptics currently employs 40 people in its UK and US subsidiary operation.