

WHY MICROBAN® PROTECTION?

Koala Kare Products is continuously listening to customers and patrons concerning our products and how to improve them. During a recent research study of end users, Koala identified a concern regarding the sanitation of Baby Changing Stations. While Koala does provide cleaning and maintenance instructions as well as sanitary bed liners for use with our stations, parents felt that the Stations are not cleaned as often as they should be.

In addition to training measures and operating instructions for business owners on cleaning and sanitation, Koala sought to offer additional protection for this sanitation concern. One that will never go away and work for the life of the baby changing station. This permanent solution was found in Microban® antimicrobial product protection. Microban protection is the #1 antimicrobial brand to a wide variety of household and institutional products. Microban protection inhibits the growth of odor and stain causing bacteria, mold and mildew.

To prove that Microban protection provides meaningful antimicrobial protection, Microban scientists conducted exhaustive field studies to identify microorganisms typically found on Baby Changing Stations when not regularly maintained through standard operating procedures. As expected, several of the stations that were field inspected, were found to have a variety of common bacteria such as those cause odors and stains typical to the rest room environment. The scientists went to work on a custom Microban solution that could be added to the plastic used in the manufacture of Koala stations.

Koala had several Baby Changing Stations manufactured with the recommended Microban additive. These units were tested with the same bacteria found in the previous tests. The results of these tests were very compelling. See Fig.



Early Testing

(Bacteria on an unprotected surface can double in number every 20 minutes.)

Koala Kare Products is the only Baby Changing Station manufacturer to employ the Microban solution. This means that in addition to providing the most extensive training and operating solutions to your patrons' concerns, only Koala brand changing stations employ an active antimicrobial to keep your unit cleaner between cleanings

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www.PandaProducts.com
Phone: (800) 608-6568
Fax: (409) 840-5545
info@pandaproducts.com

2006 RESEARCH STUDY

Koala Kare Products conducted a national market study to evaluate parental attitudes, levels of patronage and loyalty toward establishments serving the families in conjunction with their child accommodation amenities. Further, research measured satisfaction with the quality, safety and sanitation of these amenities. The study was conducted with over 350 parents with small children.

The research results were compelling for establishments targeting families for their business. Nearly 90% of parents shop or visit public places with their children. Of these, 75% deliberately seek out establishments that have family friendly accommodations. Parents said that they are more loyal, visit more often and spend more time and money at establishments with child accommodation amenities. And Koala rates highest for ease of use, quality, durability, safety and trust.

Sanitation: The Research also identified a parental concern - lack of consistent sanitation. As a result of this study Koala has implemented several measures:

1. Cleaning & Maintenance Training: In every Changing Station we sell, a cleaning and maintenance instruction sheet is now included indicating the correct cleaning and maintenance practices for the janitorial staff. This is also available in a free laminated version available upon request.

2. Sanitary Bed Liners: Koala Kare Products continues to provide sanitary bed liners with each station and replacement liners for stocking the station. Sanitary Liners help protect the users and help keep the Station clean during use.

3. Microban technology: Koala incorporated Microban technology into the plastic of the Station to keep the unit cleaner between cleanings and inhibit the growth of odor and stain causing bacteria. Microban technology is not designed to protect users from disease causing microorganisms.

4. Repair Parts: All replaceable parts are available from Koala and various distribution organizations around the world to help keep units appearance fresh, safe and functioning properly.

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MICROBAN PROTECTION TESTING SUMMARY

Microban Products Company conducted extensive research using industry standard testing methods for Koala Kare before proposing an appropriate antimicrobial solution for the baby changing stations. Antimicrobial action is limited to product:

A random sampling of changing stations were tested for bacteria using three different methods: Plate counts, Luminometer readings, and Sani-Check AB strips to determine bacterial, yeast and fungal microorganisms.

