



## Inlabtec Serial Diluter Outperforms Test Tube Protocol

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After decades of using the traditional test tube method for serial dilutions the Centre for Laboratory Medicine ([www.zlmsg.ch](http://www.zlmsg.ch)) in St. Gallen, Switzerland changed a year ago to the Inlabtec Serial Diluter. In the period since installation, the Inlabtec system has demonstrated itself as a sound investment through its constant high accuracy, high level of automation and clear, simple and easy operation.

The Centre for Laboratory Medicine (ZLM) is a recognized competence centre for medical analytics and diagnostics, accredited to ISO / IEC 17025, and ISO 9001 certified. The department of veterinary diagnostics carries out food hygiene studies for various clients.

All food samples at ZLM are now automatically diluted and mixed with the Inlabtec Serial Diluter at the push of a button to provide perfect serial dilution every time. In all inter-laboratory tests in which the ZLM participated, and in all internal comparisons carried out with the old test tube method, the high quality and reliability of results from the Inlabtec serial diluter were confirmed. Over the last 12 months - microbial count results using the Inlabtec serial diluter have been of consistently high accuracy. Beneficially the serial diluter has also eliminated the operator dependent scattering of results that was previously experienced with the labour-intensive test tube method.

For the whole ZLM team, the serial diluter has proved a major asset. The setup of the instrument is both simple and quick. During the operating week, only the empty bottles have to be replenished with a new dilution medium. As well as eliminating the labour-intensive task of preparing test tubes required by the old method, the new protocol of conducting dilutions in serial dilution bags avoids operator errors. All these benefits have ensured that all members of the ZLM team, regardless of their professional experience, have generated consistently high-quality microbial counts using the Inlabtec serial diluter as well as achieving significant time and cost savings.