

**NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date: 05.09.11****Image Attached****-Copy Starts-****Synbiosis Introduces New aCOLade Manual Colony Counter  
Offering a Simple, Inexpensive Method of Analysing Microbial Contamination**

**Cambridge, UK:** Synbiosis, a world-leading manufacturer of automated microbiological systems, today introduced aCOLade, its affordable, manual colony counter with automatic result recording, ideal for use in any microbiology laboratory.

The new aCOLade colony counter consists of a compact white light box with a pressure controlled back plate and a pen attached to an integrated digital counter. Operating aCOLade is quick and simple because as soon as microbiologists touch the Petri dish's lid with the pen to count a colony, a bleeping sound occurs and the count is automatically added and displayed on the digital counter.

To record results, aCOLade can be connected to any computer and comes with software which allows scientists to automatically transfer their counts to a spreadsheet. Since the data is instantly recorded, this saves users time and also improves result accuracy by reducing the risk of keying errors occurring.

This flexible system has a well-designed adjustable plate ring that is used to hold plates as small as 50mm diameter and can be easily altered to accommodate 90mm and 120mm diameter plates, making it suitable for a range of counting applications.

To help improve precision, there is a magnifying lens over the light box and the back plate is also gridded. These features enable microbiologists to see small colonies and distinguish between colonies and debris or a bubble in the media, as well as easily keep track of which plate area they have counted.

Martin Smith of Synbiosis commented: "Many microbiologists want an inexpensive manual colony counter that is simple to use, flexible enough to read large and small plates and allows their results to be easily saved. We are delighted at

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# News Release

Synbiosis to have responded to these needs with our new aCOLade. Since scientists have the option to integrate their own computer with aCOLade, we're convinced that it will prove to be an excellent system for cost-conscious microbiologists wanting a straightforward method of counting and recording their colony counts."

**-Ends-**

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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 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.