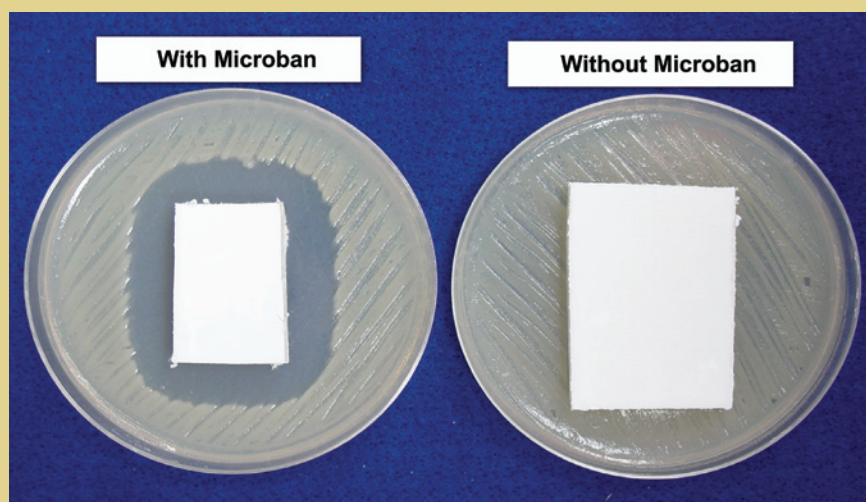
Summary: It was determined after using all three methods that living organisms (bacteria) were present on all changing stations sampled.

Based on these results the Microban technicians recommended an additive that is effective against a broad spectrum of bacteria. Microban supplied Koala Kare with a sample of this additive to be added into the plastic used in the manufacturing process of the baby changing station. Test stations were then manufactured with Microban technology and these treated stations were sent to Microban Products Company headquarters for testing along with control (untreated) changing stations for final evaluations.

Microban R&D tested the stations using AATCC* standard testing methodologies. The tests that were performed were both quantitative and qualitative in nature. The Changing Station with built-in Microban protection showed excellent zones of inhibition against the growth of bacteria while the control Changing Station showed no inhibition against bacterial growth. See Fig.

Petri Dish: with and without Microban

(Microban protection is built in to help prevent the uncontrolled growth of odor and stain causing bacteria.)



This information is based upon standard laboratory tests and is provided for comparative purposes to substantiate antimicrobial activity for non-public health applications. Microban technology is not designed to protect users from disease causing microorganisms. Microban protection inhibits the growth of microorganisms that cause stains, odors and product degradation. Antimicrobial action is limited to product.

Bottom Line: The addition of Microban protection into the Koala Kare baby changing station will keep the station cleaner between cleanings and will inhibit the growth of bacteria on the station that can cause stains, odors or product degradation.

FACT SHEET

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1. What is Microban® antimicrobial product protection?

Microban® antimicrobial product protection fights the growth of odor causing bacteria on the changing station. Microban protection works continuously, 24/7, so your Koala Bear Kare changing station stays cleaner and fresher between cleanings for the lifetime of the changing station.

2. How does Microban® antimicrobial protection work?

Microban® protection is built-in to the changing station during the manufacturing process. When microbes come in contact with the product surface, Microban protection penetrates the cell wall of the microorganism and disrupts cell functions making the microorganism unable to function, grow and reproduce.

3. What types of microorganisms does Microban® protection work against?

Microban® antimicrobial protection is effective against most common bacteria, yeasts, molds and fungi that cause stains, odors and product degradation. Microban technology is not designed to protect users from disease causing microorganisms.

4. How do I know that Microban® antimicrobial product protection is safe?

The Microban® technology used in Koala Bear Kare changing stations has undergone extensive independent laboratory testing, has a long history of use and is registered with the EPA for use in this product application. The Microban technology used in Koala Bear Kare changing stations is non-irritating and has been approved by the EPA for use in many other skin contact applications including undergarments. Microban technology can be found in the products of leading manufacturers of consumer and industrial goods around the world.

5. Does this mean I don't have to clean my products as much or as carefully?

No. Microban® protection provides continuous antimicrobial protection that protects the changing station making it easier to clean and keeping it cleaner between cleanings. However, normal cleaning practices recommended by the product manufacturer should be maintained.

6. Does Microban® protection begin working immediately?

Microban® protection begins to work as soon as the microorganism comes into contact with the product surface. It then works continuously to maintain a consistently lower bio-burden than would be expected on a product without Microban® antimicrobial protection. Under the right conditions, microbes on an untreated surface can double every 20 minutes! Microban technology is not a disinfectant and is not a substitute for normal cleaning practices.

7. How long does Microban® antimicrobial protection work?

Microban® protection is built-in during the manufacturing process and will not wash off or wear away. Microban protection is engineered to provide continuous antimicrobial product protection for the useful lifetime of the product, keeping the Koala Bear Kare changing station cleaner and fresher for longer than ever before.