



Frequently Asked Questions

What is Antimicrobial Film

Antimicrobial Film is a thermal lamination film from Cheever that is enhanced with the antimicrobial protection of Agion Technologies. Antimicrobial Film helps to prevent the growth of bacteria, molds, mildews and fungi. The Antimicrobial Film technology is available on a wide range of laminating films from Cheever.

What should I know about bacteria?

We are surrounded by a multitude of microscopic organisms. One bacterium can reproduce a million times in just one hour. Some bacteria can survive on documents for months. Antimicrobial Film was specifically developed to effectively control against the growth of unwanted microorganisms on laminated documents.

Who needs Antimicrobial Film?

Individuals working in medical and scientific settings, restaurants and food service, schools or other settings are especially concerned about bacteria. In environments such as these, individuals must use extra care to ensure that contamination sources are controlled. Antimicrobial Film provides an added line of defense against the growth of unwanted bacteria.

What is an antimicrobial?

Antimicrobials are products that inhibit the growth and reproduction of, bacteria, mold and fungi. There are many types of antimicrobial products, but Antimicrobial Film is the only laminating film that incorporates the natural protection of silver as an antimicrobial agent. Silver is effective against the broadest range of bacteria.

How does it work?

Antimicrobial Film incorporates Agion's silver based antimicrobial agent. When microorganisms are exposed to the antimicrobial agent, the lifecycle processes of the organism are interrupted and the organism's reproductive capabilities are affected.

Is Antimicrobial Film safe?

Yes it is. Studies have shown Agion's antimicrobial agent to be less toxic than table salt. Silver, the antimicrobial agent that is used in Antimicrobial Film, has been used for centuries in medical applications and to protect various food products from spoilage. The earliest record of silver use was in 79 AD where it was used for long-term water storage. Today, silver is used to control bacteria growth in extremely susceptible medical environments such as burn wards and on "in body" medical devices.

How long will the antimicrobial protection last on my laminated document?

Current testing suggests that the active Agion antimicrobial in Antimicrobial Film will not wear off with cleaning or use. In fact, under normal conditions, the laminated piece will most likely wear out or become outdated before the active antimicrobial becomes ineffective.



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Is the antimicrobial agent in Antimicrobial Film regulated and approved?

Yes. The AgION antimicrobials are EPA registered for a broad range of uses, including food and water contact, HVAC, toys and toothbrushes. They are FDA-listed under the FDA food contact substance notification for use in all types of food contact polymers in 21-CFR, parts 174 – 186. They are listed on USDA list of non-food compounds maintained by NSF for food processing plants. They are CTFA approved additive on the cosmetic, toiletry and fragrance association inventory.

Will Antimicrobial Film protect me from illness?

No it will not. Agion antimicrobials are EPA registered as a preservative and bacteriostatic agent. Under EPA regulations, the antimicrobial may be incorporated into Antimicrobial Film for the sole purposes of protecting the laminated article from the spread of unwanted bacteria, fungi, mold and mildew. Antimicrobial Film reduces the likelihood that the bacteria will grow on the laminated surface.

Will Antimicrobial Film™ contribute to the developing of resistant bacteria?

No. The Antimicrobial Film™, with Agion's antimicrobial agent is completely inorganic and has not been linked to the adaptive resistance seen with organic materials like antibiotics.

What organisms will Antimicrobial Film kill?

The EPA prohibits listing specific health claims that indicate which microorganisms Antimicrobial Film, with Agion's antimicrobial agent, will kill. Agion's antimicrobial has been shown to be effective against a broad spectrum of many common bacteria typically found in food service, hospitals and clinics, dental offices, schools and day care facilities.

Is Antimicrobial Film™ more expensive than standard laminating films?

Yes, the added benefits of Antimicrobial Film are at a higher price. If maintaining a hygienic environment is important, the added costs of Antimicrobial Film far outweigh the additional expense.