

## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Strategic Diagnostics' RapidChek<sup>®</sup> SELECT<sup>™</sup> *Salmonella* System Awarded AOAC Emergency Response Validation Program Certification for Peanut Butter**

### ***SDI's Proprietary Phage-based Media Offers Detection in 24 Hours to Help Improve Food Safety Programs***

**NEWARK, Del. (July 22, 2009)** – **Strategic Diagnostics Inc. (NASDAQ: SDIX)**, a leading provider of biotechnology-based detection solutions for food safety and life science applications, today announced that it has been issued a Certificate of Validation for its RapidChek<sup>®</sup> SELECT<sup>™</sup> *Salmonella* system by the AOAC Research Institute Emergency Response Validation (ERV) program.

The AOAC Research Institute, a subsidiary of AOAC INTERNATIONAL, launched the ERV program in response to the second *Salmonella* recall linked to peanut butter in February 2009, the largest food recall in U.S. history. This program is designed to respond immediately to emerging food contamination crises by rapidly evaluating detection methods of several candidates once a crisis is identified. The ERV program employs the *Performance-Tested Methods*<sup>SM</sup> program operated by the AOAC Research Institute. The AOAC Research Institute awarded the RapidChek<sup>®</sup> SELECT<sup>™</sup> *Salmonella* system *Performance-Tested Methods* status in 2006. The recently awarded Certificate of Validation extends the validation of the RapidChek<sup>®</sup> SELECT<sup>™</sup> *Salmonella* system previously certified for the identification of *Salmonella* in various foods to now include detection of *Salmonella* in peanut butter.

Scott Coates, AOAC Research Institute Senior Managing Director, commented, "Food processors and the President's Administration are responding to increasing pressure to protect the health of consumers. The AOAC's new Emergency Response Validation program supports these enhanced expectations by independently evaluating and validating the technologies that most effectively address *Salmonella* and other food safety outbreaks."

SDI offers a simple, accurate and reliable *Salmonella* testing solution to companies that manufacture peanut butter or use peanut butter in their manufactured products. SDI believes the RapidChek<sup>®</sup> SELECT<sup>™</sup> *Salmonella* test method is unlike any other rapid or conventional method on the market. SDI's method delivers the industry's lowest rate of false results while still offering low start-up and operational costs including reduced sample preparation, transfer and incubation steps and no investment into capital equipment. Given the President's recent Food Safety Working Group recommendations, SDI believes there will be increased pressure on food companies to meet safety requirements while also meeting financial demands requiring them to employ technologies such as RapidChek<sup>®</sup> SELECT<sup>™</sup> that are accurate, fast and cost effective.

### **About AOAC-RI**

The AOAC Research Institute (AOAC RI) is a subsidiary of AOAC INTERNATIONAL, a globally recognized, independent, not-for-profit association founded in 1884. AOAC serves the analytical sciences community by providing validated methods and technical standards that give confidence in analytical results. For more information see the AOAC website at <http://www.aoac.org/>.

### **About Strategic Diagnostics Inc. (SDI)**

Strategic Diagnostics Inc. develops, manufactures and markets biotechnology-based detection solutions to a diverse customer base, across multiple industrial and human health markets. By applying its core competency of creating custom antibodies to assay development, SDI produces unique, sophisticated diagnostic testing and reagent systems that are responsive to customer diagnostic and information needs. Customers benefit with quantifiable return on investment by reducing time, labor, and/or material costs. All this is accomplished while increasing accuracy, reliability and actionability of essential test results. SDI is focused on sustaining this competitive advantage by leveraging its expertise in immunology, proteomics, bio-luminescence and other bio-reactive technologies to continue its successful customer-focused research and development efforts. Recent innovations in high throughput production of antibodies from genetic antigens will complement SDI's established leadership in commercial and custom antibody production for the Research, Human/Animal Diagnostics, and Pharmaceutical industries, and position SDI for broader participation in the pharmacogenomics market. For more information, visit [www.sdix.com](http://www.sdix.com).

*This news release may contain forward-looking statements reflecting SDI's current expectations. When used in this press release, the words "anticipate", "could", "enable", "estimate", "intend", "expect", "believe", "potential", "will", "should", "project", "plan" and similar expressions as they relate to SDI are intended to identify said forward-looking statements. Investors are cautioned that all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, which may cause actual results to differ from those anticipated by SDI at this time. Such risks and uncertainties include, without limitation, changes in demand for products, delays in product development, delays in market acceptance of new products, retention of customers and employees, adequate supply of raw materials, inability to obtain or delays in obtaining fourth party, including AOAC, or required government approvals, the ability to meet increased market demand, competition, protection of intellectual property, non-infringement of intellectual property, seasonality, and other factors more fully described in SDI's public filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.*

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