

**VALIDATION OF THE GOLD-PLATED SILVER SAMPLE BLOCK ON THE  
GENEAMP® PCR SYSTEM 9700 THERMAL CYCLER**

**Melody A. Moore<sup>1</sup>, Rhonda K. Roby<sup>2</sup>, John V. Planz<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>*UNTHSC-FW DNA Identity Laboratory, Fort Worth, TX*

<sup>2</sup>*Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA*



The GeneAmp® PCR System 9700 Thermal Cycler has been introduced with interchangeable silver and gold-plated silver sample blocks. To validate the new gold-plated silver sample block on the System 9700, amplifications were performed on both the gold-plated silver and the previously validated silver sample blocks. PCR amplifications using the AmpFLSTR® Profiler Plus ID™, Cofiler®, Identifiler™ and SGM® Plus typing kits (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were performed. Electrophoretic characteristics such as allelic profiles, peak heights and peak height ratios were used to discern differences in the amplification capabilities of the two sample blocks. There was 100% concordance in the genetic profiles generated on each sample block. Peak height ratio data demonstrated no differences between the two sample blocks. These results demonstrate that the PCR reactions on both silver and gold-plated silver blocks are equivalent. The results of this study validate the interchangeability of the silver and gold-plated silver sample blocks on the GeneAmp® PCR System 9700 Thermal Cycler.