

DuPont Qualicon RiboPrinter® System

CUSTOMER PROFILE



NCCCS BioNetwork Capstone Center



Aseptic suite at Capstone Center cGMP facility



RiboPrinter® system team at the Capstone Center: Dr. Lynn Elwell, Dr. Mike Morgan and Sarah Leonard

RiboPrinter® system integral to world-class training at the NCCCS BioNetwork Capstone Center



North Carolina
Community College System

As part of a plan to attract biomanufacturing business to North Carolina, and to support existing companies, the state's community college system established the [NCCCS BioNetwork](#) to provide the specialized training needed for a world-class workforce in biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and life sciences.

The Raleigh-based BioNetwork Capstone Center, operated by Wake Technical Community College, in partnership with a consortium of NC community colleges, is the location for a state-of-the-art simulated cGMP (Current Good Manufacturing Practice) facility. Here, short hands-on courses on biopharmaceutical operations are offered to workers in transition, new hires and students seeking careers in the biomanufacturing industry.

The DuPont Qualicon RiboPrinter® system has been used at the Capstone Center since 2007. Dr. Michael K. Morgan, an industrial microbiology instructor, teaches a course on the RiboPrinter® system using bacterial isolates obtained from the Center's aseptic suite during activities such as gowning checks, surface and air monitoring, clean water sampling and bioburden testing.

Dr. Morgan is impressed that the RiboPrinter® system's DNA isolation techniques work so well with a diverse array of bacteria and would recommend the system to companies that need to track and differentiate bacterial strains.

"The RiboPrinter® system has an exquisite ability to characterize beyond the species level. If we isolate six strains of a single species, they will be separated into six easily distinguishable RiboPrint™ patterns, making it extremely useful in tracking sources of contamination. Results require little if any subjective analysis, batch reports are automatically generated, and the automated processing is a huge help."

According to Dr. Morgan, the Center chose the RiboPrinter® system because it is a genotypic method of bacterial identification and characterization already in use among many target clients.

"We feel it's important to offer the RiboPrinter® system course because many local companies use the system and are looking for effective, efficient ways to train workers in its practical and theoretical aspects," said Dr. Morgan. "Other companies enroll employees as a way to determine if the RiboPrinter® system would be a good fit in their workplace. We also have students who are trying to find jobs in the quality control departments of local businesses, and experience with the RiboPrinter® system can be an advantageous skill set."

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