

TREK DIAGNOSTIC SYSTEMS

Vet

Update

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NEWS AND INSIGHT FOR THE
VETERINARY MICROBIOLOGY
LABORATORY

Customer Profile

**Michigan State University:
Vizion® Better than Krispy Kremes!**

*By Lori Moon, Bacteriology/Mycology Laboratory Supervisor
Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health,
Michigan State University*

All of the bacteriologists here at Michigan State University Diagnostic Center for Population & Animal Health are extremely happy with TREK's new Vizion digital imaging system.

No more straining your neck over the SensiTouch and fighting with the sometimes-uncooperative touch-pad! With the Vizion, you are seated as comfortably as you can be at the computer screen, selecting your choices with your mouse.

No more battling with overlays underneath the panel, either. They are all nicely programmed in the instrument with drug abbreviations and dilutions showing up on the screen, disappearing only as you reach each set of antimicrobial serial dilutions. This allows you to read panels without interference, and the colors of the abbreviations and dilutions can be easily

changed between black or white print.



The Vizion System represents true innovation, by providing a whole new way to visually read and record MIC results.

In addition, there is no need to save panels until the end of the day or over the week-end, since pictures of the panel results are stored in the computer. Here at Michi-

gan State, we have a new technologist-in-training at our laboratory and this is an excellent teaching tool. It is also nicely-documented proof of competency.

The Vizion makes this part of our workday just so easy- it's wonderful! It's one of those tasks that you don't have to fight with, or wonder if it's going to work. We like it so much, we don't care that it didn't come with a year's supply of Krispy Kremes, and if you knew us, you would know that means a lot!

For more information upgrading your SensiTouch to the Vizion System during TREK's Vizion Upgrade Event, see page 2 of this newsletter, *Calling All SensiTouch Users- Put a Vizion in Your Future!*

"The Vizion makes...our workday just so easy- it's wonderful!"

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Customer Profile (continued from page 1)

Calling All SensiTouch Users: Put a Vizion in Your Future!

By Joan Lamprecht, Associate Product Manager, TREK Diagnostic Systems

Plan *now* to put a Vizion instrument in your laboratory's future. Upgrading your current SensiTouch unit to a new Vizion is easy during our Vizion Upgrade Event.

The Vizion will allow you to enjoy all of the features you have always loved about Sensititre SWIN® software, in addition to providing digital images for isolates that currently require a manual read. You may continue to utilize your current SWIN monitor, or upgrade to a

new 17- inch touchscreen monitor.

Purchase now or include these items in your 2009 budget! Your Area Account Manager will be happy to provide you with all the information you need to bring the latest technology to your lab. For more information, contact your Area Account Manager in the U.S. at 800-871-8909, or internationally at +44 (0) 1342 318777.



Make your presentations come to life with full-color MIC plate images and epidemiology bar graphs.

TREK News

para-JEM® 5.4 Windows Software:

Upgrade is Available and Ready for your Johne's Needs

By DeAna Paustian, Global VersaTREK Product Manager, TREK Diagnostic Systems

If you have not taken the opportunity to upgrade to *para-JEM* Windows® Software, now is the time to experience this unparalleled software system.

As part of TREK's continuous improvement and commitment to our veterinary customers, *para-JEM* software version 5.4 is available and ready for use! All customers currently running *para-JEM* Windows Software will be upgraded to 5.4 within the next few months. For those still operating on DOS, the *para-JEM* Windows Software has so much to offer! Designed for ease of use, this intuitive icon-driven software program was developed to make your job a little easier in the fight against Johne's Disease. The software can be used with either the ESP® Culture System II, or the VersaTREK® Automated Microbial Detection System.

The listing below includes just some of the features offered through the *para-JEM* Windows Software:

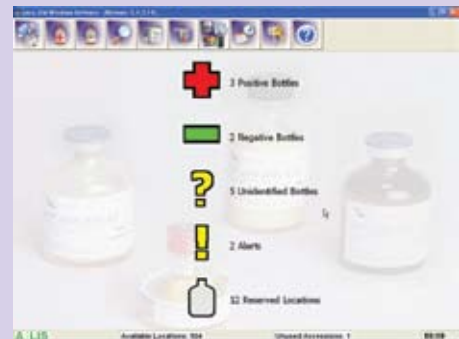
- Simple bottle management through large prominent icons that distinguish

positive bottles from completed negative bottles along with a count of the number of positives and negatives

