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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3M Petrifilm Rapid *E. coli*/Coliform Count Plate Earns *Official Methods of Analysis* Distinction from AOAC INTERNATIONAL

The rapid indicator test also earns Certificate of Compliance from MicroVal

ST. PAUL, Minn. – Jan. 24, 2019 – 3M Food Safety announced today that the 3M™ Petrifilm™ Rapid *E. coli*/Coliform Count Plate has been granted the *Official Methods of Analysis*SM validation by AOAC® INTERNATIONAL. The plate, which had previously earned the AOAC® *Performance Tested Method*SM certification as well, is a next day indicator test that quantifies the presence of *E. coli* and other coliform bacteria. 3M introduced the two-in-one indicator test in February 2018 as a versatile microbial test that enables food and beverage processors to realize greater operational efficiencies and ship products sooner.

“We are thrilled that this test has been recognized as an official testing method,” said Adriana Robayo Niño, 3M Food Safety global marketing manager. “Our aim is to always provide reliable, accurate solutions that save our customers both time and money, and the 3M Petrifilm Rapid *E. coli*/Coliform Count Plate has succeeded in that goal.”

The 3M Petrifilm Rapid *E. coli*/Coliform Count Plate provides a marked improvement in attaining actionable time-to-result over competitive technologies by requiring only three simple steps: inoculation, incubation and interpretation. By eliminating subsequent confirmation steps required with most traditional reference methods and enabling a simultaneous dual readout, the plate increases productivity and reduces overall lab costs.

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® *Official Method of Analysis* validation of the 3M Petrifilm Rapid *E. coli*/Coliform Count Plate will be published in an upcoming edition of the Journal of AOAC INTERNATIONAL and will be made available online at <http://eoma.aoac.org>

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. These programs are the AOAC OMA and PTM programs.

MicroVal Certification

The 3M Petrifilm Rapid *E. coli*/Coliform Count Plate also recently earned a Certificate of Compliance from MicroVal, ISO 16140-2, an international certification organization. MicroVal tested the release on a wide variety of matrices and also found that the product was equivalent or better than a standard reference method.

“MicroVal is a very well-respected organization and the Certificate of Compliance is an important certification for our customers that speaks to the strength of the technology,” said Robayo.

3M Food Safety is a leader of innovative solutions that help the food and beverage industries optimize the quality and safety of their products in order to enable consumer protection and improve their bottom lines. Individuals who wish to order the 3M Petrifilm Rapid *E. coli*/Coliform Count Plate, or learn more about it and other 3M products, are invited to contact their regional sales representative, call (800) 328-6553 or visit <http://3M.com/RapidEcoli>.

About 3M

At 3M, we apply science in collaborative ways to improve lives daily. With \$32 billion in sales, our 91,000 employees connect with customers all around the world. Learn more about 3M’s creative solutions to the world’s problems at www.3M.com on Twitter at @3M or @3MNewsroom.

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