

LabTech Systems Ltd (ACN 107 670 673)

NSX COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

NSX codes LTS, LTSOA, LTSOB

11:30AM EST
Thursday 21 April 2005

MicroStreak™ Prototype Applicator Brush Developed

LabTech Systems has developed a patented new technology (MicroStreak) to allow the automated inoculation and streaking of specimens on to standard agar culture plates as an alternative to the labour intensive methods traditionally used in diagnostic microbiology laboratories.

A prototype MicroStreak applicator has been successfully developed. Preliminary testing of the MicroStreak applicator has confirmed its ability to inoculate high concentration bacterial suspensions on to standard agar plates and spread the inoculum such that large numbers of isolated colonies form after incubation.

The isolation and identification of micro-organisms for medical diagnostic purposes plays an important role in determining which treatments are required by patients with various diseases. Currently, conventional diagnostic microbiology involves labour-intensive, manual processing of laboratory specimens to isolate single bacterial colonies.

Traditionally, inoculation and streaking of specimens is performed manually using a wire loop. MicroStreak is a disposable plastic applicator, ultimately to be incorporated into an automated robotic system.

The quality of MicroStreak results matches or exceeds those achieved using traditional techniques.

LabTech Systems intends to incorporate the MicroStreak applicator into a fully automated platform capable of processing specimens with much greater efficiency than allowed by current techniques.

Commercial development of the MicroStreak technology is being actively pursued during 2005.