

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Date: 12/03/2019****Image Attached****-Copy Starts-****Ames Software for ProtoCOL 3 Now Features Mutagenicity Ratio Functionality
Offering Laboratories Fast, Reproducible Toxicology Testing Results**

Cambridge, UK: Synbiosis, a long-established, expert manufacturer of automated microbiological systems, today introduced its next generation Ames software module featuring a time-saving Ames mutagenicity ratio calculation function. The new software designed for integrated use with the ProtoCOL 3 colony counter, facilitates rapid production of accurate, consistent, count and ratio data from Ames test plates and is ideal for use in regulated toxicology testing laboratories.

The new Ames software enables ProtoCOL 3 to quickly count *Salmonella typhimurium* or *E.coli* colonies cultured on, for example, Vogel Bonner medium before and after exposure to potentially toxic or non-toxic control compounds. The software can then automatically compare the different colony counts to generate an Ames mutagenicity ratio, providing a quick guide to the mutagenic potential of a test chemical. This saves microbiologists time and effort with transferring count data to statistical software or manually calculating the ratio. It means ratio results are objective as they are not dependent on the scientist performing the tasks.

As well as numerical data, the software also produces full colour images of Ames test plates which can be stored in a secure SQL database for reference and another count, if required. Count and ratio data can be automatically downloaded to a spreadsheet (Excel/ OpenOffice) or LIMS, thus eliminating data transfer errors, to generate reproducible, traceable results, which are consistent from one microbiologist to another.

Featuring user access levels and a full audit trail with user login and logout records, the new Ames software is GLP compliant and can be used in a 21 CFR Part 11 environment. The archived results are suitable for generating high-quality reports for audit by regulatory authorities, making the new Ames software appropriate for use in pharmaceutical toxicology testing and other regulated microbiology laboratories.

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.....2/Ames Software for ProtoCOL 3

For more information about the innovative new Ames software for the ProtoCOL 3, please click the link: <https://www.synbiosis.com/product/ames-software/>

Users with Ames software licences for ProtoCOL 3 can download the upgrade free of charge from this link: <https://www.synbiosis.com/support/software-downloads/>

“Manually calculating the Ames mutagenicity ratio by comparing different sets of colony counts is a common approach for determining if a compound is mutagenic, but it is time consuming and can be prone to human error,” says Kate George, Sales and Technical Director at Synbiosis. “Our new module with its ratio calculation function is a time-saving solution to this problem and makes the ProtoCOL 3 and integrated Ames software an intelligent choice for any toxicology testing laboratory.”

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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, Protos and aCOLyte systems from Synbiosis are installed in food, pharmaceutical, environmental and research microbiology laboratories world-wide. ChromaZona is an IVD certified instrument for automated microbial ID and AST in the clinical laboratory. Synbiosis uses established distribution channels to market its products internationally.

Synbiosis, founded in 1998 is a division of the Synoptics Group of the AIM quoted Scientific Digital Imaging Company based in Cambridge, UK. The Group's other divisions, Syngene and Synoptics Health, specialise in digital imaging solutions for molecular biology and healthcare applications respectively. Synoptics, which celebrated its 30th anniversary of being in business in 2015, currently employs 30 people in its UK and subsidiary operation in Frederick, USA.