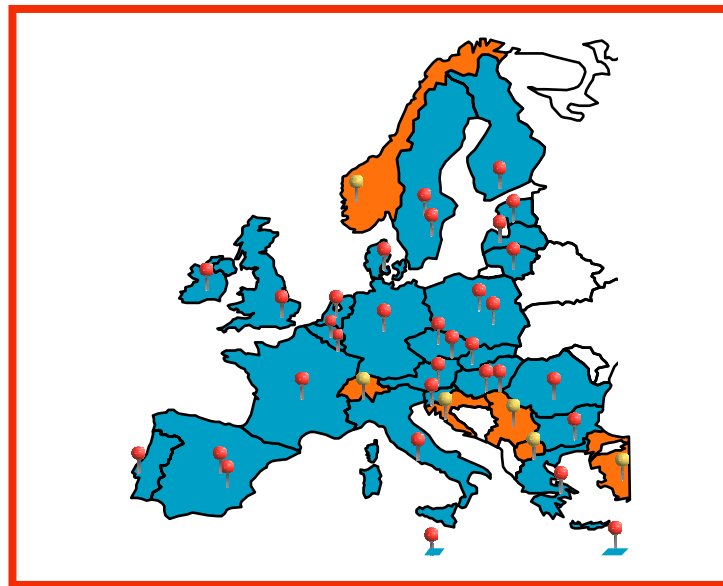




Summary of the Workshop



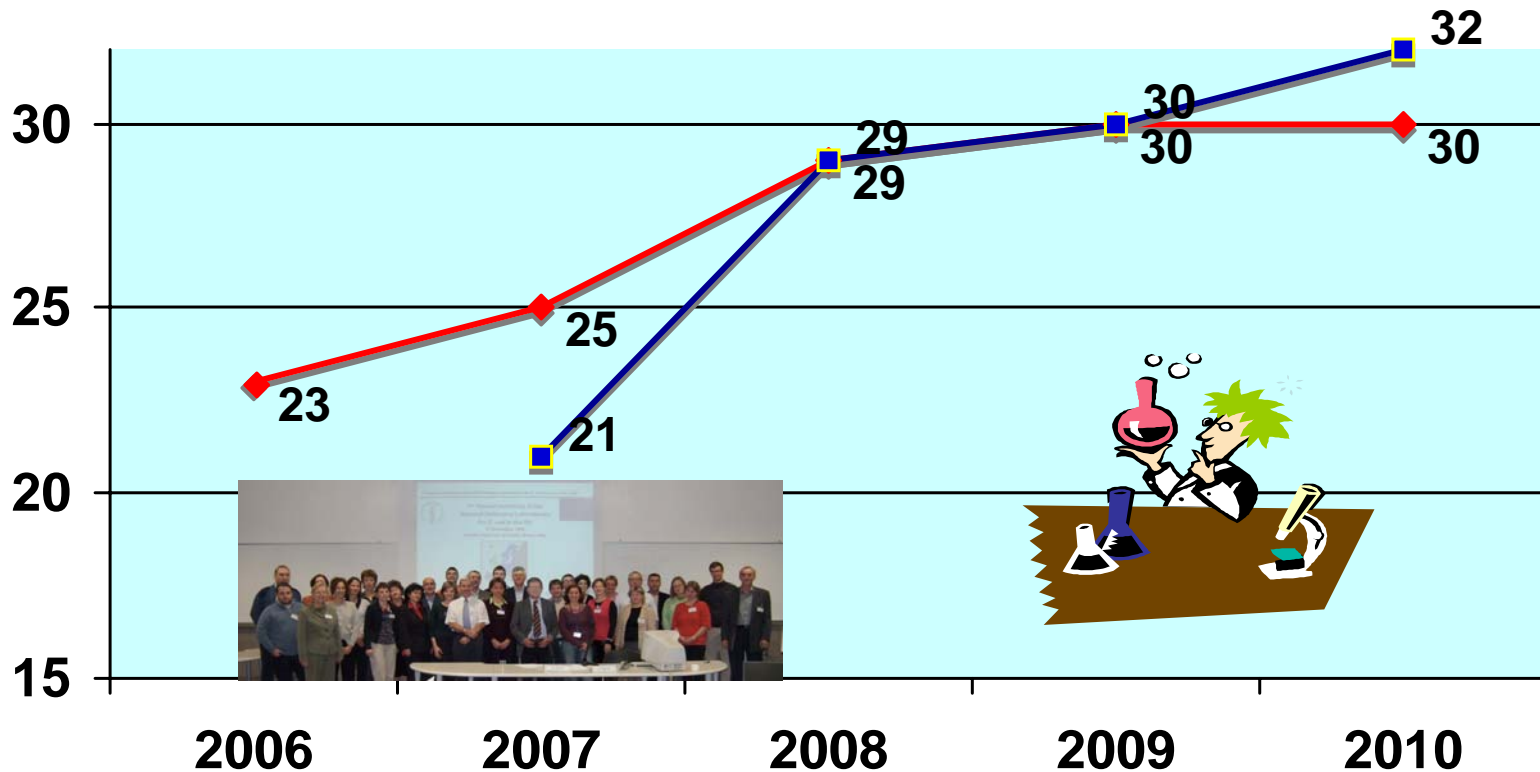
Aim of the Annual Workshops

To establish and consolidate the
Team of EU Reference Laboratories



NRLs participating in the Network activities

—◆— Workshop —■— PTs



Burden of disease caused by VTEC

- Number of cases much lower than *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella*
- Severe cases of HUS represents a major public health issue and have a strong impact on the public opinion
- There is no specific therapy for HUS and the pathogenesis still has to be fully understood
- Importance of **PREVENTION !!!!**
- Some VTEC non-O157 do cause HUS
- The importance of these VTEC non-O157 is increasingly recognized
- There are still gaps in the knowledge of VTEC Non-O157 epidemiology

Surveillance and monitoring of VTEC in the EU



Networks of *E.coli* Reference Labs

Istituto Superiore di Sanità - Dip. Sanità Pubblica Veterinaria e Sicurezza Alimentare
EU Reference Laboratory for *E.coli*

VTEC infections and the EU RTD Programs

- VTEC have been included in the DISCONTTOOLS list



- Activities on VTEC in recently closed projects:

- MED-VET-NET



- The Pathogenic *Escherichia coli* Network (PEN)



- A proposal for a COST Action on VTEC has been presented by Ireland

- VTEC not considered among the topics of the last FWP7 calls

Proficiency Testing (PT)