- Drop-down lists with dictionary capability
- Auto-accession of samples
- Demographic fields to record shedder values and laboratory results such as molecular, immunological, and smear results
- Wide range of easy to view reports
- Automatic archive of data
- Automatic printing of reports; the user can schedule when and which reports to print
- Powerful search capabilities that allows the user to search on any demographic parameter on the screen
- *para-JEM* Online HELP for new users

From this list it is clear to see the numerous benefits *para-JEM* Windows has to offer over DOS. In addition to these features, integration from DOS to *para-JEM* Windows Software is

seamless. During the transition, one of TREK's Technical Support Specialists will be on-site to ensure everything runs smoothly, and will guide your laboratory through a concise but thorough training.



Designed for ease of use, *para-JEM*'s version 5.4 is now available for all customers currently running *para-JEM* Windows Software.

Please stop by the TREK booths, #309 and 311, at AAVLD to learn more about the software and participate in a hands-on demonstration. We encourage you to touch and feel the difference of *para-JEM* Windows Software.

NewProduct•Announcement

Coming Soon: Cefovecin on Sensititre® MIC Plates for Susceptibility Testing

By Joan Lamprecht, Associate Product Manager, TREK Diagnostic Systems

In June 2008, the FDA approved the first and only single-dose antibiotic for treatment of the most common skin infections in dogs and cats. Known as Convenia®, cefovecin is an injectable medication that replaces 14-day courses of oral therapy in pets.

Skin infections are the number one reason for antibiotic treatment in canines and felines, yet two-week dosing regimens are challenging to pet owners. Multiple caretakers, varying schedules and medication acceptance problems all lead to treatment failures and continuing discomfort for pets. Treatment with Convenia is a significant milestone, and can lead to complete treatment compliance in companion animals.

TREK Diagnostic Systems now offers cefovecin on custom Sensititre MIC plates for visual reading using the Vizion system (Part No. V2020-SYS), SensiTouch® or manual viewbox and

SWIN® software. In the spring of 2009, TREK will launch a new plate for companion animal testing that will include cefovecin as a standard MIC format.



Cefovecin is currently offered on custom Sensititre MIC plates for manual reading on the Vizion System or manual viewbox, and will be available on a standard format for automated reading on the ARIS 2X in Spring 2009.

TREK's customer service associates are happy to work with you to design a custom format to suit your needs. Only Sensititre offers custom panels in either dried or frozen formats with cor-

responding SWIN software. Call 800-879-8909 today to see how a custom format can fit your laboratory's needs.

Utilizing the ARIS® 2X System (Part No. V3000) or Vizion System (Part No. V2020-SYS) offers the additional advantage of managing epidemiologic data for antimicrobics by specific organisms, sources, species and veterinary practices. Make the most of your antimicrobial testing by utilizing SWIN and SWIN Epidemiology (Part No. SW120) in your lab.

TREK representatives look forward to meeting with you at AAVLD to discuss the proposed MIC plate format. Also, be sure to look for our upcoming customer survey e-mail in the next few months on proposed companion animal format changes.

NewProduct•Announcement

Announcing *Staphylococcus schleiferi* Identification on Gram Positive Plates

By Joan Lamprecht, Associate Product Manager, TREK Diagnostic Systems

Have you been working to manually identify *Staphylococcus schleiferi* isolates in your laboratory? Identification of these isolates has become increasingly important in the diagnosis and treatment of otitis in pets.

Staphylococcus schleiferi identifications will be available using Sensititre Gram positive identification plates (Part No. GPID) in the coming months. The change will be implemented through a simple SWIN software update, making the enhancement to our product seamless for your laboratory. All of your current and future inventory of GPID product will identify this organism.



*Sensititre Gram positive identification plates for manual or automated reading will begin to include *Staphylococcus schleiferi* in the coming months.*

If you are not a current ARIS 2X (Part No. V3000) or AutoReader (Part No.

V3029) customer, contact your Area Account Manager in the U.S. at 800-871-8909, or internationally at +44 (0) 1342 318777 to see how you can incorporate Sensititre identification products into your laboratory

TREK•News

Sensititre® YeastOne® Products- Expand Antifungal Test Options in Your Lab Today

By Jenny Lorbach, Global Director of Marketing, TREK Diagnostic Systems

Recently, TREK introduced its newest susceptibility plate for antifungal testing methods as a standard product. The newest format includes a variety of novel agents, including Micafungin (Mycamine, Astellas Pharma US, Inc.), Anidulafungin (Eraxis, Pfizer Inc.), Caspofungin (Cancidas, Merck & Co.) and Posaconazole (Noxafil, Schering-Plough).

