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Alufoil Trophy 2010: 'Unique' UniDose Creates Real Benefits for Diabetics

Diabetics will benefit from UniDose from **Bionostics**, a single-format Glucose Meter Check Control, which won an Alufoil Trophy 2010 in two of the five categories - **Consumer Convenience** and **Product Preservation**. It was described as “unique among glucose metering methods” by head judge Terry Robins, technical and retail packaging consultant and former technical and packaging innovations manager of Sainsbury.

Developed in house by Bionostics, UniDose allows diabetics to easily test the accuracy of their blood glucose test system. Individual test strips, which are packed in an alufoil sachet, make it easier for customers to use. A novel, frangible seal was developed to allow easy opening by removing a portion of the top foil layer to expose the clean surface. Reliable and robust



UniDose provides and presents a single drop of quality control solution to verify the performance of a blood glucose test.

UniDose was created to replace the currently used PE vials for glucose control solutions which achieve 18-24 month stability for an unopened vial, but only three month stability once the vial has been opened. Alufoil is instrumental in providing a very low water vapour transmission rate and allows a very small volume of control solution to be used to maintain glucose concentrations within specification for 24 months at up to 30 °C.

The intuitive UniDose presents a single drop of control solution on to a clean surface, much like a drop of blood obtained from a finger stick. This means the control measurement is performed using the same amount of liquid every time resulting in a more repeatable measurement and avoiding damage to the meter from flooding of the test strips. It is worth noting that although developed for diabetics, UniDose is also suitable for any product where only a drop of product is needed.

Randy Byrd, Vice President and Chief Technical Officer, Bionostics, said: “We are honoured to have won an Alufoil Trophy 2010 and believe it confirms that we have created an exceptional product that will benefit both our manufacturing customers and the ultimate end user.”

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“The two year ambient temperature life of the pack makes it particularly impressive. It is a system that will save large sums of money over traditional glucose metering methods,” added Robins.

Alufoil Trophy 2010, organised by the European Aluminium Foil Association, was split into five categories for the first time in 2010 - Consumer Convenience, Design + Marketing, Product Preservation, Resource Efficiency, and Technical Innovation. The new format attracted 64 entries with 13 winners, and was heralded a great success by judges and the alufoil sector.

High resolution pictures of all winners are available at www.alufoil.org.

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