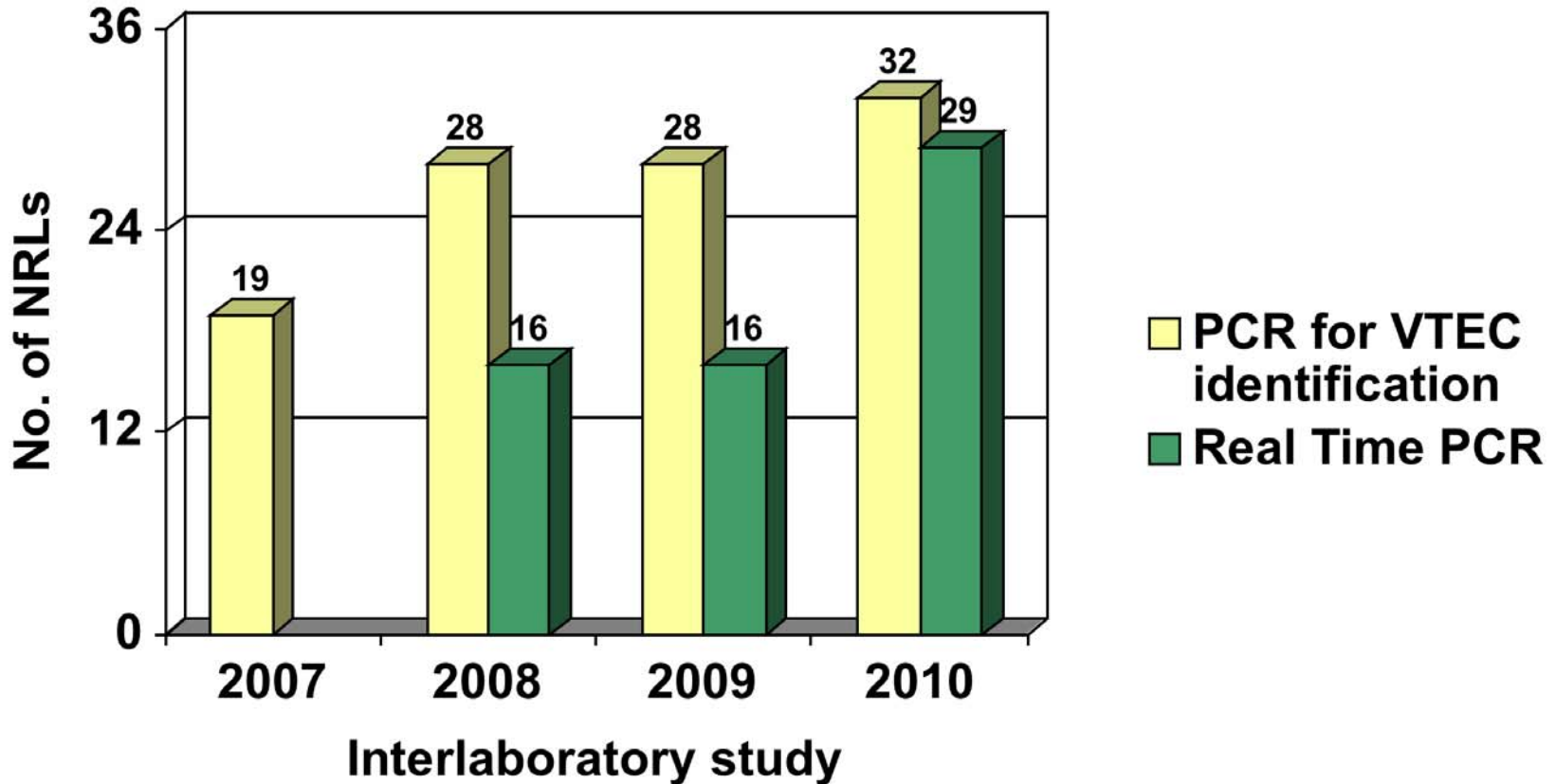
- ✓ A new ISO standard for PTs (ISO/IEC 17043)
- ✓ The PT program for VTEC identification and typing carried out within the ECDC FWD Network: basic harmonization of the medical and veterinary networks of EU NRLs
- ✓ 4th and 5th PT rounds:
 - ✓ Satisfactory level of participation and performance
 - ✓ Significant increase in the number of NRLs performing Real-time PCR
- ✓ Direct uploading of the results via website

Proficiency Testing (PT)

Ring test 2009 - Indications

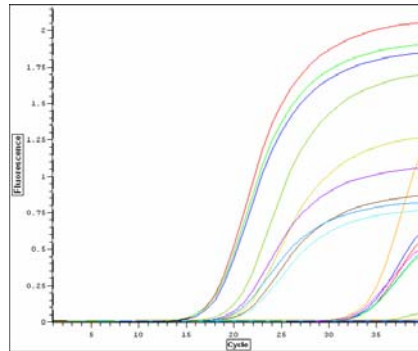
- ✓ All the NRLs are now able to identify correctly VTEC by PCR
- ✓ The number of NRLs performing Real-time PCR is still low: CRL will continue to provide knowledge and training to the NRLs
- ✓ Next Ring tests performed on a single method
- ✓ Direct uploading of the results via website

Trend analysis of the PT activities

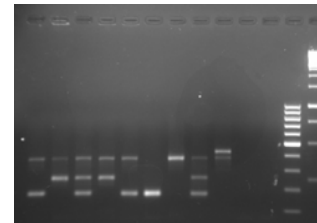


PTs 2011

- Detection of top 4 VTEC non-O157 in food by the ISO TS for STEC based on Real time PCR



- Joint EQA test with ECDC-FWD network for *vtx* subtyping



Development of methods

- ✓ The Horizontal method for the detection of STEC O157, O111, O26, O103 and O145 is about to be published as an ISO Technical Specification



International
Organization for
Standardization

- ✓ Good performance of the method in the 4th PT
- ✓ Collaboration with JRC to validate the method and to produce reference materials

Thank you and

..... ARRIVEDERCI to 2011 !!!

