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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **3M Molecular Detection Assay for Salmonella Receives AOAC-PTM Approval**

**Certification validates system's ability to detect the *Salmonella* organism,  
one of the most common causes of foodborne illness**

ST. PAUL, Minn. – April 19, 2012 – 3M Food Safety announced today that its new 3M™ Molecular Detection Assay – *Salmonella* has received AOAC-PTM Certification (#031208) from the AOAC Research Institute's Performance Tested Methods<sup>SM</sup> Program.

The 3M™ Molecular Detection System was first introduced in December 2011 as an innovative combination of two technologies – isothermal DNA amplification and bioluminescence detection – that offers a reliable and rapid qualitative method of pathogen detection in enriched food, feed and food process environmental samples. The AOAC-PTM certification validates 3M's unique, molecular approach as equivalent to or better than standard FDA and USDA reference methods for the detection of *Salmonella*. It is projected that there are as many as 2 to 4 million cases of salmonellosis every year in the U.S.

The AOAC Research Institute bases certification of methods on independent study results demonstrating that a given method meets the claims expressed in package inserts. For the 3M Molecular Detection Assay - *Salmonella* method PTM study, artificially contaminated samples were enriched and evaluated by the 3M Molecular Detection System as well as the appropriate FDA or USDA FSIS reference methods. These samples included evaluation of meat, poultry, eggs, seafood, produce and pet foods. No statistically significant differences in sample results were observed between the 3M Molecular Detection Assay - *Salmonella* and these reference methods.

“This method validation is an important milestone, constituting the first of what we believe will be many confirmations of a robust and capable technology,” said DeAnn Benesh, regulatory affairs specialist with 3M Food Safety. “Evaluation of *Salmonella*, and other pathogens using this technology, continues to be very promising, underscoring how the 3M Molecular Detection System's simple, streamlined method provides accurate results.”

3M Food Safety is pursuing additional global method validations for the 3M Molecular Detection Assay – *Salmonella* to present to the marketplace. The company developed the 3M Molecular Detection System and its test kits with the needs of its worldwide food processing clientele in mind, involving them early on in the design process. Ultimately, a small but powerful technology was produced, capable of targeting and amplifying nucleic acid in enriched samples with great success.

For more information, [www.3M.com/3MMolecularDetectionSystem/SALAOAC](http://www.3M.com/3MMolecularDetectionSystem/SALAOAC)

**AOAC RI**, based in Gaithersburg, MD, is a subsidiary of AOAC International, a globally recognized, independent, not-for-profit association founded in 1884. AOAC serves communities of the analytical sciences by providing the tools and processes necessary to develop voluntary consensus standards or technical standards through stakeholder consensus and working groups in which the fit-for-purpose and method performance criteria are established and fully documented. AOAC provides a science-based solution and its Official Methods of Analysis gives defensibility, credibility and confidence in decision-making. AOAC Official Methods are accepted and recognized worldwide.

**3M Food Safety** is a leader of innovative solutions that help the food and beverage industries optimize the quality and safety of their products to enable consumer protection. At every step, 3M Food Safety provides solutions that help mitigate risk, improve operational efficiencies and impact the bottom line.

**3M** captures the spark of new ideas and transforms them into thousands of ingenious products. Its culture of creative collaboration inspires a never-ending stream of powerful technologies that make life better. 3M is the innovation company that never stops inventing. With \$30 billion in sales, 3M employs 84,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 65 countries. For more information, visit [www.3M.com](http://www.3M.com) or follow @3MNews on Twitter.

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