

## SANYO Biomedical Solutions Incubator

After years of research, development and laboratory testing, Sanyo has introduced the MCO-80IC Reach-In CO<sub>2</sub> Incubator. The company says it is both easy to use and designed specifically for critical applications in pharmaceutical, biotechnology and clinical investigation. Safe for even the most demanding of cell culture protocols, the MCO-80IC offers significant economic benefits by avoiding costly interruptions for decontamination, improving cell culture growth and expression under stable, repeatable conditions, and minimizing the potential for loss due to contamination.

The incubator is ideal for culturing large volumes of patient samples, performing short-term studies, and working with large volume products. The MCO-80IC includes Sanyo's exclusive incubator technologies such as inCu saFe germicidal stainless steel interiors, an optional UV decontamination system, an infra red CO<sub>2</sub> sensor with P.I.D. control for quick recovery and exceptionally low gas consumption, as compared with competitive models.

Boasting a 30.1 cubic foot capacity, the large cabinet allows for flexibility in usage. The cabinet can accommodate a roller bottle apparatus of up to five bottles wide by seven bottles high. Full view, double paned glass doors allow for easy observation of cultured samples. The large LED digital display and key pad allow for greater visibility and consistent sample monitoring.

The MCO-80IC produces exceptionally low CO<sub>2</sub> consumption rates, less than half of similar competitive units. This is due to the unique infrared CO<sub>2</sub> sensor with a P.I.D. microprocessor that controls and forces an air circulation system to deliver fast CO<sub>2</sub> recovery. The P.I.D. temperature control only has a fluctuation of +/- 0.1 degree °C.

The interior, plenums and shelving are constructed of inCu saFe, germicidal copper-enriched stainless steel. There is an optional UV sterilization system for the humidity reservoir. Extra heaters are positioned on the outer glass door to eliminate condensation, which is found frequently in competitive units.

For further information  
[www.sanyobiomedical.com](http://www.sanyobiomedical.com)



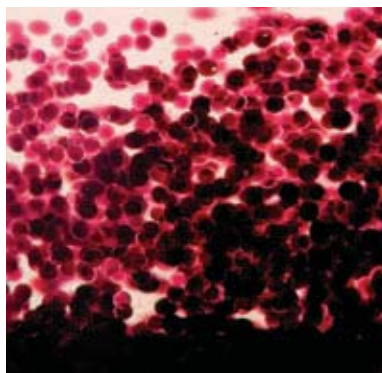
## Assays speed up bacterial identification

Q Chip, a leading developer of microencapsulation solutions, has developed a new PCR tool that speeds up bacterial identification, with greater accuracy and less variability. Identification, using the ReaX Assay 16S beads, is based on PCR amplification of the widely used 16S ribosomal RNA gene.

In a comparative study of the identification of *E. coli* and *S. aureus*, the ReaX Assay 16S PCR beads generated identical PCR bands for each triplicate and for each organism, compared with conventional liquid-based PCR methods. However, with the ReaX Assay 16S PCR beads less manual pipetting was required, with fewer opportunities for contamination, and reduced pipetting error was also observed, leading to less variability between reactions. PCR reaction, set-up using the ReaX Assay 16S beads, required no prior optimization and was quicker and more user-friendly to perform compared with conventional liquid-based PCR set-up.

ReaX Assay 16S beads contain all the reagents required to perform 16S rRNA gene amplification, including a high-performance Taq polymerase, dNTPs and the universal 16S rRNA gene-specific primers 27F and 907R. Only template DNA is required prior to running the PCR protocol. Amplification is confirmed using end-point PCR.

For further information  
[www.q-chip.com](http://www.q-chip.com)



## AI wins award

A leading London product innovation consultancy has clinched a top international award for the Merck Serono easypod - the first electronic growth hormone injection device. The auto-injector won a 2008 iF International Forum Design award in the product design category.

Easypod features a number of electronic control functions that improve patients' ease of daily use and requires fewer steps. It also reduces the perception of pain during injection, ensures reliability and safety in use and storage, and meets medication compliance. The advantages include

- Comfort settings - including adjustable injection depth and speed
- Dose volume memory
- Compliance logging - date of last injection
- Split dose management options
- Automatic safe needle loading and detachment - the needle is never handled or seen.

Alun Wilcox, Director of Medical at PDD, said, "We are delighted with the award. Easypod is the first electro-mechanical device for the subcutaneous injection of medical products and goes a long way to making the entire process both physically and psychologically less stressful for all involved."

"Our ability to offer an integrated service, including research, interactive design, human factor engineering, industrial design and engineering enabled us to produce a product that fulfilled all these needs."

Explaining the process, Wilcox said: "PDD designers and engineers worked closely with our human sciences team to understand the relationship between people, products and the environments, of use and then translate the user insights into clear cues for ongoing design development."

These early discussions with children, parents and practitioners allowed the team to understand the emotional and practical challenges and - through the use of form, materials, colours and personalization options - humanize the sophisticated technology employed in the device."

For further information  
Emily Miller, PDD Marketing Manager  
T +44 20 8735 1111

