

Testingfocus

EUROFINS FOOD GROUP NEWSLETTER | ISSUE 6 • SUMMER 2012

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Eurofins' New Home

LEAD STORY

Eurofins Food Testing UK has moved from the company's existing site in Wolverhampton to a new purpose built HQ based at the i54 Business Park in Wolverhampton, just off Junction 2 of the M54. Eurofins has been joined by international businesses such as Moog and Jaguar Land Rover on this prestigious site.

The new 40,000 square foot facility is now home to 150 people and combines high specification laboratories with office space for UK back office functions. At just 4 miles from the existing facility, the move has taken place with excellent retention of staff and minimal disruption to clients.

Eurofins staff have had a high level of involvement in the design of the building, with 'lean thinking' applied throughout to ensure the most efficient flow of samples through the laboratory. Considerable investment has been made in new equipment, meaning customers have an unrivalled service partner offering best-in-class testing facilities and service.

"Our business relies on rapid collection and analysis of food samples and so i54 was perfectly situated in the heart of the Midlands motorway network. As a purpose-built HQ we have been able to create an environment that meets both the needs of our customers and staff. The facility will mean increased capacity,



allowing us to grow the business and create new jobs in the future. We are very excited about the move and our future prospects," explains Graeme Risdon, Managing Director of Eurofins Food Testing UK.

Eurofins will be hosting an opening event and series of events in the autumn for customers to tour the facilities.

Please note our new address and telephone number on the back. 🌐

HELLO

Testingfocus



Welcome

Welcome to our new facility at i54, Wolverhampton. This is an exciting time for both staff and customers as we unveil our new, state of the art facility.

For those of you who have moved house, you will know how stressful a move can be but factor into this 150 staff, 10 different laboratories, countless instruments and equipment and the task is daunting. However, I must extend our thanks to the staff and the team who worked tirelessly over the move to ensure minimal disruption to our clients.

We look forward to welcoming you over the next few months to view our new facility and to benefit from a number of events that we will be offering, not only to show off our new venue but to continue to expand the knowledge of the industry on emerging issues and technologies.

Liz Paterson, Sales and Marketing Director UK Food
lizpaterson@eurofins.co.uk

PASS Appoints New Unit Manager

Public Analyst Scientific Services (PASS), which is part of the Eurofins group and provides independent legislative advice and interpretation of test results to the enforcement authorities, has appointed John Waller as Public Analyst and Business Unit Manager in Norwich following the retirement of Stephen Guffogg.

John's 30 year career spans both public and private Public Analyst laboratories. He joined County of Avon Scientific Services in 1978 before moving to J & HS Pattinson of Newcastle-upon-

Tyne in 1988. In 1991 John joined Leicestershire County Council Scientific Services as Deputy Public Analyst and in 1997 he became Head of Scientific Services and Public Analyst.

PASS



John Waller, Public Analyst and Business Unit Manager

The 27 strong PASS team includes eight public analysts, all of whom hold the MChemA qualification required by legislation. ❁

An Expert Eye on Emerging Pathogens

EXPERT EYE

What makes an organism become a pathogen and a threat to the food industry? Keith Watkins, Microbiology Specialist at Eurofins explains:

The definition of 'emerging food pathogens' is vast. They may be pathogens which you have not heard of, are not associated with food, are now affecting new products, being spread by new means or are micro-organisms that have spread to new geographical locations.

Alternatively, emerging food pathogens could be strains of organisms that you have heard of, but now other species in the group are being highlighted as possible food pathogens. This can happen through evolution, genetic mutation and new resistance patterns.

When assessing whether an organism will become an effective pathogen, there are three factors to consider;

- ❁ The human 'host' and their vulnerability – age, diet, economic or social conditions and immune-suppression; Listeria monocytogenes for example seems to be expressing a greater prevalence in the over



60s, the reason for which is not yet understood.

- ❁ Exposure to the pathogen through food globalisation or distribution vehicle; probably the biggest outbreak recently was the 2011 E. coli O104 in Germany and France from sprouting seeds from Egypt that killed over 50 and left many more with long term illness.
- ❁ New resistance or new opportunity through genetic mutation or changes to the food processing chain. Methicillin

resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) is a well-known clinical organism that has become resistant to antibiotics and has been found in retail products; a US study has now linked it to a foodborne illness.

Once these three factors overlap then a new or emerging pathogen can arise and with it, the potential to cause illness.

Eurofins runs a microbiology briefing session, see www.eurofins.co.uk or contact marketing@eurofins.co.uk for further information. ❁

Eurofins Vitamins Competence Centre, Denmark

TESTING

One of the benefits of working with Eurofins is that customers are able to make use of centres of excellence located across Europe. One such centre is the vitamins testing facility based in Denmark with state of the art equipment for this type of testing, 40 dedicated experts in the field and extensive experience in a high number of matrices. In 2011, the centre carried out more than 60,000 vitamin tests.

