

Brilliant: Crystals in CrystalSlide

Frickenhausen, [28 July 2009] – Greiner Bio-One GmbH has developed a new platform for the production and analysis of protein crystals. CrystalSlide for counter diffusion applications enables crystals to be analysed in an X-ray source and is also suitable for applications with polarised and UV light.

A key prerequisite for targeted drug development is knowing the three-dimensional structure of proteins. In order for this to be possible, however, the proteins must be available in the form of high-quality pure crystals. Producing and analysing these is very time-consuming and thus expensive.

Greiner Bio-One GmbH has now developed a new platform for counter diffusion applications – that is to say for the production of protein crystals in a concentration gradient – in a handy slide format. CrystalSlide has twelve microstructured channels. The design has been optimised to ensure that the inlets are suitable for manual filling using a pipette and the slides can be used in automated systems – in conjunction with a frame in standard microplate format.

The benefits of CrystalSlide are not limited to the production of protein crystals. In addition to enabling its valuable contents to be analysed under any conventional microscope, CrystalSlide is also suitable for all commonly used automated imaging systems. At just 0.6 millimetres thickness, the polyolefin slides combine excellent optical characteristics with low birefringence and are permeable to UV light and X-rays for in-situ analysis of protein crystals. The low sample volume required – just 600 nl – also helps cut the cost of protein crystallisation processes significantly.

CrystalSlide™ is part of Greiner Bio-One GmbH's CrystalStar™ family, which includes a number of protein crystallisation platforms and associated accessories.

Greiner Bio-One GmbH – BioScience Division

Greiner Bio-One is specialised in the development, production and distribution of plastic laboratory equipment. The company is technology partner for universities, research institutes and the diagnostic, pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries as well. With the **BioScience division**, Greiner Bio-One ranks among the leading providers of specialised products for the cultivation and analysis of cell and tissue cultures, as well as microplates for high-throughput screening, allowing industry and research most rapid and efficient drug screening. Additionally Greiner Bio-One develops innovative biochip technologies for genotyping. Under the management of Heinz Schmid, the German headquarters of the BioScience division in Frickenhausen (Baden-Württemberg) controls the whole research and development activities in the product ranges Cell Culture, High-Throughput Screening, Biochips and OEM.

Greiner Bio-One GmbH is a division of Greiner Bio-One International AG, based in Kremsmuenster (Austria). Today Greiner Bio-One International AG generates a turnover of 256 million Euro. It has over 1,300 employees and operates globally with 18 own subsidiaries and numerous distributors in more than 100 countries.

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