

Press Release**Next Generation Sequencing to Herald End of Costly Food Recalls**

Ebersberg, Germany, 23rd August 2019

Eurofins Genomics Europe has developed and launched a new DNA-based tracking service for global monitoring of pathogens in food samples. Utilising state-of-the-art Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) technology, the new offering called DNA PathoTracker will allow both public authorities and private sector customers to identify, respond to, and in the future minimise harmful pathogen outbreaks and costly recall situations.

Mapping contamination instances is particularly important in preventing food recalls, which are both extremely costly and reputationally damaging situations for affected brands. By implementing the DNA PathoTracker traceability programme, a company can better predict and potentially prevent such events and in parallel demonstrate their commitment to the safety of their products.

NGS, and particularly Whole Genome Sequencing, has been globally accepted as the most accurate high resolution subtyping technique, with demonstrated superior sensitivity and specificity compared to conventional methods. Using this technique on pathogenic bacterial strains provides unrivalled insight into their genetic relationship. This genomic information, combined with data such as the date and place of findings, can help track down the exact sources of contamination and therefore avoid large scale recalls.

Eurofins Genomics Europe believes that pathogen traceability is becoming increasingly important given the growing interlinks in global supply chains. DNA PathoTracker has been developed by Eurofins to support the food industry to respond faster and with more accuracy than ever before when faced with a contamination event.

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Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) delivers exact DNA sequence data for the entire genome of an organism. It is based on Next Generation Sequencing (NGS), also known as high-throughput sequencing, which is DNA sequencing technology that allows for the analysis of samples and systems at a level that was not possible before. NGS machines can sequence large sample numbers more cost-effectively than traditional methods and, in the process, also generate more detailed genomic information.

About Eurofins Genomics

Eurofins Genomics, a member of the Eurofins Group with facilities in Europe, the United States and Asia, is an internationally leading provider of DNA sequencing services, next generation sequencing services, genotyping services, DNA synthesis products and bioinformatics services for pharma, diagnostics, food, agriculture, biotechnological and research markets. The company's strength is its extensive customer base and high quality services in industrial scale for the life science industries and academic research institutions around the world. For further information, please visit our website at eurofinsgenomics.com.

About Eurofins – a global leader in bio-analysis

Eurofins Scientific through its subsidiaries (hereinafter sometimes “Eurofins” or “the Group”) believes it is a scientific leader in food, environment, pharmaceutical and cosmetics products testing and in agrosience CRO services. It is also one of the global independent market leaders in certain testing and laboratory services for genomics, discovery pharmacology, forensics, CDMO, advanced material sciences and for supporting clinical studies. In addition, Eurofins is one of the leading global emerging players in specialty clinical diagnostic testing. With about 45,000 staff in more than 800 laboratories across 47 countries, Eurofins offers a portfolio of over 200,000 analytical methods for evaluating the safety, identity, composition, authenticity, origin and purity of biological substances and products, as well as for innovative clinical diagnostic. The Group objective is to provide its customers with high-quality services, accurate results on time and expert advice by its highly qualified staff.

Eurofins is committed to pursuing its dynamic growth strategy by expanding both its technology portfolio and its geographic reach. Through R&D and acquisitions, the Group draws on the latest developments in the field of biotechnology and analytical chemistry to offer its clients unique analytical solutions and the most comprehensive range of testing methods.

As one of the most innovative and quality oriented international players in its industry, Eurofins is ideally positioned to support its clients' increasingly stringent quality and safety standards and the expanding demands of regulatory authorities around the world.

The shares of Eurofins Scientific are listed on the Euronext Paris Stock Exchange (ISIN FR0000038259, Reuters EUFI.PA, Bloomberg ERF FP).

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