

The potential for contamination or infection from equipment in the workplace has never been greater. To help combat this risk, the complete Stuart® range of benchtop laboratory equipment is now protected with BioCote®, a unique additive applied during the manufacturing process, utilising active agent silver to provide long-term effective antimicrobial protection.

BioCote®

- Anti-microbial protection
- Trace levels of Silver encapsulated in the product
- Interrupts the cell's ability to function
- Remains active for the life of the product (rapid accelerated tests suggest up to 25 years)
- Active against all common bacteria and fungi.
- Applied to all the following Stuart® equipment external components:
 - Metalwork – in the paint
 - Plastic Mouldings – in the colour
 - Fascia – in the lacquer

FAQs about BioCote®

How does it work?

During manufacture silver is added to every external component of the Stuart® product. The BioCote® additive is used in a wide range of finishes including powder coating and plastics, being incorporated during the manufacturing stage.

The BioCote® finish inhibits the ability of the bacteria to reproduce. Without the ability to reproduce the bacteria will naturally die, normally within 8 hours. This has the effect of reducing the levels of the bacteria by up to 99% during an 8-hour period. On a non-BioCote® protected product the levels of bacteria could grow exponentially.

Why BioCote®?

BioCote® is safe, effective, and lasts for the entire product lifecycle, it doesn't wear off, nor does it leach.

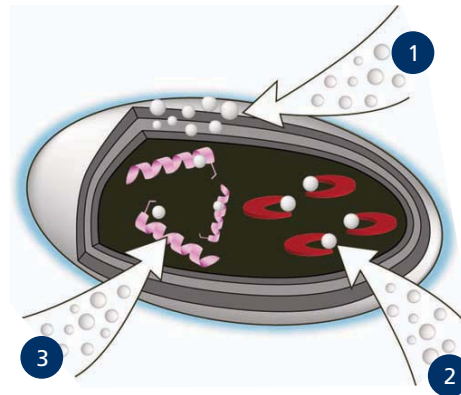
How is it applied?

BioCote® incorporates silver ions at the manufacture stage in both powder coating and plastics.

How effective is BioCote®?

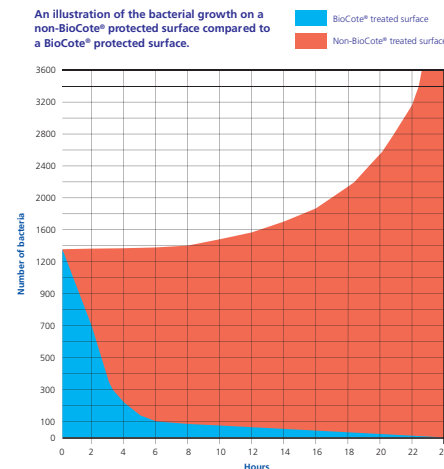
BioCote® is effective against a wide range of bacteria and fungi. Examples of bacteria and fungi tested against include: *Aspergillus niger* (Black Mould), *Streptococcus faecalis*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), *Escherichia coli* and *Listeria monocytogenes*.

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- 1 Interruption of cell membrane
- 2 Inhibition of enzymes
- 3 Interruption of DNA strands

Above: Demonstration of the spectrum of activity possible for silver ions against a typical bacterium



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Is it effective against MRSA and other antibiotic-resistant bacteria?

Yes, BioCote® is currently effective against antibiotic-resistant bacteria, including MRSA.

Can it create resistant strains?

BioCote® does not function in the same way as antibiotics and therefore, to date, there is no evidence that any bacteria have become resistant to BioCote®, as they have to some antibiotics.

Has it been tested?

Simulated life cycle testing has been carried out by independent laboratories showing ongoing efficacy for over 25 years.

Why is BioCote® different to other antimicrobial products?

BioCote® can provide a complete solution including the patent-protected powder coating. It contains a silver-based anti-microbial agent which is proven to be safe within standard working practices.

Does it rub off?

No, the active agent in BioCote® is incorporated in the manufacturing process and is chemically bonded to the material. The ions remain constant at the surface and cannot be rubbed off.

Is it safe?

Yes, silver is completely safe.

Can you see BioCote®?

No, BioCote® protection is invisible to the naked eye. Even though you can't see BioCote®, the 'Protected by BioCote®' sticker on every Stuart® product will reassure you that your Stuart® product has long-term microbial protection.

Is the addition of BioCote® audited?

As part of our partnership with BioCote® Stuart® products have undergone a rigorous validation process. This ensures that all products work effectively as an anti-microbial and that the bespoke additive solution is suitable. This is then supported with an ongoing Quality Control system offering certification for antimicrobial efficacy. All validation and Quality Control is carried out by an independent accredited laboratory.

Where can I get more information?

For more information on BioCote® protection please visit www.biocote.com, alternatively visit www.stuart-equipment.com for more information on how BioCote® complements the Stuart® range of products.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure all possible external part of each Stuart® product is BioCote® protected, manufacturing and material constraints mean that we cannot guarantee this.