

Metlam Antimicrobial Protection

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a 'microbe'?

A '**microbe**' is a microscopic living organism or microorganism. Microbes are very diverse and include bacteria, mould and viruses.

What does 'antimicrobial' mean?

'**Antimicrobial**' describes something that can resist and prevent the growth of microbes including bacteria, fungi and mould

What does Antimicrobial protection do?

Antimicrobial protection significantly reduces the levels of microbes on a protected surface by up to 99.99%. It is constantly effective against a wide range of microbes including all bacteria and the H1N1 influenza virus and protects against cross contamination.

This helps eliminate the spread of microbes around a washroom and assists in providing you with a cleaner, safer and more hygienic environment whilst defending against degradation, odours and staining.

How does Antimicrobial protection work?

The in-built antimicrobial protection means the bacteria cannot survive.

When micro-organisms come into contact with antimicrobial protected surfaces their growth is inhibited, reducing microbial populations and protecting against their potentially negative effects by;

- Stopping cell division
- Damaging the bacteria/microbes structures
- Disrupting energy production and other essential functions
- Providing long lasting protection performance for the life of the product

How fast is the protection?

Once added to a product the antimicrobial technology starts to work immediately, tests have shown that up to 80% of microbial contamination will be killed within just 15 minutes and over 99% in 2 hours.

Are antimicrobial protected products harder to maintain?

No, cleaning and maintenance of antimicrobial protected products is fast and straight forward.

Simply by regularly wiping with a damp cloth, mild detergent and thoroughly drying after cleaning your product will continue to look brand new.

DO NOT USE - SOLVENTS, CHEMICAL BASED CLEANERS, STEEL WOOL or SCOURERS

Our easy to follow, comprehensive cleaning guide for antimicrobial products can be downloaded from www.metlam.com.au

Can other products be coated with antimicrobial protection?

Yes we can arrange to have other products from the standard Metlam range coated with antimicrobial protection, the standard O.E.M policy applies for special projects as well as minimum order quantities.

Will an antimicrobial protected product look different to a standard Metlam product?

The finish of antimicrobial protected products differs slightly from that of standard finished toilet partition hardware and sanitary ware due to the mix of silver ion particles and the product coating.

Metlam's antimicrobial product finishes are as follows;

Die cast zinc alloy toilet partition hardware has a high gloss finish
Stainless steel sanitary ware has a matte finish.

What is the active ingredient in the antimicrobial coating?

The active ingredient is Silver (Ag+) harnessing its antimicrobial properties.
Silver ions are generated from elemental silver, and they are known to bind to key proteins in micro-organisms.

What is the life expectancy of the protection and its performance?

Antimicrobial technology is incorporated into the product coating at the time of manufacture. Once incorporated, the additives provide continuous built-in protection that will last the expected life of the product.

What is the expected lifetime of the product coating?

The high performance durability of the product coating on antimicrobial products will exceed the lifetime of the product warranty.
Metlam Australia's Standard Warranty applies to all antimicrobial protected products

Is the antimicrobial coating safe?

Yes, due to its silver-ion technology.
Silver is regarded as non-toxic, it is a safe and natural alternative to synthetic antimicrobials and does not break down over time. Meaning it will not leach from or wear off treated surfaces.

Is there any resistance to the active ingredient from harmful microbes?

No, there is little concern from microbiologists in relation to this.

How much protection does an antimicrobial coated product provide?

Field tests prove that washroom equipment and toilet partition hardware protected with BioCote coating benefit from up to 99.9% reduction in the bacteria on their surface.

Antimicrobial Toilet Partition Hardware and Sanitary Ware performance

Metlam's antimicrobial range is subject to rigorous and continuous independent certification available by the active ingredient supplier to Metlam.
All products have been tested against ISO 22196:2011 and provides an effective secondary support to existing cleaning regimes in the fight against contamination