

## QIAGEN Enables Efforts to Eradicate Costly Cattle Disease

Microsynth AG is one of a few laboratories accredited by the Swiss government to perform tests for BVDV. The laboratory has signed exclusive contracts with several Swiss cantons accounting for about one-third of the Swiss cattle population to perform both initial tests based upon tissue samples and follow-up tests to verify positive results using blood samples. The main phase of the program will last three months and is scheduled to start in October 2008. Unlike in other countries, the Swiss program is designed to test every single animal, thus putting highest demands on test methodology and logistics.

Microsynth is pioneering the implementation of molecular testing for primary screening of BVDV, which provides several unique benefits compared to traditional testing methods aiming at viral antibodies or antigens. QIAGEN's cadov BVDV assay is based on the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technology and can detect even tiny traces of viral RNA from a wide range of biological samples. Unlike traditional methods, PCR enables the direct detection of the pathogen itself independent of the immune status of an animal, which is also important for the screening of newborn calves. The assay enables the testing of pooled samples and is suited for high-throughput settings. It has already proven successful by Microsynth in screening 50,000 samples from young animals before their first summer pasture. During the main phase of the eradication program, Microsynth expects to process as many as 350,000 biological samples in just three months. The agreement also covers continuing screening of newborn calves through October 2009.

The success of the eradication program depends on the identification and elimination of all animals persistently infected with BVDV, as the disease often occurs without symptoms and thus frequently remains unnoticed. QIAGEN's assay technologies guarantee highest sensitivity and specificity while processing large numbers of samples", said Simone Gauch, QIAGEN's Global Marketing Director Applied Testing. "QIAGEN products set standards for surveillance of infectious veterinary diseases and are being used by more than 80 renowned institutions around the globe. Our partnership with Microsynth further strengthens this leadership position and is proof for our competitive strength."

Our company has a long history of commitment to innovative, reliable and high-quality solutions ensuring the highest satisfaction of our customers", said Dr. Tobias Schmidheini, CEO of Microsynth AG. "That's why we have chosen to use QIAGEN's molecular assays in primary BVDV screenings during the national eradication program. We believe that this state of the art technology fully satisfies our significant demands on our high-throughput BVDV testing procedure that is both highly sensitive and reliable."

In addition to the supply agreement with Microsynth AG, QIAGEN will also provide a complete testing solution incorporating the automation instrument BioRobot Universal, QIAamp sample preparation technologies and the cadov BVDV assay to the Institute of Veterinary Virology at the University of Bern. The institute serves as the government-approved official BVDV reference laboratory for Switzerland and partnered with QIAGEN during the development of the PCR-based cadov BVDV assay. This molecular test has set standards for BVDV screening in Switzerland and is widely used for confirmatory testing of positive samples, which have been identified using traditional immunological assays.

An estimated 60 to 85 percent of the worldwide cattle population which exceeds 1.3 billion animals are exposed to the Bovine Viral Diarrhea virus. The disease can lead to a dramatic reduction in the infected animal's weight. Because many BVDV infections go unnoticed and due to differences in the various national economies, it is hard to estimate the global economic impact of the disease. In Germany, experts estimate that the annual economic damage can reach up to US\$115 per animal. That's why several countries including Norway, Sweden, Austria and Germany have already implemented corresponding eradication programs or have discussed their implementation.

About BVD Bovine Viral Diarrhea is one of the most widespread cattle diseases. The infectious disease caused by the Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus (BVDV) is closely related to the Classical Swine-Fever-Virus. In many cases, BVDV infections occur without symptoms and thus remain unnoticed by farmers. However, some variations of BVD such as Mucosal Disease (MD) are almost always lethal. Most damage is caused by BVDV infections occurring during pregnancy, as they often lead to persistent infections in newborn calves. Persistently infected (PI) animals typically exhibit decreased weight gain, increased disease vulnerability and reduced fertility. Also, PI animals are the main source of new infections with the disease. BVDV does not affect humans.