More diagnostic veterinary laboratories and research facilities are inquiring about the availability of test methods for antifungal susceptibility testing as more standardized methods become available. Sensititre YeastOne is the only colorimetric micro broth dilution method providing 24-hour results for antifungal susceptibility testing. In addition, new references for filamentous fungi testing using the current Yeast-



TREK's newest YeastOne format (Part No. YO9*) contains the latest antimicrobics, including Micafungin, Anidulafungin, Caspofungin and Posaconazole.

One methodology are included in the technical insert for this new MIC plate.

In order to implement Sensititre YeastOne MIC plates into your testing protocol, you will also need to purchase Sensititre YeastOne broth (Part No. Y3462). All additional set up procedures are similar to other Sensititre

MIC plates regarding standardization of inoculum and transfer to broth. Sensititre YeastOne plates can be read manually with a mirror or on the new Sensititre Vizion system depending on your laboratory needs.

To learn more about Sensititre YeastOne plates, contact your Area Account Manager in the U.S. at 800-871-8909, or internationally at +44 (0) 1342 318777.

Antimicrobial	Dilution Range
Amphotericin B	0.12 - 8 µg/ml
5-Flucytosine	0.06 - 64 µg/ml
Anidulafungin	0.015 - 8 µg/ml
Caspofungin	0.008 - 8 µg/ml
Micafungin	0.008 - 8 µg/ml
Fluconazole	0.12 - 256 µg/ml
Itraconazole	0.015 - 16 µg/ml
Posaconazole	0.008 - 8 µg/ml
Voriconazole	0.008 - 8 µg/ml

*For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

Special•Announcement- NARMS Gram Positive MIC Format

Sensititre NARMS Plate 2009 Formats- Veterinary Update

By Jenny Lorbach, Global Director of Marketing, TREK Diagnostic Systems

The National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System (NARMS) committee will be meeting during September 2008 to design the 2009 Gram positive MIC format.

One of the reasons for the MIC plate change is the unavailability of Flavomycin from the manufacturer. In addition, the NARMS committee had anticipated changes would be required at the start of 2009 to meet the primary study requirements.

At this time, we will no longer supply NARMS Gram Positive MIC Format,

Part No. CMV2AGPF, as a standard MIC format. This will be the first change to the Gram positive MIC format in several years. If you wish to continue testing Gram positive isolates with the existing format, it can be manufactured as a custom MIC plate, without Flavomycin, in lot sizes of 500 or more.

We will advise you of the new format and its availability date as soon as we have confirmation of the final design. Notifications will be sent via e-mail and letters to all veterinary laboratories that currently purchase this MIC plate. At this time, we do not anticipate any

design changes to the Gram negative format, Part No. CMV1AGNF.

In the meantime, if you have any additional questions regarding the need for a custom MIC plate, please contact our Customer Service Department in the US at 1-800-871-8909 or internationally at +44 (0) 1342 318777.

TREK•News

Electronic Technical Information Saves Time *and* Trees

TREK is 'going green', and making it easier for Sensititre® customers to retrieve technical information for susceptibility and identification plates. As of May 2008, Sensititre customers have been able to access all technical information electronically through the TREK website! The electronic technical information will replace the paper copies currently included in the plate boxes.

Customers will be able to visit www.trekds.com/techinfo to access:

- **Technical Inserts**
- **Performance Data**
- **Quality Control Ranges**
- **Interpretation Documents**
- **SWIN® Barcode Sheets**
- **Quality Control Certificates**
- **Panel Layouts, including specific QC ranges**

The new TechInfo Search Tool gives Sensititre customers easy access to all the documents they need in easy-to-read PDF format, with the added benefit of up-to-the-minute updates. Updated documents are posted directly to the site in real time, so customers do not have to keep track of the most recent hard copies.

In addition to the convenience of the new process, discontinuing paper copies of technical inserts and other documents routinely included in the shipment significantly reduces waste for our customers. Reducing waste and cutting down on paper consumption is a small change that can have a big impact on our environment!

Finally, another big advantage of this

global project is the label changes. Labels now contain IVD and CE markings, when appropriate, which allows TREK to streamline manufacturing processes and increase susceptibility plate options globally.

