BIOCATE AG's Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What is the difference between a Disinfectant and a Sanitizer?

There is a general misunderstanding by the consuming public as to the difference between a disinfectant and a sanitizer; the perception being that they are equally effective. Factually sanitizers only kill a percentage of viruses and bacteria (99.99% often advertised) while a disinfectant kills 100%. Sanitizers are therefore only effective at reducing the number of organisms present on a surface, leaving the remaining organisms to quickly reproduce after the sanitizer's application. Furthermore, the organisms that remain after the application of a sanitizer may become resistant to future sanitizing treatments thereby reducing the effectiveness of a sanitizer after repeated applications. Biocate AG not only kills 100% of bacteria, it also does not introduce bacterial resistance resulting in Biocate AG having unlimited long term effectiveness.

2. Why do organisms NOT build up a resistance to Biocate AG when they do with other sanitizers and disinfectants?

Biocate AG takes no prisoners! SDC, the active ingredient of Biocate AG, kills microorganisms by two modes of action: 1) the silver ion deactivates structural and metabolic membrane proteins leading to microbial death; 2) the microbes view SDC as a food source, allowing the silver ion to enter the microbe. Once inside the organism, the silver ion denatures the DNA, which halts the microbe's ability to replicate and leads to its death. By totally killing the organisms there is no chance for them to build up a future resistance to SDC.

Click here to view a video about how Biocate AG's active ingredient SDC works.

3. What are germs?

Germs are microscopic organisms or agents. There are four major types of germs: bacteria, viruses, fungi, and protozoa. Hard surfaces located in public areas are breeding grounds for germs. When a person's hand touches these surfaces, then touches their eyes, nose or mouth infection may occur. As a result of an infection cells in the body can be damaged causing disease. Biocate AG is proven to kill many germs in 30 Seconds* thereby avoiding infection and disease.

4. Why EPA registration?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) treats disinfectants as pesticides and requires all disinfectants to be registered with the US EPA for sale in the United States. In addition, disinfectants must be registered in each state where the product is sold. Biocate AG EPA registration number is 72977-3-85405, and is registered in all 50 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

5. Why is using an EPA Category IV, that of Biocate AG, important verses the Toxic Category II rating of the leading brands?

The EPA does not require warnings for Category IV products but does have serious warnings for Category II Products. Category II products must be labeled with the following warnings: May be fatal if absorbed through skin, May be fatal if inhaled, Causes substantial but temporary eye injury and causes skin irritation. For more information about EPA toxicity ratings visit the EPA web site: Label Review Manual Chapter 7: Precautionary Statements.

6. How does Biocate AG Deodorize?

Deodorizing is a byproduct of Biocate AG's ability to kill odor causing bacteria a major source of unpleasant odors.

7. What are MRSA and VRE?

Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA or Staph) and Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus (VRE) are two of the most widespread antibiotic-resistant pathogens that cause hospital/ public facility- acquired infections. Unfortunately, in recent times, these infections have also led to the deaths of both young and old alike. Biocate AG is effective against VRE and strains of MRSA including CA-MRSA (community-associated MRSA) and PVL-MRSA (Panton - Valentine Leukocidin MRSA). PVL is a toxin, which destroys white blood cells, and can kill within 24 hours of reaching the lungs.

8. What are Fungicides and Virucides?

Fungicides kill fungus, and virucides kill viruses. Biocate AG is both a Fungicide and Virucide*.

9. What is the difference between a Bacteria and a Virus?

Viruses are tiny infectious agents that can only reproduce inside a living cell. Outside of a living cell, a virus is dormant, but once inside; it takes over the resources of the host cell and begins the production of more virus particles. As an example, Herpes is a virus. Bacteria are one-celled living organisms. Bacteria are many times larger then viruses. All bacteria are surrounded by a cell wall. They can reproduce independently, and inhabit virtually every environment on earth, including soil, water, hot springs, ice packs, and the bodies of plants and animals. As an example, Staph is a bacterium.

10. Does Biocate AG need to be mixed?

Biocate AG is a ready to use formula for consistent efficacy every time. No mixing required.

11. Can I use Biocate AG on children's toys, in the presence of humans or in pet's/ livestock's living areas?

- On children's toys and play surfaces. No wiping required. - Yes!
- On sports equipment (helmets and pads). No wiping required. – Yes!
- In the presence of humans or animals - Yes!
- In pet's/ livestock's living areas – Yes!

12. How often should Biocate AG be applied?

It is recommended that Biocate AG be applied after the surface is cleaned or at least once per day. Following cleaning, the residual disinfectant properties of Biocate AG cease (be mindful that most disinfectants have little to no residual disinfectant properties after they are applied). In the case of sports equipment and young children's toys or equipment, is it recommended that Biocate AG be applied after or before each use.

