

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Date: 15.05.2014****Image Attached****-Copy Starts-****Contract Testing Laboratory uses ProtoCOL 3
Automated Zone Measurement System
To make Antibiotic Sensitivity Testing Four Times Faster**

Cambridge, UK: Synbiosis, a world-leading manufacturer of automated microbiological systems, is pleased to announce its ProtoCOL 3 automated inhibition zone measurement system is being used at a major UK based microbiological contract testing laboratory to significantly speed up throughput of their antibiotic susceptibility testing.

Microbiologists at the contract testing laboratory are using a ProtoCOL 3 and SynStats software to measure zones, determine each antibiotic's potency from measurement data and produce a result in an instant. Using the ProtoCOL 3 and SynStats software in combination is helping microbiologists at this contract testing laboratory to significantly increase their throughput when determining the efficacy of new antibiotics.

A microbiologist at the contract testing laboratory explained: "We used to perform approximately five or six, 5+1 assays each week on square plates and were measuring inhibition zones manually. It was taking us around 30-40 minutes to measure the 25 zones and read each square plate, which meant several hours of measuring to complete an assay run. We needed to speed up our throughput, as we are being asked to take on much larger projects and we decided to assess automated inhibition zone measurement equipment."

The microbiologist continued: "We tested three systems and in terms of value for money and performance the ProtoCOL 3 came out in front. The statistical analysis software we were using is only European Pharmacopeia compliant so we also chose to upgrade our statistical analysis software to the SynStats because this is compatible with the ProtoCOL 3 and is both European and US Pharmacopeia compliant, something which is becoming increasingly important for us. Using the ProtoCOL 3 and SynStats, we now analyse around 18, 5+1 assays on round plates, measuring over 100 zones and have the potencies in the time it took us to

more....BEACON HOUSE
NUFFIELD ROAD
CAMBRIDGE
CB4 1TF

TEL: +44 (0)1223 727125

FAX: +44 (0)1223 727101

e-mail: info@synbiosis.comwww.synbiosis.com**News Release**

..... Contract Testing Laboratory uses ProtoCOL 3 /2

read just 25 zones on a square plate manually, so it has really improved our throughput.”

Kate George, Applications Specialist at Synbiosis concluded: “There is a growing need world-wide for new antibiotics to combat life-threatening bacterial infections and we’re pleased to hear the ProtoCOL 3 is helping scientists at this contract testing firm with their regulatory quality testing. Their use of Synbiosis technology is a testament to the fact that the ProtoCOL 3 automated inhibition zone measurement system and SynStats software are an excellent combination for any pharma or CRO that needs to cost-effectively increase productivity of their antibiotic sensitivity testing.”

-Ends-

For Further Information Contact:

Jayne Arthur, Synbiosis, Beacon House, Nuffield Road, Cambridge, CB4 1TF, UK.

Tel: +44(0) 1223-727125 Fax +44 (0) 1223-727101

Email: jayne.arthur@synbiosis.com Web site: <http://www.synbiosis.com/protocol-3/>

Editor Contact:

Dr Sue Pearson, Director, International Science Writer, PO Box 170, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3GD, UK.

Tel/Fax: +44 (0)1462-635327 Email: sue.pearson@internationalsciencewriter.com

Web: www.internationalsciencewriter.com Twitter: @isciencewriter

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 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 of the AIM quoted Scientific Digital Imaging Company 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.