

N-LIGHT™ SALMONELLA RISK INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE



Intended Use

N-Light™ *Salmonella* Risk is a qualitative test method for rapid evaluation of the contamination risk for the foodborne bacterial pathogen *Salmonella*. The test method is suitable for use in food processing areas and equipment as part of an environmental monitoring program. Final test results are available 24 h after sampling. Only trained individuals should perform the N-Light™ test.

Certification

This method has been evaluated in the AOAC Performance Tested Program. It was found to perform to the manufacturer's specifications for the detection of *Salmonella* on clean environmental surfaces (plastic, ceramic, stainless steel) using a wet swab sampling procedure according to the ISO 18593:2018 norm and using N-Light™ swabs, NEMIS Dry Block Heaters, and NEMIS Bench-top Luminometers. The test works also well on most non-clean surfaces. Detailed performance data are available online on our website.



Measurement Principle

The method uses AquaSpark®, a patented ultrasensitive chemiluminescent probe that reacts with alpha-D-galactosidase, an enzyme produced by all *Salmonella* serovars when alive. Some closely related bacteria occupying the same environmental niche also produce this enzyme. With a NEMIS Bench-top Luminometer, the light resulting from this reaction is measured in relative light units (RLU). Test results above the validated threshold (>20'000 RLU) indicate a presumptive positive result. Further actions (i.e., confirmation) according to site procedures and local regulations may be required.

Specificity and Sensitivity

The N-Light™ *Salmonella* Risk enrichment broth contains a special nutrient mix, supplemented with selective agents and a proprietary bacteriophage cocktail to provide optimal growth of sub-lethally injured *Salmonella* whilst restricting the growth of competing microorganisms during incubation. The N-Light™ *Salmonella* Risk will also detect certain strains of *Klebsiella*, *Citrobacter* and *Enterobacter*. For more information, please refer to the supporting documents.

Storage and Shelf Life

N-Light™ *Salmonella* Risk test tubes and starter tablets: +2-8 °C, **do not freeze**, check the expiration date on the label.

Functionality check

Users can perform a fit-for-purpose assay to check for any loss of performance due to transport or storage conditions:

- Activate an N-Light™ test tube containing only the enrichment broth without sample and without the starter tablet. Shake until the tablet is dissolved.
- Incubate at 37 °C for 3 minutes in the NEMIS Dry Block Heater.
- Test with the NEMIS Bench-top Luminometer 3 minutes after activation.
- Results up to 10'000 RLU are acceptable.

Confirmation

N-Light™ *Salmonella* Risk contains a lysis agent. Presumptive positive results can be confirmed using a recognized confirmatory procedure (preferably a validated PCR system or other culture independent method). In our supporting document "Confirmation protocol", we describe a qPCR and a PCR method compatible with our test. **CAUTION:** Opening of the N-Light™ test tube and subsequent sample handling must be performed within a safety level II laboratory.

Precautions

To prevent sample contamination during environmental sample collection, use aseptic techniques and personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves. To prevent accidental contamination of the production environment or food products with components of the N-Light™ test, users can perform the sample transfer, incubation, and measurement in a separate area. In this case (as recommended by the ISO 18593:2018 norm), swab samples should be put back to the swab tubes and transferred to the N-Light™ test tubes within 4 hours. Any deviation from the recommended storage temperatures, maximal shelf-life, or recommended test procedures will negatively affect the product performance and potentially lead to false results. Due to the permanently closed, liquid-tight test tube, N-Light™ tests are safe for cultivation of environmental microorganisms outside of a laboratory. However, depending on local regulations, product usage may be subject to notification or permission from authorities. It is the responsibility of the user to comply with those obligations.



