***PROFFERED PAPER* PP18.3**
Presented at the 2007 Annual Scientific Meeting & Exhibition of The Australian Society for Microbiology, Adelaide.

Seven Years of *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1 Cooling Tower Isolations in Tropical Northern Australia.

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Legionella monitoring is an essential tool in performance based microbial control of cooling water systems. Analysis for *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1(*Lpn*SG1) was performed on Northern Australian cooling tower water samples by NATA accredited laboratories using AS3896 (1998). A total of 6650 samples were analysed from July 2000 to December 2006 with an overall *Lpn*SG1 prevalence of 6.11%. Of the positive samples, the mean was 3.0 log CFU/mL, and counts at the 90^{th}, 95^{th}, and 99^{th} percentiles were 3.4, 3.6, and 3.9 log CFU/mL, respectively. Annual prevalence was greatest in 2002 at 11.81%, and least in 2004 at, 2.80%. There was a significant relationship ($P < 0.05$) between wet season and *Lpn*SG1 prevalence and counts, with the hot / humid months presenting with a greater prevalence and higher microbial levels. This study provides valuable data on *Lpn*SG1 cooling tower prevalence and levels in tropical environments.