

AOAC & MICROVAL METHOD VALIDATION TRAINING

10 SEP 2025, 10:30-14:00 GMT+8
VIRTUALLY ON TEAMS

Microbial Method Validation: Detailed Insights

About the training workshop

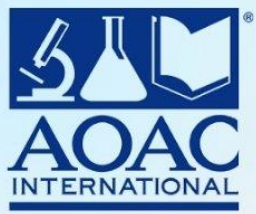
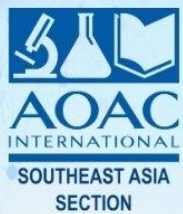
The AOAC Southeast Asia Section (AOAC SEA), in collaboration with AOAC INTERNATIONAL and MICROVAL, is pleased to present the virtual training workshop: “**Session 2: AOAC & MICROVAL Microbial Method Validation: Detailed Insights.**” Delivered by global leaders in method validation and certification, this session brings valuable international expertise to the regional scientific community, aiming to strengthen capabilities in microbiological method validation.

This is the **second session in a training series** designed to equip laboratory professionals, method developers, and regulatory stakeholders with essential knowledge and practical guidance aligned with international standards. As global regulatory expectations continue to evolve, robust method validation is increasingly critical to ensuring data integrity, product safety, and regulatory compliance.



Register Now
Before 9th Sep 2025

Title	Session 2: AOAC & MICROVAL Microbial Method Validation: Detailed Insights
Date	10 September 2025, from 10:30 AM to 14:00 PM GMT+8
Venue	Virtually on Teams
Fee	S\$100 — AOAC SEA members enjoy a 100% discount



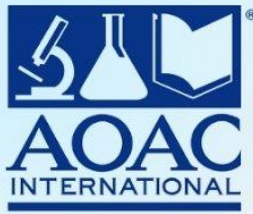
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Agenda

#	Topic	Speaker
1	Introduction of ISO 16140 series (LOD introduction and concept)	<i>Benjamin Diep</i> , Senior Food safety Microbiologist, Nestlé Research/ Lausanne /Switzerland <i>Astrid Cariou</i> , Manager, Method Performance in Food Microbiology, ADRIA
2	Introduction OMA/PTM/appendix J (AOAC) and where to find these reports (POD introduction & concept)	<i>Brad Stawick</i> , Senior Director, Research Institute for AOAC INTERNATIONAL
3	Break	
4	Elements of validation between the different ways	<i>Erin Crowley</i> , Head of Global Thought Leadership, Neogen <i>Deborah McKenzie</i> , Deputy Assistant Executive Director & Chief Standards Officer, AOAC INTERNATIONAL
5	How to find and interpret both these validation reports for end users and link to verification	<i>Astrid Cariou</i> , Manager, Method Performance in Food Microbiology, ADRIA <i>Erin Crowley</i> , Head of Global Thought Leadership, Neogen <i>Brad Stawick</i> , Senior Director, Research Institute for AOAC INTERNATIONAL
6	Live Q&A	All



AOAC & MICROVAL METHOD VALIDATION TRAINING

Speakers



Benjamin Diep
*Senior Food Safety
Microbiologist,
Nestlé Research, Lausanne,
Switzerland*



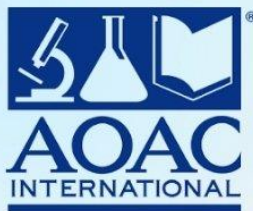
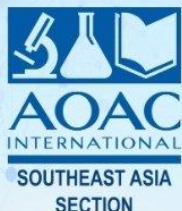
Astrid Cariou
*Manager, Method
Performance in Food
Microbiology,
ADRIA*

Benjamin has spent more than 25 years in food industry focusing on Food Safety and Quality. His field of expertise comprises methods development and validation for food pathogens, hygiene indicators and probiotics enumeration and identification. Within Nestlé, he contributes to the microbiology analytical strategy, manages research projects, and supports operation to improve laboratories competency.

Externally, he is involved in several ISO WGs; he is the co-project leader of the amendment of ISO 16140-2 (methods validation, leading a project group on commercial sterility methods), ISO 16140-3 (method verification) and ISO WG11 (probiotic enumeration). He is also part of the International Probiotic Association and actively participating in the New technologies for probiotic enumeration taskforce. Finally, he is a technical reviewer for MicroVal, an international organization for methods validation.