13. Why Does Biocate AG cost more than bleach?

Biocate AG's technology has no comparison to the active ingredient in the disinfectant your mother's mother used. Biocate AG's primary active ingredients are based on a revolutionary new silver ion technology made via a patented process. This technology delivers an unparalleled combination of effectiveness and safety not found in any other disinfectant. Biocate AG is also manufactured and bottled in the USA with the highest quality standards in a Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) certified state of the art facility.

14. Is Biocate AG a cleaner?

Biocate AG will clean up water soluble spills such as juice, but is not formulated to clean up greasy messes. If a surface needs to be cleaned; a cleaning product should be applied first followed by Biocate AG applied as a final disinfecting step.

15. Does Biocate AG contain hazardous chemicals?

None of the chemicals in Biocate AG are considered hazardous by OSHA.

16. Does Biocate AG stain or damage fabric?

Biocate AG is NON-bleaching, odorless, colorless and will not stain or damage fabrics if contact occurs. Biocate AG is unlike the other toxic disinfectants on the market that contain harsh chemicals that could damage fabrics or destroy the integrity of vinyls and plastics.

17. Are Botanical based Sanitizers as effective as Biocate AG?

Beware of products that claim only 99.99% effectiveness. It is important to use a product that is 100% effective (see sanitizer vs. disinfectant answer). Furthermore, many of the so called botanical based product's active ingredients are toxic substances. An example of a botanical ingredient is thyme; from which Phenol, a toxic substance, is extracted. Therefore when selecting a disinfecting product it is important to ensure that there is 100% effectiveness combined with low toxicity. Biocate AG delivers on both of these requirements.

18. How does Biocate AG work for 24 hours when other disinfectants and sanitizers do not?

Click here to view a video about how Biocate AG's active ingredient SDC works.

19. Why Biocate AG?

- Biocate AG is manufactured from silver ions and citric acid
- 99.967% (by weight) is composed of renewable raw materials (water and citric acid)
- The manufacturing process produces zero discharge with no waste or byproducts.

20. Why Use Biocate AG vs. Bleach + Water?

There are many steps that must be closely followed with using a bleach and water dilution; with the first step being the mixing. This is a hazardous task that is often performed incorrectly. The EPA only recognizes a MRSA kill claim from professional grade bleaches such as Ultra Clorox Germicidal Bleach (standard Clorox bleach is not EPA rated to kill MRSA). As per Clorox, the concentration of the bleach to water must be 2400ppm (or 5.33 oz of bleach per gallon of water). Once the correct bleach is mixed in the correct proportion, it must be applied by professionals using protective gear, allowed to soak for 2 minutes, and then rinsed. Often times, the soak time is too short or the toxic bleach/water mixture is not properly rinsed. Then, the general area must be allowed to "air out" prior to humans/ pets entering the space. Of course bleach is well known to stain and damage fabrics and other materials; so be prepared for collateral damage resulting from the application process. Then, do not forget to dispose of the leftover bleach/ water mix as it loses effectiveness over time (as short as 24 hours). Most likely, the disposal of the remainder is not performed in an environmentally friendly way (unused bleach-water is generally pored down the sink).

Biocate AG has none of these disadvantages. There is no mixing, Biocate AG has an EPA IV toxicity rating which does not require warnings by the Federal EPA; no protective gear is required, no need to rinse, it does not damage fabrics or other materials, it maybe applied in the presence of humans and animals, and there is no wasted Biocate AG. Plus, Biocate AG has the following advantages which include: its active ingredient, SDC, being EPA registered to kill MRSA, offers a 24hr residual bacterial kill, and is a human and pet friendly product.

21. Is there independent test data that proves Biocate AG's claims?

Yes, independent test data is available upon request: Send an email to info@envirogreenplus.com requesting this information. Please include your full contact details.

22. Is Biocate AG listed on the EPA list of Registered Products Effective Against Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) www.epa.gov/oppad001/list_h_mrsa_vre.pdf ?

Yes, Biocate AG is an EPA category IV, MRSA killing disinfectant and Biocate AG is identified on the EPA list via the product name AXEN 30; EPA registration 72977.
Biocate AG continues to be effective after being exposed to temperature ranging between 0-100C (-32F – 212F). It is recommended however that Biocate AG be stored under normal office/ household conditions. Freezing of the product may result in damage to the packaging during transit and should be avoid if possible.

23. Is Biocate AG Fragrance-Free?

Yes, Biocate AG is Fragrance-Free. There are no fragrances added to Biocate AG, and Biocate AG is effectively odorless. Please note that if you apply Biocate AG to surfaces that have been previously disinfected with other products there may be residual odors due to the re-hydration of these prior use products. These odors, following the application of Biocate AG, will dissipate after the first few uses of Biocate AG.

24. Does Biocate AG require precautionary Warning labeling such as "Hazards to Humans and Domestic Animals - Danger"?

No, Biocate AG, unlike almost all other disinfectants, does not require Warning labeling.