"Vitamins are an integral part of food. Too much of a certain vitamin can cause problems as can too little" explains Palle Sørensen, Analytical Services Manager from Eurofins' Vitamins Competence Centre. "Examples of issues include where a well-known brand of blackcurrant fruit squash was found to contain no Vitamin C despite claims on the label or too much Vitamin D in dog food, which can affect health in some dogs".



Eurofins leads the industry in vitamin testing and works with clients to ensure vitamin content is optimised during food processing, advising on declaration and labelling of products as well as carrying out stability studies. The competence

centre offers tests across a range of matrices from dairy products to pet food, baby foods to bread, and drinks to margarines using accredited methods for all fat soluble vitamins and water soluble vitamins.

Packages combining the key tests for particular product groups or concentrated products are also offered.

For more information contact sales@eurofins.co.uk

EUROFINS FACT FILE

Eurofins is operational in 32 countries worldwide but did you know the scale of the business:

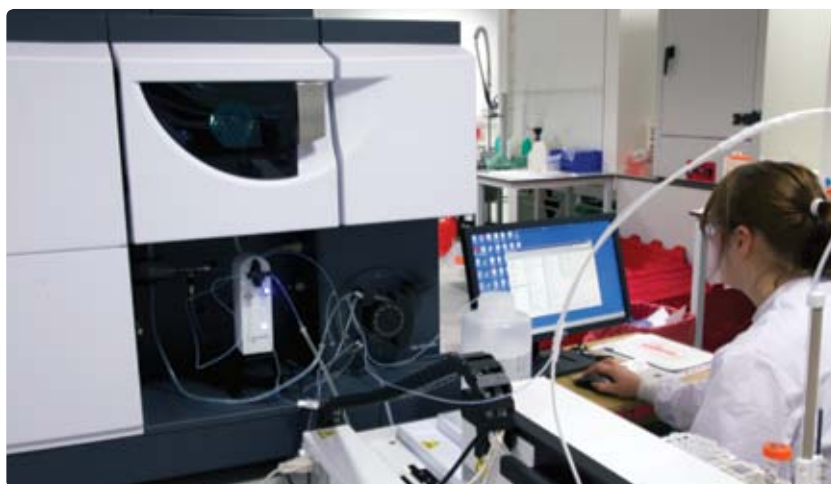
- Sales of over US \$1 billion
- More than 160 laboratories in 32 countries
- More than 10,000 employees worldwide
- More than 100,000 test methods are offered
- More than 20 million samples tested per year
- More than 80 million assays per year
- Delivered to 20,000 customers... including YOU!

Investment Cuts Analysis Time for Elements

ANALYSIS

Investment of more than £100k in state of the art technology for the determination of elements will reduce analysis time from five minutes to one minute.

Eurofins has invested in two ICP OES (Inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer) systems used to determine the concentrations of a wide range of elements in solution. The new state of the art equipment is so sensitive that it reduces interference from sample matrices and means faster and more flexible determinations on food, feed and environmental samples. The systems have been installed at Eurofins' prestigious new laboratories at i54.



Eurofins Markets to Farmers

Eurofins has been promoting its agricultural testing capabilities and the portal – which allows samples to be booked in online – to the farming sector through advertising in the trade media and workshops. Animated 'skyscraper' ads appeared on the Farmers Weekly website throughout April, with an added push through the magazine's e-newsletter distributed directly to subscribers.

Eurofins will be attending several agricultural shows including Livestock 2012 in September and the National Fruit Show in October. We are also planning to run a number of agriculture specific events in the new headquarters.

In May we attended The British Pig & Poultry Fair followed by Cereals 2012 in June, both of

which received positive feedback.

"The agriculture sector is important to Eurofins and we are continuing to raise the profile of our testing capabilities to both farmers and consultants by investing in advertising and meeting potential customers face to face at the key trade shows," explains Liz Paterson, Sales and Marketing Director UK Food.



Cereals 2012

Names in the News

Eurofins has appointed Antony Bagshaw as a Technical Specialist supporting the company's laboratories in the chemical analysis of food. With extensive laboratory experience, Antony was previously Manager of the Food Chemistry Laboratory at Leatherhead Research and prior to that with Alcontrol.

Antony started his laboratory career working for Bretby Analytical Consultants eventually

becoming Laboratory Manager during which time he also undertook an HNC in Chemistry leading to a BSc in Applied Chemistry.

Antony has a wide knowledge of a comprehensive range of analytical services for all areas of the food industry, with particular knowledge in Group 2 nutritional labelling to allergen detection by ELISA and vitamin content by HPLC.



Antony Bagshaw,
Technical Specialist



For more information contact:

Eurofins Food Testing
UK Limited
Valiant Way
Wolverhampton
WV9 5GB
Tel: 0845 604 6740 (Sales)
Tel: 01902 627 200

Also Eurofins sites in
Acton & Manchester.

sales@eurofins.co.uk
www.eurofins.co.uk