With a decade of experience at Bio-Rad, where she developed innovative methods for pathogen detection in food science, Astrid joined ADRIA in 2023 to lead the alternative method validation team. The team, with over 40 years of collective expertise in method validation, delivers high-quality testing in food microbiology and is recognized as an independent laboratory for ISO 16140-2:2016 and AOAC PTM certifications.

Astrid is an active member of the AFNOR and MicroVal technical committees and contributes to the ISO/TC 34/SC 9/WG3 working group on method validation. She holds a Master of Science degree from Sorbonne University (Paris).



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Speakers



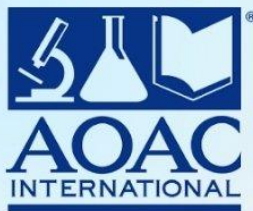
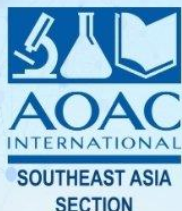
Brad Stawick
*Senior Director,
Research Institute for AOAC
INTERNATIONAL*



Erin Crowley
*Head of Global Thought
Leadership,
Neogen*

Brad Stawick is the Senior Director, Research Institute for AOAC INTERNATIONAL with over 30 years of experience in testing, quality, and management. Throughout his career he has worked for multiple global and national contract laboratory providers where he served in senior management roles in operations and quality specializing in food, environmental, agriculture, and life science specialties. He has a Master of Science in Food Science, a Master of Business Administration, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He is a Certified Food Scientist, a past member of the Official Methods Board (OMB), and an AOAC Fellow. He also serves on the A2LA Accreditation Council and is Chair of the Life Science Advisory Committee at A2LA.

Erin Crowley just recently joined Neogen as the Head of Global Thought Leadership. Prior to her current role, she served as Chief Scientific Officer at Q Laboratories, Inc in Cincinnati, Ohio where she spent the last 20 years managing all aspects of Research & Development, Method Validation and technical expertise for the Food Safety Industry. Erin has expertise in AOAC Official Methods of Analysis, AOAC Research Institute Performance Tested Methods Program, MicroVal and AFNOR NF Certification Programs. She frequently presents technical symposia globally on Method Validation, Method Verification, Harmonization and ISO standards development often representing the perspective of the third-party laboratory. Erin is an active member of AOAC INTERNATIONAL and the International Association of Food Protection (IAFP). Erin has key leadership roles at AOAC INTERNATIONAL including President of the Board of Directors and Chair of the AOAC Official Methods Board. Erin is a member of the MicroVal Technical Committee (MVTC) and ISO TC34/SC9/WG 3 Committee on Method Validation. Erin earned a B.S. from the University of Cincinnati and an M.A. from Tufts University.



AOAC & MICROVAL METHOD VALIDATION TRAINING

Speakers



Deborah McKenzie

Deputy Assistant Executive Director & Chief Standards Officer, AOAC INTERNATIONAL



Kumud Ashish Singh

Manager LS Regulatory APAC, Merck Group; Microbiology Working Group Chair, AOAC SEA

Joining AOAC INTERNATIONAL in 2003, Deborah is Deputy Assistant Executive Director & Chief Standards Officer, including method approval processes. Her responsibilities include overseeing implementation and execution of voluntary consensus standards processes and the Official MethodsSM and Performance Tested MethodsSM programs. She and her team coordinate and administer associated activities with standards development and method approval programs. In support of her responsibilities, she is the lead staff liaison to the AOAC Official Methods Board and develops educational materials and orientations on processes for standards development and method approval programs. Previously, she was responsible for daily management and business development for the AOAC Research Institute and served as Senior Director, Standards and Official MethodsSM. She also held an interim role coordinating the AOAC Science Team, working with the Research Institute and the Laboratory Proficiency Testing Program to align AOAC's science programs and resources.

Kumud Ashish Singh is currently leading regulatory management for F&B & Environment Testing at Merck Life Science supporting advocacy & surveillance for South Asia countries. Over 20 years of experience involving manufacturing & corporate roles in various FMCG companies. Prior to working with Merck, she was responsible for set up of greenfield lab project (1.4 MM USD) involving designing to operation (QMS) followed by Operational Excellence in laboratory for Mars International. Also worked as Microbiologist Subject Matter Expert with Coca-Cola India & Pepsi Foods, where she was responsible for conducting capability enhancement programs for microbiologists like global microbiology training, troubleshooting along with microbiology risk assessment programs to curb microbial spoilage & low-cost proficiency testing programs for India & Southwest Asia region. She started her career as microbiologist at Colgate Palmolive and Johnson & Johnson. She is a member of ISO/TC 34/SC9 WG 5 & WG 16 committee.