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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3M Petrifilm Rapid Aerobic Count Plate Earns Official Methods of Analysis Distinction by AOAC International

ST. PAUL, Minn. (December 14, 2015) – 3M Food Safety announced today that its 3M™ Petrifilm™ Rapid Aerobic Count Plate has been granted Official Method of Analysis status by AOAC INTERNATIONAL (OMA method number 2015.13). The 3M Petrifilm Rapid Aerobic Count Plate detects and accurately enumerates aerobic bacteria counts in just 24 hours for most food matrices and environmental samples. 3M introduced the plate in January 2015 as a faster and superior indicator test alternative to conventional agar methods, having received certification from the AOAC® Performance Tested MethodsSM program prior to its customer launch.

Food and beverage processors are constantly under pressure to make time-sensitive decisions, so the ability to efficiently and reliably detect and count aerobic bacteria is critical. Proven to be as effective as standard agar plating methods, the 3M Petrifilm Rapid Aerobic Count Plate uses proprietary indicator technology to facilitate swift counting of aerobic bacteria colonies, helping food companies maximize worker productivity, make smart cleaning decisions and improve the quality and safety of their products.

“We are proud to be taking yet another innovative step forward with the seventeenth addition to the 3M Petrifilm Plate portfolio and our tenth product offering that delivers results in 24-hours or less,” said Jason Semerad, global marketing manager, 3M Food Safety. “But an even greater source of pride is saving food and beverage processing plants time and capital and maintaining the highest degree of accuracy and reliability so that their hard-earned brand equity is protected.”

AOAC INTERNATIONAL facilitates consensus and technical standards for the analytical science communities. Food processor, university, government and contract testing laboratories around the world rely on AOAC-OMA validation rigor when choosing chemical, microbial and molecular testing methods. The approval process for becoming an Official Method involves intense review by multiple, independent laboratories and subsequently by an expert review panel. The full study conducted for the AOAC-OMA validation of the 3M Petrifilm Rapid Aerobic Count Plate will be published in an upcoming edition of the *Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL* and made available online at <http://eoma.aoac.org/>.

Today, 91 of the top 100 U.S. food processing companies rely on 3M for their indicator testing needs. The sample-ready system uses an easy three-step process: inoculation, incubation (at 32°C or 35°C) and enumeration. The system contains nutrients, a coldwater-soluble gelling agent, and a dual-sensing indicator technology that facilitates colony enumeration for most food types.

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. For more information, please visit www.3M.com/PFRACAOACOMA

About AOAC INTERNATIONAL

AOAC INTERNATIONAL is a worldwide provider and facilitator in the development, use and harmonization of validated analytical methods. AOAC methods are used globally to promote trade and to facilitate public health and public safety. AOAC has two programs by which methods are evaluated and approved: AOAC-PTM and AOAC-OMA.

About 3M

3M captures the spark of new ideas and transforms them into thousands of ingenious products. Our 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 \$31 billion in sales, 3M employs 89,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 70 countries. For more information, visit www.3M.com or follow [@3MNews](https://twitter.com/3MNews) on Twitter.

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