Safety

N-Light™ tests are not hazardous to health when used by trained personnel following these instructions. Do not ingest and prevent contact of the enrichment broth with skin and mucosal surfaces. Permanently close the N-Light™ test tube with the biosafety cap before incubation. Always handle cultivated environmental samples as potentially dangerous goods of type UN3373. For additional information, please refer to our Safety Data Sheets (SDS) available online. **CAUTION:** *Salmonella* is a gastrointestinal pathogen that normally causes self-limiting diarrhea, lasting around 4-7 days. Infection with a few *Salmonella* serovars (namely *Salmonella* Typhi, *Salmonella* Paratyphoid) can be fatal. Young, old, pregnant, and immunocompromised (YOPI) people are groups most vulnerable to foodborne illnesses and should not handle N-Light™ tests after incubation. If you believe that you have been exposed to pathogenic microorganisms like *Salmonella*, immediately inform your supervisor and seek medical advice.

Disposal

Used N-Light™ tests can be inactivated by autoclaving in an autoclavable bag or by incineration. NEMIS recommends disposal of all N-Light™ tests by a specialized service provider for biohazardous waste. **CAUTION:** Do not dispose of enrichment broth using the sink.

Exclusion of warranty and liability

The product is provided on an as-is basis to be used solely following this instruction of use. NEMIS excludes any guarantee of the quality of food, beverage products, or processes tested with its products. NEMIS excludes all liability for damage to its products. However, should any NEMIS product found to be damaged, NEMIS, at its sole discretion, may choose to either replace or refund such product. To the extent legally possible, NEMIS will not be liable to users or others for any loss or damage, whether direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential, from either proper or improper use of its products.

Contact Information

If you have any questions or require assistance, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions [FAQ] and other technical resources available online or contact techsupport@nemistech.com



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more info

N-LIGHT™ SALMONELLA RISK

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REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. N-Light™ Salmonella Risk test tubes
2. NEMIS Bench-top Luminometer
3. NEMIS Dry Block Heater
4. Optional: N-Light™ Tablet Dispenser Tool (REF 00018)
5. Optional: N-Light™ Activation Tool (REF 00008)
6. N-Light™ sampling devices containing compatible moistening solution:
 - a. N-Light™ sterile dry swab BP with separate BPW buffer (REF 00026)
 - b. N-Light™ sterile dry swab BP with separate Neutralizer (REF 00037)
 - c. N-Light™ sterile MaxiSampler with separate BPW buffer (REF 00062)
 - d. N-Light™ sterile MaxiSampler with separate Neutralizer (REF 00064)

1. PREPARATION



Wet the swabs in the moistening solution and put them back in their swab tube.



Mark/label the swab tubes and the test tubes according to your test plan.



Heat the incubator: set the temperature to 37 °C and press <on>

2. SAMPLING



Swab the sampling area

Apply enough pressure and rotate the swab

3. TRANSFER



Open the test tube



Add one starter tablet to each test tube



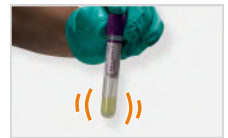
Break off the swab tip in the test tube and discard the rest



Put the dispensing closure back on the test tube



Push the cap down until you hear a "click". Make sure the tube is fully locked



Briefly shake the tube

Tipp: Use the Tablet Dispenser Tool to facilitate opening/closing of the test tube and dispensing of the starter tablet into the test tube.

4. INCUBATE



Incubate the sample at 37 °C for 24 hours



Release the AquaSpark® tablet [open the lid and firmly push the button with the thumb or use the Activation Tool with the lid closed].



Verify the tablet is released into the liquid.

Start a timer [3 min]



Shake for 5 s, or until tablet is fully dissolved.

Use a vortex mixer if available

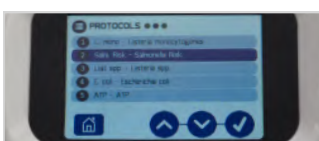


Put activated tubes back at 37 °C for 2-4 min

Tipp: Repeat the activation steps consecutively for max. 6 tests [1 test every 30 seconds] and measure then each test in the order of tablet release [1 test every 30 seconds].

6. MEASURE

IMPORTANT: Measure each test exactly 2-4 minutes after releasing the AquaSpark® tablet.



Switch on the luminometer and select the Salmonella Risk protocol



Place the test tube into the luminometer and start the measurement



Presumptive positive.
Indicator organism and/or *Salmonella* may be present



No live indicator organism and *Salmonella* detected



Results can be downloaded in chronological order after the measurement via the NEMIS data app.