



**Q What are Clean'Safe Antimicrobial products?**

*A Clean'Safe Antimicrobial is a new range of filing and organisation products, as well as desktop accessories which help stop the spread of bacteria and viruses.*

**Q What does Antimicrobial mean?**

*A Antimicrobial is used to describe substances which demonstrate the ability to reduce the presence of microbes, such as bacteria and mould.*

**Q Is the product coated?**

*A It is not a coating. We use organic antimicrobial additive called quaternary ammonium compounds (QAC or QUAT). All the products that feature paper are made of antimicrobial paper. Only the black compartments of the multipart files in the range use standard pressboard.*

**Q What is the difference between Antimicrobial and Antibacterial?**

*A Antimicrobial technology is effective against a wide spectrum of microbes; this includes bacteria, mould, fungi and even viruses. Antibacterial technology is only effective against bacteria.*

**Q How effective is it?**

*A It is proven to inhibit the growth of microbes by up to 99.99%. It is effective in the rapid reduction of a number of bacteria, including MRSA, E. Coli, Campylobacter, Legionella, Salmonella and over 50 others.*

**Q Is it effective against antibiotic-resistant bacteria?**

*A Yes. It is proven to be effective to antibiotic-resistant bacteria such as resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus (VRE).*

**Q Is it safe?**

*A Yes. It is based on silver ion technology, which has been recognised for centuries with no harmful effects. It has been used in various industries for over 10 years, including medical, food and water applications.*

**Q How does it work?**

*A The antimicrobial additives bind to the bacteria or virus cell walls, disrupting growth. The ions interfere with enzyme production stopping the cell producing energy. It then interrupts the cell's DNA, preventing it from replicating and therefore dies. Tests show that up to 99.99% of bacterial reduction can take place over 1 hour.*

**Q How long does it last for?**

*A The antimicrobial technology is a permanent protection against microbes, effective for the intended lifetime of the product it is added to. It is built-in and doesn't wear off or leach out.*

**Q Does using furniture polish or similar cleaning materials effect protection?**

*A No. The additive is inside the products so it is not effected.*

**Q Does the treatment effect recyclability?**

*A No. incorporating the antimicrobial technology does not effect how a product may be recycled.*