

## Marketplace

### Body fluid control assay for hematology analyzer

Streck's Cell-Chex Auto, a body fluid control for automated body fluid analysis, is now assayed for the Sysmex



XE-5000 hematology analyzer. The assay verifies the accuracy of the lower RBC and WBC limits of the instrument's reportable range and allows users to test analyzer limits lower than daily CBC testing.

The control is also assayed for Sysmex's XE-2100, XT-1800i, and XT-2000i systems; Abbott Diagnostics' Cell-Dyn 3200 and 4000, Sapphire, and Ruby systems; and Beckman Coulter's LH 750/LH 755 and LH 780 (levels 2 and 3) instruments.

Available in 3.0-mL plastic cap-pierceable vials, the assay offers users a closed-vial stability of 75 days and an open-vial stability of 30 days.

Streck, Circle No. 229  
Phone: 800-843-0912

### ID system for human cell line authentication

Promega's StemElite identification system is designed to improve and simplify human cell line authentication in research applications. The system allows scientists to quickly and easily validate the authenticity and purity of human cell lines before submitting results to be published or passing the cell line to another laboratory.

The system, which uses short tandem repeat analysis technology, includes 10

human loci for human cell line authentication and a sensitive marker that specifically detects contamination with mouse DNA. For stem-cell researchers using mouse feeder cells, this is a sensitive method for detection of mouse contamination in human stem-cell samples.

The kit contains all reagents required for co-amplification and three-color detection of DNA fragments in a single tube. The system includes a hot-start Taq DNA polymerase for room-temperature reaction assembly as well as lane marker standards.

Promega, Circle No. 200  
Phone: 800-356-9526

### Tumor marker control

Bio-Rad Laboratories' Lyphocheck tumor marker plus control is a lyophilized, human-serum-based third-party quali-



ty control for monitoring the precision of tumor marker testing procedures. This multi-analyte control has three levels and features 23 tumor markers, including ACTH, aldosterone, AFP,  $\beta$ -2-microglobulin, CA 15-3, CA 19-9, CA 27.29, CA 50, CA 72-4, CA 125, calcitonin, CASA, CEA, cyfra 21-1, ferritin, hCG/ $\beta$ -hCG, NSE, PAP, prolactin, total PSA, free PSA, S-100, and thyroglobulin.

CA 50, CA 72-4, CASA, cyfra 21-1, NSE, and S-100 are for international use only. They are not available for diagnostic use in the United States.

The control has a three-year shelf life when stored at 2° to 8°C. It provides reconstituted stability for 14 days at 2° to 8°C and 30 days at -20° to -70°C for most analytes. It includes high target levels of cancer antigens and ferritin plus a low level of PSA. Assayed values are provided for manual and automated test methods.

The Unity interlaboratory program with peer group comparison is available for use with the control.

Lyphocheck samples are available upon request.

Bio-Rad Laboratories, Circle No. 214  
Phone: 800-224-6723

### Thermal control shipping container

Minnesota Thermal Science's Credo 4-2168 shipper container provides seven days of continuous thermal control for temperature-critical products. The con-

### Beckman to buy Olympus diagnostics unit

Beckman Coulter announced it will buy Olympus' lab-based diagnostics business for 77.45 billion yen, or \$800 million.

Beckman Coulter said the deal will provide the company with new chemistry products, more tests to sell to hospital laboratories, and new customers for its immune system tests. Beckman said it will cover \$500 million of the buyout costs by issuing new debt, with the remainder—up to 37.5 percent of the purchase price—paid for in Beckman Coulter stock.

Beckman said it does not think ratings agencies will revise their outlook on the company based on the new debt.

Olympus is a health care, life science, and consumer electronics company based in Tokyo. The diagnostics business is part of Olympus' life science unit.

Beckman Coulter said the buyout will add \$40 million to \$50 million to its adjusted profit in 2010, along with \$500 million in revenue. Beckman also believes it can save \$50 million to \$60 million by combining its sales, service, administrative, and research and development activities with those of Olympus.

Beckman Coulter expects the buyout to close in the third quarter of this year, pending regulatory approvals and other clearance.

