

3M Microbiology Wins Prestigious IAFP Black Pearl Award

IAFP recognizes 3M Microbiology for its efforts to advance food safety and quality

The International Association for Food Protection (IAFP) recently selected 3M Microbiology as the 2008 recipient of the prestigious Black Pearl Award. The Black Pearl Award is given annually to one company for its outstanding achievement of corporate excellence in advancing food safety and quality.

When evaluating candidates for the Black Pearl Award, IAFP seeks companies that exemplify excellence in advancing food safety and quality through numerous channels, including customer programs, employee relations, educational activities, adherence to standards and support of the goals and objectives of IAFP.

According to David Tharp, executive director of IAFP, 3M Microbiology has long been an active and dedicated member of IAFP. "3M Microbiology's integrated approach to providing food safety solutions to the food industry is second to none. They have a history of partnering with customers and industry organizations to address issues or problems. Through active involvement in IAFP scientific journals and industry events, 3M Microbiology regularly provides ideas and solutions to the food industry."

"For 24 years, 3M Microbiology has partnered with the food industry to maximize food safety and quality worldwide," said Karen Mullery, global business manager, 3M Microbiology. "We are honored to win such a prestigious award, and appreciate our efforts being endorsed in this way. As the food industry faces dynamic challenges, we at 3M are committed to responding with truly innovative solutions."

"In my opinion, 3M Microbiology epitomizes the commitment to protecting the food supply that we all strive to attain. Not only have they developed revolutionary technologies, they have also contributed to the profession by allowing their people the freedom to work with their customers in long term thinking about methods to improve the quality of the food supply," said Larry Cohen, North American senior food safety program leader for Kraft Foods, who submitted a nomination letter in support of 3M Microbiology. "We have worked with 3M Microbiology for almost 20 years, and in this time, we've come to view our relationship as a partnership."

3M Microbiology is a leading manufacturer of proven and reliable testing solutions that cover the spectrum of quality, pathogen, and toxin testing and monitoring in the food safety market. Products include 3M™ Petrifilm™ Plates, 3M™ Clean-Trace™ ATP hygiene monitoring systems, 3M™ Tecra™ rapid pathogen and toxin test kits, as well as sampling, dilution and enrichment products. 3M Microbiology operates in more than 60 countries, working to serve the needs of the food and beverage industry through innovative products and technologies.

3M Microbiology has been an IAFP Sustaining Member for 22 years and its employees are actively involved in IAFP committees, events and volunteer work.

About 3M

A recognized leader in research and development, 3M produces thousands of innovative products for dozens of diverse markets. 3M's core strength is applying its more than 40 distinct technology platforms – often in combination – to a wide array of customer needs. With \$24 billion in sales, 3M employs 75,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 60 countries. For more information, visit www.3m.com.

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About IAFP

The International Association for Food Protection is a non-profit educational association of food protection professionals dedicated to the education and service of its Members, specifically, as well as industry personnel. The Association provides Members with an information network and forum for professional improvement through its two scientific journals, *Journal of Food Protection* and *Food Protection Trends*, educational Annual Meeting, and interaction with other food safety professionals. Membership information can be obtained by calling 800.369.6337; 515.276.3344; fax: 515.276.8655, E-mail: info@foodprotection.org or Web site: www.foodprotection.org.

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