In order to access the site, users need to register and create a user account and password. Once created, they enter the plate type and lot number into the website, and the system automatically retrieves all relevant documents related to the specific combination. Users can then review PDFs, download them to their computer, or print them out as hard copies.

A formal announcement of this change was sent to all Sensititre customers and distributors this Spring, along with information related to the new process to access technical information. For any questions relating to this change, please contact TREK in the U.S. at 800-871-8909, or internationally at +44 (0) 1342 318777.



Sensititre customers can now access all technical information related to their panels through the TREK website.



After logging in, users enter their plate type and lot number to retrieve relevant information related to their plates.



With the unique combination of plate type and lot number, the new TechInfo Search Tool is able to retrieve all of the relevant technical documents related to a user's plates.

TREK•News

TREK Lab Services Participates in External Quality Assurance Program by World Health Organization

By Scott Killian, Lab Services Group Director, TREK Diagnostic Systems

A laboratory's quality assurance program is an important aspect for validating results that the laboratory generates. Participation in external quality assurance systems, combined with a good internal quality assurance program is a useful tool for production of consistently reliable laboratory results. One such external program that TREK's Lab Services department participates in is the "External Quality Assurance System of the World Health Organizations Global Salm-Surv".

The Collaborating Center for Antimicrobial Resistance in Foodborne Pathogens National Food Institute, Copenhagen V, Denmark, manages the External Quality Assurance System (EQAS) Global Salmonella Surveillance (GSS) as a collaborating center for the World Health Organization (WHO). The EQAS GSS objective is to monitor the proficiency of laboratories contributing to GSS database.

The GSS database is a repository of Salmonella serotype and antimicrobial susceptibility results from participating laboratories around the world. Each year, laboratories that are part of the GSS participate in the EQAS GSS, and receive 8-10 anonymous strains of Salmonella by mail for serotyping and antimicrobial testing.

The strains are tested by each laboratory's routinely used methods, and results are reported to the National Food Institute. The laboratories are not required to report on the sections that are not routinely performed in their lab.

Each submitting laboratory then receives a report detailing how well it performed under full anonymity. The identity of individual laboratories is not revealed to other GSS contributing laboratories, or to third parties. Once the

results of each cycle of the EQAS have been evaluated, a final summary report is prepared and distributed to all GSS laboratories. Reports from previous years can be accessed at <http://www.antimicrobialresistance.dk/233-169-215-eqas.htm>.

While TREK Lab Services is not a contributing laboratory to the GSS, there are many labs around the world that contribute to the GSS that use Sensititre plates routinely for their antimicrobial susceptibility testing. Therefore, TREK Lab Services participates in the EQAS GSS to assess how Sensititre plates are performing, and to provide an external quality assurance gauge of our testing.



Numerous labs around the world routinely use Sensititre Veterinary Plates, and therefore report their results for the Global Salmonella Surveillance using Sensititre products.

Each year, Lab Services receive the anonymous strains with a detailed protocol and recording and reporting instructions. We then test and report susceptibility results generated using standard Sensititre Veterinary Plates. TREK does not have a serotyping assay; therefore we do not report results for that section of the EQAS GSS.

For the 2007 EQAS GSS program, a total of 198 laboratories around the world were enrolled. When the deadline for submitting results was reached,

156 laboratories from 76 countries had submitted their data. Of these, 143 submitted antimicrobial susceptibility results: 119 used disk diffusion and 24 used MIC determination.

A total of 12,976 antimicrobial susceptibility tests were performed. Of these, 93% were in agreement with expected results. A total of 6% minor, 2% major and 1% very major deviation were observed. Interestingly, no specific strain caused major difficulties to the antimicrobials tested.

Each year, a susceptibility QC strain is also provided, and laboratories are required to submit results for it. Surprisingly, a high number of laboratories reported results outside of the quality control range- especially those that use disk diffusion. This problem typically arises from non-standardized methods or improper storage of antimicrobial disks and or media.

