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(54) Title: RINSE SOLUTION FOR MICROBIAL DETECTION SYSTEMS

(57) Abstract: Exemplary embodiments pertain to a solution containing carbon black. The solution may be applied to a membrane filter of a microbial enumeration system as a post-rinse solution (i.e., after the membrane filter is rinsed with the sample of interest). The solution may reduce or suppress background autofluorescence, thereby improving detection and enumeration of colony forming units (CFUs) or other microbiological entities. The solution may be used in connection with a method for performing sample preparation for a microbial enumeration system. The carbon black solution may be manufactured according to a manufacturing process detailed herein.

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