

## **Rapid Micro Biosystems Announces Commercialization of the Growth Direct™ System**

*System for rapid detection of contamination offers compelling savings for manufacturers of pharmaceutical, biotech and personal care products*

Bedford, MA, March 19, 2008/BUSINESSWIRE/ Rapid Micro Biosystems, Inc., a privately held company developing innovative products for faster detection of microbial contamination, today announced the commercial launch of its proprietary platform for rapidly detecting microbial contaminants in the manufacture of pharmaceutical, biotechnology and personal care products. The Growth Direct™ System is the first and only automated system for rapid microbial detection that addresses all of the manufacturers' key testing applications and fits with current regulatory practices, a critical accelerator for adoption. The system is now commercially available for shipment in North America and will be available for delivery to customers in Europe in the second half of 2008.

To ensure consumer safety and protect brand equity, makers of drugs and personal care products perform over 350 million tests per year to detect microbial contamination at all stages of the manufacturing process – from raw materials to finished products. The current method, manual microbiological culture, is more than a century old and is very slow – requiring up to several weeks to complete. The cost of slow testing can exceed a million dollars annually at a single plant, due to expensive delays, product losses from contamination, and other production inefficiencies.

The Growth Direct™ System greatly reduces testing time by using proprietary digital imaging technology to replace detection by the human eye. The system delivers high throughput analysis with its proprietary consumable Growth Cassettes™ and automates otherwise error-prone manual steps. The resulting time savings and quality improvement is expected to reduce product loss, inventory carrying costs, plant shut-downs, and labor, which should, in turn, produce significant cost savings and contribute to better manufacturing margins.

Steve Delity, President & CEO commented: “Pharmaceutical manufacturers have long been looking for a new method to reduce the long waiting times for microbial test results that also fits with industry standard regulatory methods. We are pleased to deliver the first and only platform that can provide test results faster and more reliably, while also removing the significant regulatory hurdles introduced by alternative technologies. Faster test turn-around means substantial savings for manufacturers of products ranging from injectable drugs to mouthwash. The payback on the Growth Direct™ System is an attention-getter at a time when manufacturers face increasing pressure to improve their productivity and bottom line. Our system is unique because it can address the full market of 350 million tests, encompassing the entire spectrum of applications. Adoption of the Growth Direct™ System will drive productivity for our customers and strong recurring revenue for the Company. “

Rapid Micro Biosystems will be exhibiting the Growth Direct™ System at several strategic pharmaceutical industry meetings this year. The schedule includes Interphex 2008, March 26-28 in Philadelphia ([www.interphex.com](http://www.interphex.com)) and the Annual Parenteral Drug Association (PDA) meeting, April 14-18 in Colorado Springs ([www.pda.org](http://www.pda.org)). The Company will also participate in the annual conference of the RMUG® Rapid Micro Users Group™ in San Diego, May 4-6 ([www.rapidmicro.org](http://www.rapidmicro.org)).

### **About Rapid Micro Biosystems**

Rapid Micro Biosystems, a privately-held company headquartered in Bedford, Massachusetts, is providing innovative products for faster detection of microbial contamination in the manufacture of pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and personal care products. The Company’s recently commercialized Growth Direct™ System detects contamination earlier, delivering compelling economic benefits to manufacturers while improving their quality process. The Growth Direct™ System is the first and only automated system that accelerates testing, fits with current regulatory practices, and addresses all key applications. Rapid Micro Biosystems was formerly known as Genomic Profiling Systems. For more information, visit [www.rapidmicrobio.com](http://www.rapidmicrobio.com).

**Contacts**

Rapid Micro Biosystems, Inc

Deborah A. Brusini

Vice President, Product Management & Marketing

781.271.1444 Ext. 271

[dbrusini@rapidmicrobio.com](mailto:dbrusini@rapidmicrobio.com)