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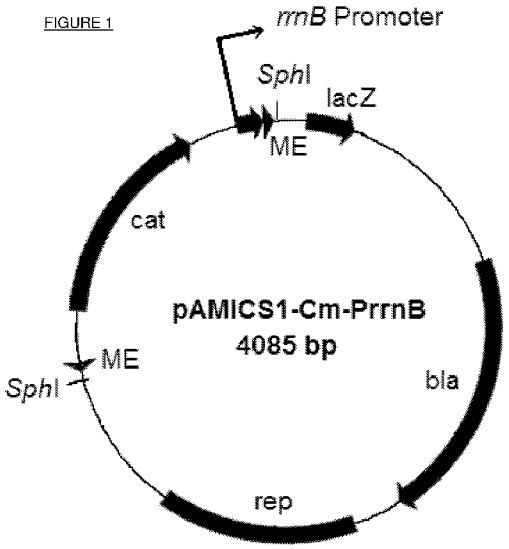
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FIGURE 1



(57) **Abstract**: Described is a process for producing a mutant bacterium which exhibits improved survival and/or growth under a selected growth condition, the process comprising the steps of: (a) generating a pool of mutant bacteria by transposon mutagenesis with an activating transposon (TnA), wherein the TnA comprises a promoter capable of increasing transcription of a gene at or near its insertion site; (b) growing bacteria from the mutant pool under the selected growth condition and under one or more reference conditions to produce two or more test cultures; and (c) comparing the distribution of TnA insertions between test cultures to identify a first class of genes which are disadvantageous for growth and/or survival under the selected growth condition and a second class of genes which are advantageous for growth and/or survival under the selected growth condition.

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