

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Date: 27.09.17****Image Attached****-Copy Starts-****NEW Chromogenic ID Media Software Module for ISO® 9308-1 Compliant Plates Ensures Water Borne Pathogens are Accurately and Reproducibly Identified**

Cambridge, UK: Synbiosis, a long-established, expert manufacturer of automated microbiological systems, today announced its Chromogenic ID software for use with Synbiosis colony counters has a new validated module for automatic identification of bacteria cultured on Liofilchem and Merck ISO 9308-1 compliant chromogenic media. Using this upgraded software allows microbiologists to precisely identify a range of coliforms in drinking water and disinfected pool water.

The new Chromogenic ID software module for use with Synbiosis ChromoZona, ProtoCOL 3, and Protos 3 automated colony identification systems, guarantees that using these systems' patent digital colour imaging technology microbiologists can generate true to life colour plate images of *E.coli* and coliforms cultured on Liofilchem Chromatic™ Coliform Agar ISO and Merck's Chromocult® Coliform Agar.

By analysing the plate images, the Chromogenic ID software can easily distinguish between purple/violet and salmon pink/red colonies, providing quick identification of *E. coli*, *Klebsiella spp.*, *Enterobacter spp.* and *Citrobacter spp.* on these ISO® 9308-1 compliant chromogenic plates. This reduces misidentification, providing consistent data no matter when or which microbiologist is reading the plate. The plate images can then be stored in a secure SQL database for cross checking if necessary, and means the software is ideally suited for use in quality accredited testing laboratories.

To find out more about this exciting new Chromogenic ID Media Software Module scientists can click the link: <http://www.synbiosis.com/chromogenic-id/>

“Eye identification of bacteria using chromogenic media depends on the lighting above and below the plate, as well as the colour vision and experience of the microbiologist” comments Kate George, Sales & Technical Director at Synbiosis.

“Our new software module for Liofilchem and Merck's ISO 9308-1 compliant

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News Release

plates is a great solution to the problems associated with this error prone manual method creating a standardised, consistent and objective test. This means scientists using ChromoZona, ProtoCOL 3 and Protos 3 systems can be confident of correctly identifying water borne pathogens every time.”

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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 40 people in its UK and subsidiary operation in Frederick, USA.

About Liofilchem

Since 1983 Liofilchem® s.r.l. has committed its Research and Development department to the production of reliable and high-quality bacteriology products. The dedication to customer satisfaction and exceptional manufacturing versatility have granted Liofilchem® continuous growth, as a result of the increasing quality of its products and the worldwide distribution of the Liofilchem brand name. Liofilchem is present in over 60 countries with agents and distributors placing its products in clinical and industrial laboratories around the world.

The complete manufacturing processes and quality control are carried out in house by Liofilchem employees at two facilities in Roseto degli Abruzzi totalling over 7000 m2 area. The newest of them was opened last August 2010 and represents the state-of-the-art for the diagnostic manufacturing.

The new Liofilchem's facility was built according to the latest international recommendations for manufacturers of In-Vitro diagnostics. Since many of its customers

are in the pharmaceutical industry, its new production processes closely resemble the highest standard of pharmaceutical companies. As a supplier of pharmaceutical industries, Liofilchem is constantly subjected to their strictest audits and keen to satisfy their requests.

Liofilchem is certified ISO 9001 for the Quality Management and ISO 13425 as an IVD manufacturer.

About Merck

Merck is a leading science and technology company in healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 50,000 employees work to further develop technologies that improve and enhance life – from biopharmaceutical therapies to treat cancer or multiple sclerosis, cutting-edge systems for scientific research and production, to liquid crystals for smartphones and LCD televisions. In 2015, Merck generated sales of € 12.85 billion in 66 countries.

Founded in 1668, Merck is the world's oldest pharmaceutical and chemical company. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed corporate group. Merck holds the global rights to the Merck name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Performance Materials.