



## CELL-BASED DNA SENSORS AND METHODS OF USING SAME

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### The Invention

UW-Madison researchers have developed cell-based DNA sensors to achieve easy, accurate, and cost-effective detection of pathogens. Using synthetic biology, the inventors engineered the naturally competent bacterium *Bacillus subtilis* to detect specific DNA sequences in the environment. The resultant *B. subtilis* mutant includes a novel genetic circuit that controls growth and a fluorescence reporter gene. Upon exposure to a target sequence, the sensor produces a detectable fluorescent signal, resulting in highly specific detection of species/samples containing the target DNA sequence. In addition, the sensor is capable of multiplexed DNA detection in complex samples.

### Additional Information

#### For More Information About the Inventors

- [Ophelia Venturelli](#)

#### Tech Fields

- [Analytical Instrumentation, Methods & Materials : Sensors](#)

For current licensing status, please contact Jennifer Gottwald at [jennifer@warf.org](mailto:jennifer@warf.org) or 608-960-9854

### Figures