Beckman Coulter, Circle No. 277  
Olympus, Circle No. 278

Phone: 800-742-2345  
Phone: 800-223-0125

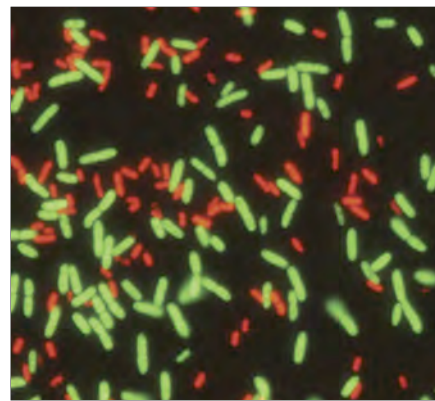
tainer can be shipped standard ground with no need for refrigerated transport, ice, or gel packs.

The container's thermal isolation chamber system surrounds its critical contents with phase-change material. The container also has vacuum insulation panels.

Minnesota Thermal Science, Circle No. 251  
Phone: 877-537-9800

### E. coli/P. aeruginosa test

AdvanDx has received FDA 510(k) clearance for its *E. coli*/*P. aeruginosa* PNA FISH test to identify *Escherichia coli* or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, or both, directly from positive blood cultures. PNA FISH tests now provide rapid species identification for the majority of gram-stain results in hours instead of days, enabling therapy guiding results for 95 to 99 percent of patients with positive blood cultures.



Red fluorescing cells (*P. aeruginosa*) and green fluorescing cells (*E. coli*)

Studies show that providing a 24-hour head start on appropriate narrow-spectrum therapy for gram-negative bloodstream infections may improve clinical outcomes, reduce antibiotic resistance rates, and reduce the incidences of adverse events. *E. coli*/*P. aeruginosa* PNA FISH will enable microbiology labs to provide clinicians with rapid, accurate gram-negative pathogen identification in hours.

PNA FISH is an easy-to-use, highly sensitive and specific fluorescence in situ hybridization assay that employs peptide nucleic acid probes to target species-specific ribosomal RNA in live bacteria and yeast.

AdvanDx, Circle No. 253  
Phone: 781-376-0009

### HbA1c APTT reagent

Olympus' hemoglobin A1c activated partial thromboplastin time reagent OSR61177, with fully automated onboard pretreatment for the determination of glycated hemoglobin in whole blood samples, is now available.

The assay is designed for use on the Olympus AU680 chemistry analyzer system, which features enhanced whole blood sampling for HbA1c testing. Testing is enabled by advanced sample probe diving depth and enhanced sample probe washing. Onboard pretreatment is supported by the system's sample prediluting capability.

Olympus, Circle No. 249  
Phone: 800-223-0125

### Tissue of origin test for FFPE specimens

Pathwork Diagnostics launched a version of its Pathwork tissue of origin test that has the capability to analyze formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue specimens. This molecular diagnostic test, which aids in the diagnosis of tumors with uncertain origins, is now available as a service through the CLIA-certified Pathwork Diagnostics Laboratory.

The test uses microarray technology to measure the expression pattern, comprising more than 1,500 genes, in a tumor with an uncertain origin and compares it with expression patterns of a panel of 15 known tumor types, representing 90 percent of all solid tumors and 58 overall morphologies.

In a clinical validation study using FFPE tumor specimens, the test demonstrated 89 percent positive percent agreement (akin to sensitivity) with available diagnoses and greater than 99 percent negative percent agreement (akin to specificity). The study consisted of 352 poorly differentiated and undifferentiated metastatic tumors that had been identified as one of the 15 tumor types on the panel using existing methods.

By adopting the tissue of origin test, physicians will be able to use objective criteria to identify the primary site of a tumor's origin. Targeting therapy to specific tumor types can also allow patients to avoid the toxicity of broader, and in

### Wako reports payment decisions for DCP tests

Wako Diagnostics reported the new clinical laboratory fee schedule test codes and final payment determinations by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for des-gamma-carboxy prothrombin, or DCP, tests. The new code number is CPT 83951. The national limitation amount for this code is \$89.99. This follows FDA 510(k) clearance of Wako's DCP test in January 2007.

DCP values are reported using the company's DCP reagents coupled with its liquid phase binding assay system instrument. Wako offers reagents and instrumentation directly to clinical laboratories.

Wako Diagnostics, Circle No. 213  
Phone: 877-714-1924