

BioFront Technologies announces US proficiency testing partnership with Fera

BioFront Technologies has announced that Fera Science Limited has appointed the company as its US agent for its proficiency testing service, Fapas.

TALLAHASSEE, FL, USA, April 10, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- BioFront Technologies has announced that Fera Science Limited has appointed the company as its US agent for its proficiency testing service, Fapas. These



services and products include an extensive range of matrix-matched <u>reference materials</u> as well as the comprehensive proficiency testing portfolio.

The partnership will mean that American customers of Fera will be able to order their <u>Fapas</u> <u>proficiency testing samples</u> and other services directly from BioFront Technologies, helping to ensure laboratories have access to consistent proficiency testing and enhancing BioFront's Food Allergen offer and its customer service.

The services and products available as a result of this exciting new partnership will enable testing laboratories across the globe to assess analytical performance of food, water and environmental chemistry, genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and microbiology. They also aid with calibrating instrumentation, determining food fraud, assisting with new analyst training, validating standard and non-standard methods, and ultimately supporting laboratory accreditation programs such as ISO/IEC 17025/2005.

Kate Somerwill-Owens, head of Fapas for Fera Science, said: "Fera Science analyses over 90,000 samples a year at our laboratories in York, and our 'real food' samples ensure the most accurate and 'life-like' proficiency testing results. We are very excited to partnering with BioFront due to their expertise in food allergen testing, making this partnership a great step forward for both organizations. For our US customers, this will make it easier for them to access our reference materials and services."

Jason Robotham Ph. D, president of BioFront Technologies, said: "The FDA Food Safety Modernization Act will soon mandate that certain food testing must be carried out by accredited laboratories; so this collaboration with Fera introducing the Fapas brand is very timely. It will be invaluable in helping us meet our commitment to provide the highest quality standards and confidence in analytical performance."

BioFront Technologies will also be amongt the first international agents to offer a new improved range of drinking water microbiology proficiency testing samples for the FAPAS 2017/2018 program.

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Notes to readers:

BioFront Technologies produces diagnostic kits and related products aimed at the detection of food allergens and infectious diseases. Founded in 2010, BioFront has pioneered the universal use of monoclonal antibodies as the basis for detecting and quantifying trace amounts of contaminating allergenic proteins in various food products. The monoclonal antibodies used in their vast line of MonoTraceTM kits significantly improve lot_to_lot consistency, greatly reduce cross-reactivity, and minimize food matrix interference.

The current MonoTrace platform includes ELISA kits that detect milk, egg, soy, gluten, peanut, crustacea, seeds (buckwheat, mustard, and sesame), lupine, and tree nuts (almond, Brazil nut, cashew, coconut, hazelnut, macadamia, pecan, pine nut, pistachio and walnut). Find out more at www.BioFronttech.com.

Fera Science Limited, formerly the Food and Environment Research Agency, is a joint private/public sector venture between Capita plc and Defra. Based on the National Agri-Food Innovation Campus in Sand Hutton, Fera's vision is to be a leading supplier of scientific solutions, evidence and advice across the agri-food supply chain. Employing more than 350 scientists, Fera analyses over 90,000 samples and publishes over 100 peer-reviewed scientific papers per year. It turns expertise and innovation into ways to support and develop a sustainable food chain, a healthy natural environment, and to protect the global community from biological and chemical risks.

Fapas is a proficiency testing service run by Fera out of York, UK. Fapas® also provides long-term supplies of test materials as cost-effective alternatives to certified reference materials and it offers the only "reference materials" available for many matrices and analytes. The assigned values and acceptable ranges for analytes in Fapas® test materials are derived from data submitted by laboratories worldwide who participate in Fapas® proficiency testing rounds. Find out more at www.Fera.co.uk.

Fapas food test materials are available for genetic modification, chemical and microbiological tests in laboratories in the food analysis sector. The range encompasses examples of beverages, fruits and vegetables, baking products, vitamins, oils and fats, nuts, infant foods, honey, ready meals, flexible packaging, meats and fish, cereals, dairy products, confectionery and animal feeds.

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