BioSpectrum the business of Bio & Health Sciences

Agilent launches dissolution apparatus

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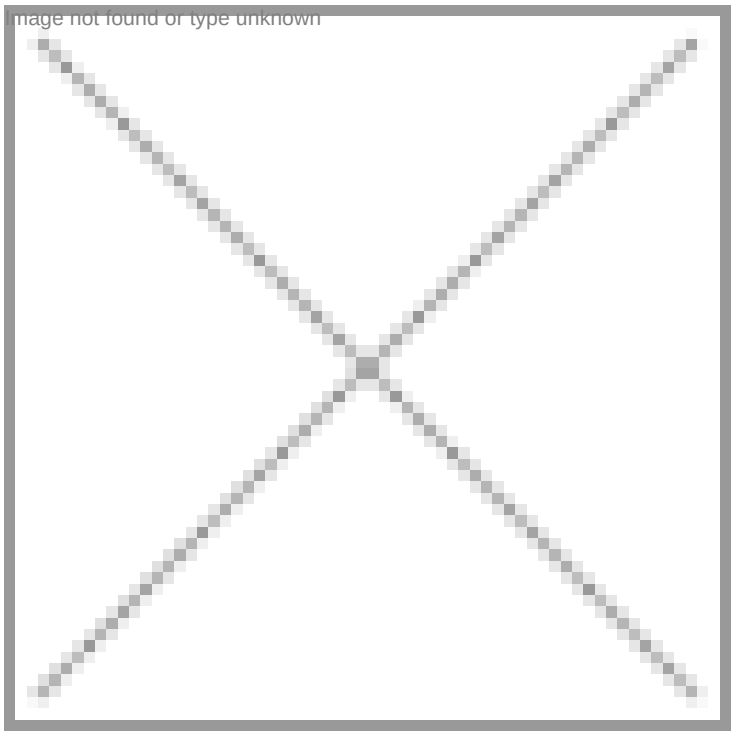

Agilent Technologies introduced the 709-DS dissolution apparatus, which features a bath-free design that provides an unobstructed view of the dissolution vessel. This new tool is used to test the release profile of many dosage forms. In addition to improved visibility of the dissolution environment, the 709-DS offers increased efficiency through rapid media heating and elimination of water bath cleaning. Vessel media is heated through Agilent's direct vessel heating system.

The instrument is based on the proven 708-DS platform for consistent performance and offers support for a wide range of workflows. Automated sample collection and online ultraviolet dissolution integration are available as options to increase laboratory productivity and efficiency as well.

SAFC introduces CHOZN GS cell line

Sigma-Aldrich Corporation's custom manufacturing and services business unit, SAFC, introduced a novel CHOZN GS zinc finger nuclease (ZFN)-modified chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cell line. The new CHOZN GS cell line is the first commercially available glutamine synthetase (GS) knockout CHO cell line, that has been proven to shorten the bioproduction times in early development, enabling customers to enhance their speed-to-market and increase cost efficiency.

CHOZN GS was developed using SAFC's proprietary CompoZr ZFN technology, that inactivates the glutamine synthetase gene rendering the cells dependent on L-glutamine. Development timelines for biopharmaceuticals can be shortened, as the cells do not require L-methionine-D, L-sulfoximine (MSX) selection for development of production clone. Knocking out the GS gene that produces this enzyme means the addition of this MSX inhibitor is no longer required for r-protein clone selection, providing enhanced supply chain security, decreasing development time for identification of producing clones, and enabling customers to file investigational new drug applications sooner. The parental cell line is cGMP banked using animal component free, chemically defined media and has extensive viral testing, along with a traceable history.

Acrodisc MS Syringe Filter launched

Pall Corporation, a filtration, separation and purification leader introduced the Pall Acrodisc MS Syringe Filter, the firstsyringe filter certified for low extractables in high performance liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry (LCMS) applications. Designed specifically for LCMS, the Acrodisc MS syringe filter improves the accuracy of testing, enhances LCMS performance, and extends the longevity of testing instrumentation. The low extractable levels of the new Acrodisc MS syringe filter minimize interference with the ionization process and reduce the need for retesting. This lowers costs while minimizing downtime due to unexpected contamination. To ensure high performance, product tubes are packaged individually so that filters that are currently not in use remain sealed and protected from external contamination.

GeneArt Algae Kits launched

Life Technologies Corporation introduced its GeneArt Algae Engineering Kits, the first commercially available genetic modification and expression systems for photosynthetic microalgae Chlamydomonas reinhardtii and Synechococcus elongatus. The strains are model organisms for the study of photosynthesis, circadian rhythms and nutrient-regulated gene activity, and are being investigated for bioproduction of biofuels, nutraceuticals and specialty chemicals.The algal strains contained in the kits are the first that can be shipped and stored frozen at - 80 degrees Celsius, which simplifies their standardization and use.

Enhancements for MiSeq introduced

Illumina, a leading developer, manufacturer, and marketer of life science tools announced three innovative workflowsolutions to support its MiSeq personal sequencer system. The three additions to the MiSeq ecosystem, include TruSeq custom amplicon kits, New Nextera DNA sample preparation kits and BaseSpace.

Nextera and MiSeq users can go from DNA to analyzed data in less than eight hours. For custom amplicon sequencing, TruSeq Custom Amplicon Kits provide a highly multiplexed and cost-effective workflow, allowing studies that are not feasible using capillary electrophoresis sequencing methods to be completed in as little as two days with no additional hardware required. Researchers can design a custom assay to target up to 384 genomic regions in a single experiment using Illumina's DesignStudio, an intuitive, online tool.