The report from the 2007 program mentioned that throughout each of the years the program has been in place, the quality of results have increased every year. The WHO EQAS attributes these improvements to increased efforts in global harmonization of susceptibility testing. The WHO EQAS also reports that, "Regional data demonstrate important differences in antimicrobial susceptibility results. Particular focus is required for Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East. The laboratories' continuous participation in the WHO-GSS-EQAS in these regions is low and only a few training courses have been conducted by WHO GSS in these regions so far. In addition, unpublished data from the survey conducted in this year indicates that the availability of reagents for many laboratories in developing countries poses a challenge as resources are limited"

TREK•News (continued from page 6)

TREK Lab Services Participates in External Quality Assurance Program by World Health Organization

By Scott Killian, Lab Services Group Director, TREK Diagnostic Systems

In the 2007 assessment, for 84 antimicrobial susceptibility test results that TREK Lab Services generated, we were in agreement for all 84 results or *100% in agreement*. For the *E. coli* CLSI QC reference strain provided, we were within the expected CLSI range on all antimicrobials tested. These results are due in part to the exceptional performance and quality of the Sensititre product, and TREK's efforts to keep abreast of the latest updates in antimicrobial susceptibility testing standards.



Of the 84 test results that TREK Lab Services generated using Sensititre plates, a total of 84 results or 100% were in agreement.

Lab Services will continue to participate in the WHO GSS as an important part of our quality assurance program and assessment of the Sensititre Susceptibility System. In fact, the strains for the 2008 EQAS GSS just arrived in our laboratory today!

TREK Sensititre Anaerobe MIC Plate- An Easy Micro Broth Alternative to Agar Methods

By Jenny Lorbach, Global Director of Marketing, TREK Diagnostic Systems

One TREK product to consider to make your anaerobe susceptibility test methods complete is the Sensititre Anaerobe MIC plate, Part No. AN02B*. This plate provides results within 46 to 48 hours of inoculation, and follows an easy set up protocol compared to agar dilution methods. Once a 0.5 McFarland is achieved in MHB, 100 microliters are transferred to 11ml Supplemented Brucella Broth (Part No. T3451*) before inoculation into the anaerobe microbroth dilution plate. All plates are incubated within an anaerobic incubator or anaerobic chamber for the appropriate amount of time.

MIC results are easy to read, based on the presence of growth/no growth in each of the wells. In addition, each anaerobe MIC plate contains positive growth control wells to ensure consistency in determining the presences/absences of growth. Anaerobe MIC plates can be read manually or with the aid of our Sensititre Vizion System, operated by SWIN software. The Vizion System allows you to view a digital image of the



The Anaerobe MIC format offers laboratories an easy alternative to labor-intensive agar dilution procedures.

anaerobe MIC plate with different light options to ensure optimal reading conditions are met during the reading process. In addition, SWIN software contains recent CLSI interpretations for all appropriate antimicrobics to aid in the reporting process.

The anaerobe MIC plate contains the following antimicrobics and dilutions:

Antimicrobial	Dilution Range (µg/ml)
Ampicillin/Sulbactam	0.5/0.25 - 16/8

Antimicrobial	Dilution Range (µg/ml)
Amoxicillin/Clavulanic acid	0.5/0.25 - 16/8
Ampicillin	0.5 - 16
Cefotetan	4 - 64
Cefoxitin	1 - 32
Chloramphenicol	2 - 64
Clindamycin	0.25 - 8
Imipenem	0.12 - 8
Meropenem	0.5 - 8
Metronidazole	0.5 - 16
Mezlocillin	4 - 128
Penicillin	0.06 - 4
Piperacillin	4 - 128
Piperacillin/Tazobactam	0.25/4 - 128/4
Tetracycline	0.25 - 8

Implement the anaerobe MIC plate today and immediately recognize these benefits:

- Standardized inoculum, yields less repeats,
- Extended shelf life and individual packaging eliminates waste, and
- Precise endpoint determination and accurate MICs.

*For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.



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TREK will be showcasing their wide range of innovative products for the veterinary microbiology laboratory, including the new Vision® System, at AAALD's 51st Annual Meeting, which will be held October 24-26 in Greensboro, North Carolina at the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel.

Automated Microbial Detection System, as well as the Vision System. The Vision System, TREK's latest addition to the Sensitive product line, features full-color MIC plate images for easy MIC reading, and links to the powerful SWIN software, with expert review and epidemiology options.

Visit TREK at Booth #309 and 311 to see demonstrations on the VersaTREK products, stop by Booth #309 and 311.

Join TREK in Greensboro for AAALD 2008!

Also, be sure to mark your calendar for TREK's annual invitation-only dinner on October 25th from 6:30-9:30pm in the Billmore Room at the Sheraton Greensboro. See you in Greensboro!



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Your **TREK Vet** is Enclosed!
Update