



## **FAQ**

### **What is Biocote?**

Biocote is a hygienic solutions company that offers unique anti-microbial product solutions to minimise the risk of cross-contamination. BioCote partners with companies allowing them access to its silver based anti microbial technology. Partner companies incorporating BioCote technology are able to provide unique total hygienic product solutions and benefit from the marketing activities of all other partners under the BioCote brand name.

### **Why do I need it? I can just clean.**

Yes you can just clean, however if everybody cleaned properly there wouldn't be a problem. Cleaning can be a fairly mundane job, cleaning chemicals may not be rotated, and surfaces may be missed if there is a failure in cleaning, BioCote is a backup. BioCote surface protection is not a substitute for cleaning but can be your second line of defence.

### **Is it Safe?**

Yes Silver is completely safe it has a low toxicity and as been used in silver coated catheters and on wound dressings within the medical industry for a number of years.

### **How long will it last?**

The antimicrobial properties of BioCote are effective for the life time of the product. The silver ions are incorporated during the manufacturing process and are continually present at an active concentration on the surface of the product. Also because silver is an inorganic antimicrobial it will not leach or migrate from the product and will not be washed out or be removed by cleaning processes.

## How is it applied?

BioCote antimicrobials can be incorporated into a variety of material including powder coatings, plastics and fabrics:

1. Powder Coating: As the active ingredient is incorporated during the manufacturing process of the powder coating the BioCote powder coating is applied in the same method as standard powder coatings. BioCote powder coatings display the same mechanical properties as normal powder coating.
2. Plastics: The BioCote is applied via an additive into the moulding/manufacturing process and will therefore be present throughout the material. Moulding conditions or product mechanical performance remain unaffected.
3. Fabrics: Fibres and fabrics can be treated in a number of ways depending on manufacturing processes and technologies utilised. This is individually tailored to meet the products requirements.

In all cases there are no changes in the Health and Safety requirements over and above standard manufacturing of the different types of materials. Also products are designed specifically for the material used.

## Has it been tested?

Yes, all products manufactured by BioCote partners are subject to quality control testing on an ongoing basis. Samples are submitted to an independent laboratory and tested against a wide range of gram positive and gram negative bacteria. These certificates demonstrate efficacy of BioCote treated products

**LAMPLAB**  
Class: BioCote Limited  
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Job Ref: 0447043  
Sample Ref No: LSN 25/20706  
Date Issued: 08/02/2014  
Date Expiry: 28/06/2014

**CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS**

Mat. Desc: FILM 1333  
Reference: BBO 263

Test	Result	Unit	Ref
Enteric microorganisms	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Enterobacter coli O157	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Salmonella enteritidis	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Staphylococcus aureus (Methicillin Sensitive)	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Shigella sonnei	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Salmonella typhimurium	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Streptococcus faecalis	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Escherichia coli O157	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours
Enterobacter aerogenes	>99.9	%	Reduction After 24 Hours

Comments: Microbiological results satisfactory

*[Signature]*  
Lan Laboratories Ltd. 10011 Lane, Lane Hill, Birmingham B40 5TJ England

## How can you say it works for the life of the product?

BioCote through independent laboratories has carried out simulated life cycle testing on a range of BioCote treated materials. All materials tested have shown efficacy for the useful life of the product.

## **Is Biocote effective against MRSA and other antibiotic resistant bacteria?**

Yes, Biocote does not function in the same way as antibiotics and therefore, to date, no bacteria have become resistant to Biocote as they have become resistant to some antibiotics. BioCote carries out extensive independent testing and has numerous certificates showing efficacy against MRSA.

## **Is there evidence of resistance?**

The active agent in BioCote is silver. To date no evidence has arisen to indicate that silver antimicrobials can lead to resistance. Part of the reason is that silver uses multiple binding sites within the cell. This means that silver has no holes in its spectrum of activity unlike other antimicrobials.

## **Does it replace cleaning?**

No, the most important process in the fight against healthcare acquired infection is cleaning. Cleaning removes bacteria from surfaces, however surfaces can become recontaminated between cleaning, meaning that bacteria can multiply to a level that may cause infection. However a BioCote treated surface inhibits microbial growth providing a second line of defence.

## **Does it effect regular cleaning?**

No, regular cleaning protocols recommended by manufacturers should be followed as usual. The addition of BioCote antimicrobial does not alter the mechanical or physical properties of the treated product other than imparting antimicrobial properties.

## **Which bacteria is Biocote actually effective against?**

Biocote is effective against a wide range of gram positive and gram negative bacteria as well as moulds and fungi.

Examples of organisms tested against are the following:

- *Listeria monocytogenes*
- *E.coli* 0157
- *Salmonella enteritidis*
- *Staphylococcus aureus* (resistant strain)
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- *Bacillus subtilis*
- *Salmonella typhimurium*
- *Streptococcus faecalis*
- *Legionella pneumophila*
- *Enterobacter aerogenes*
- *Aspergillus niger*