About Microsynth Microsynth AG, located near the border triangle of Germany, Austria and Switzerland, was founded in 1989 as the first private DNA synthesis laboratory in Switzerland. Through continuous development and implementation of new technologies on a high quality level, Microsynth established itself as a highly-recognized provider of products, and services such as DNA and RNA synthesis, GMO analysis, genotyping, and DNA sequencing. The company's products are widely used in academic research, biotechnology, pharmaceutical industry, and in hospitals. Microsynth officially completed the certification process for all departments according to ISO 9001:2000. Moreover, Microsynth achieved the accreditation of the analysis divisions according to ISO 17025. The company's vast experience with lab-automation and PCR-based analysis methods predestined Microsynth for the high-throughput analysis of bovine samples for the presence of BVD-virus. Further information about Microsynth can

be found at [www.microsynth.ch](http://www.microsynth.ch).

Disi Mandinima (DSM Dyneema)

Disi Mandinima companies of the Netherlands (DSM Dyneema)

On the Disi Mandinima (DSM Dyneema)

Disi Mandinima is the world's super fiber - fiber Dyneema the inventors and manufacturers. fiber Dyneema polyethylene fibre is a superpower, able to minimize the weight provides the greatest intensity. By weight, than the strength of its high-quality steel products 15 times as many as 40 percent stronger than Kevlar. Dyneema fiber can be floating on the surface of the water, with excellent durability, moisture-resistant, resistant to ultraviolet light and chemical-resistant nature, its broader use. Dyneema fiber is the shipping and maritime industry in the rope, cable, fishing nets an important component of raw materials. It can also be used for metal processing industry, the safety gloves, sports goods and medical industries in the use of fine yarn. In addition, Dyneema fibers can also be used for police and military personnel of the bullet-proof armor and bulletproof clothing.

Dyneema fiber Heerlen in the Netherlands and the United States of Greenville, North Carolina, both production. Disi Mandinima or a Japanese ultra-high molecular weight polypropylene fiber production joint venture companies, one joint venture.

For more Disi Mandinima company information, please visit [www.dyneema.com](http://www.dyneema.com)

About DSM (DSM) - in lives and materials science company

DSM for life and materials science, two areas of innovative products and services to help people improve the quality of life. DSM's products and services are widely used in a number of the world market, providing people with more healthy, more sustainable and more enjoyable life. Its end markets, including human and animal nutrition and health, personal care, pharmaceuticals, automobiles, paints, electrical and electronic (E E), protection and residential life, and so on. DSM annual sales of close to 8.8 billion euros in the world, with 20,003 more than 1,000 employees. The company is headquartered in the Netherlands, both in the world with offices on five continents. DSM has been in Amsterdam, the Netherlands stock market listing. Visit [www.dsm.com](http://www.dsm.com)

March 28, 2008, the Netherlands, URMOND - in the May 28-June 1 in the world of biological material General Assembly (World Biomaterials Congress), the DSM will introduce a new type of high-performance Poly Dyneema Purity En-fiber, the product was much smaller in diameter under the conditions of existing products and provide the same high intensity. In particular, this new product can help medical equipment manufacturers in no loss of strength and durability under the premise of minimally invasive surgery for more small-scale design of the implants. Dyneema Purity series of products is the expansion of DSM is committed to the biomedical market an example. Through innovation and materials and medical equipment company, DSM has always been committed to assisting the development of new medical equipment companies used to enhance the patient's clinical medical treatment methods, including faster healing and less scarring surgery.

March 28, 2008, the Netherlands, URMOND - in the May 28-June 1 in the world of biological material General Assembly (World Biomaterials Congress), will recommend DSM Dyneema Purity series of high-performance polyethylene fiber An important product line, its main features is a longer life and strength than the original products increased 25 percent. This new material, Dyneema Purity UG designed to meet long-term, stable performance can provide a strong and stable plastic surgery implants needs of the development. DSM putting in a lot of resources for the development of specialized Dyneema Purity series of products. To meet the medical and surgical specific requirements and help upgrade medical equipment companies therapeutic effect, through innovation and materials and medical equipment company, DSM is committed to enhancing the development of implants of the new solution.

December 6, 2007, the Netherlands, URMOND-DIMENSION-POLYANT and Disi Mandinima announced today that the use of the world's most powerful fiber Dyneema made of canvas new D4 film is very satisfied with the performance. This innovative D4 sail material was Marc Emig and Bertrand de Broc in an Open 40 yacht used, on behalf of AST Groupe Fran aise participate in the range of 4,300 miles of the Central Atlantic Jacques Vabre. After Lee Dover from the start of France, to Salvador, Brazil this long race across the Atlantic after the sail remains the perfect state.

About the Author

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