

APAS® CONTACT PLATE APPLICATION PRODUCT LAUNCH

Successful validation of AI-analysis module unlocks expanded market potential

Adelaide, Australia, 27 August 2025: Leaders in AI microbiology automation, Clever Culture Systems Ltd (ASX: CC5) (**CCS** or the **Company**), is pleased to advise the successful validation of the new smaller APAS® contact plate (55mm) analysis module on the APAS® Independence. With this validation complete, the module is now available for sale, significantly expanding the market opportunity for the APAS® technology within the pharmaceutical market.

Highlights:

- **APAS® contact plate application finalised – now market ready**
- **Expands total addressable market and boosts recurring revenue potential per APAS® instrument sale**
- **Large-scale 20,000+ plate study confirms APAS® performance against manual microbiologist reads**
- **Achieved 0% false negative rate – most critical performance metric for customers**
- **Product launch activities underway expected to unlock sales pipeline opportunities**

Brent Barnes, CEO and Managing Director said:

“The successful validation of our APAS® contact plate analysis module expands the overall market opportunity for APAS® Independence in the pharmaceutical market. With this development complete, APAS® Independence can now automate the majority of environmental monitoring tests in routine sterile drug manufacturing, expanding the addressable market and increasing the potential revenue per instrument sold. Combined with the growing industry recognition and adoption of our technology, this enhancement is expected to further accelerate uptake across pharmaceutical manufacturing customers. Early rollouts with select customers have already been completed providing valuable feedback and reinforces the substantial market demand for this capability.”

Commercial opportunity for APAS® Independence in the pharmaceutical market significantly increased

Pharmaceutical manufacturing relies on the use of settle plates (90mm) and contact plates (55mm) to monitor production environments including air, surfaces and personnel for potential microbial growth. The addition of the contact plate application to the APAS® Independence now offers a single technology platform capable of covering the vast majority of environmental monitoring tests performed. This unique capability further strengthens the competitive differentiation of APAS® Independence, positioning the technology as the most comprehensive and scalable solution in pharmaceutical environmental monitoring.

The APAS® contact plate analysis module is now offered as an additional analysis module on the APAS® Independence platform, creating an increased recurring revenue stream. In addition, upgrade kits are available for existing customers creating further revenue opportunities from the established APAS® Independence installed base. Upgrade orders are expected to be fulfilled with existing customers over the coming months representing near-term sales opportunities as a result of the application being finalised.

CCS have already generated an active pipeline of sales opportunities for the APAS® Independence in the pharmaceutical market with over 40 qualified opportunities, representing an estimated 150+ APAS® instrument sales. This includes approximately 60-80 APAS® instrument sale opportunities with existing APAS® customers. The availability of the contact plate application is expected to accelerate traction with these customers who are seeking a complete automation solution for the environmental monitoring plate workflow.

APAS® contact plate validation successful: APAS® Independence now a complete solution for pharmaceutical environmental monitoring

CCS has successfully completed the development and validation of the new APAS® contact plate application expanding the utility of the APAS® Independence to include analysis of the smaller (55mm) plate types. The development program incorporated enhancements to both the hardware and software for the APAS® instrument as well as the creation of a new artificial intelligence analysis module specifically designed for 55mm contact plates analysis.

The successful completion of the APAS® contact plate analysis module validation marks the final milestone ahead of commercial launch. This formal study was conducted meticulously to meet the pharmacopeial requirements and confirms the systems suitability as an alternative microbiological method providing customers with the confidence to adopt the technology.

Highlights from the study:

- Over 20,000 plate images and microbiologist plate reads analysed
- All performance targets successfully achieved in line with pharmacopeial guidelines
- **Primary performance target:** 0% False negative rate - no plates with organism growth were missed by APAS® Independence

The development of the APAS® contact plate application was part-funded under MTPConnect's Clinical Translation and Commercialisation Medtech program (part of the Australian Government's Medical Research Future Fund).

Dr Steven Giglio, CCS Chief Scientific Officer said:

"The performance of the contact plate application is equally impressive as the 90mm plate application already released and used by customers in a routine manufacturing environment. This achievement is a testament to the dedication of the entire CCS development team, not only in delivering the analysis module application, but also in developing the hardware required to handle this smaller plate type."

Beyond being a technical milestone, this functionality offers tangible benefits to our customers, enabling greater automation of environmental monitoring, improving quality and traceability of critical results while enhancing operational efficiency. It also opens new opportunities for broader adoption of the APAS® technology across pharmaceutical manufacturing sites, reinforcing the Company's commitment to meeting customer needs and driving market growth."

Approved for release by the CCS Board.

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About Clever Culture Systems

Clever Culture Systems (CCS) provides intelligent automation solutions to microbiology laboratories. Based in Adelaide, South Australia, the Company has developed a best-in-class technology, the Automated Plate Assessment System (APAS® Independence), using artificial intelligence and machine learning software to automate the imaging, analysis and interpretation of microbiology culture plates. The technology remains the only US FDA-cleared artificial intelligence technology for automated culture plate reading. The product is currently being sold to microbiology laboratories in the pharmaceutical manufacturing sector for the reading of environmental monitoring culture plates and to clinical laboratories as an in vitro diagnostic for infectious diseases. Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc is exclusive distributor of the APAS® Independence to clinical customers in the United States and selected countries in Europe.

INVESTOR ENQUIRIES

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