

CASP MICROSLIDE DIPSLIDES

APPLICATION NOTES FOR COOLING WATERS

Since early 2001 the weekly monitoring of bacteria levels in cooling water has been recommended by many legislators and professional authorities as a visual performance indicator to both system and treatment regime. This allows the user to gauge how effective a chemical or biocide product is in the particular application and a trend can be quickly established identifying changes and taking quick remedial action where required.

It should be noted from the outset that Dipslides alone do not detect *Legionella* as a select microorganism, however it is generally accepted that overall bacteria levels in excess of 10^3 are considered able to support *Legionella* and obviously a serious risk.

The Dipslide consists of a plastic paddle with culture media on each side, the tube keeps the media both moist & sterile until required. The product most suitable is a slide based on a standard nutrient agar with a red dye supplement added during production, this has the advantage of showing any viable colonies as red dots, easily identified and compared against the comparison chart.

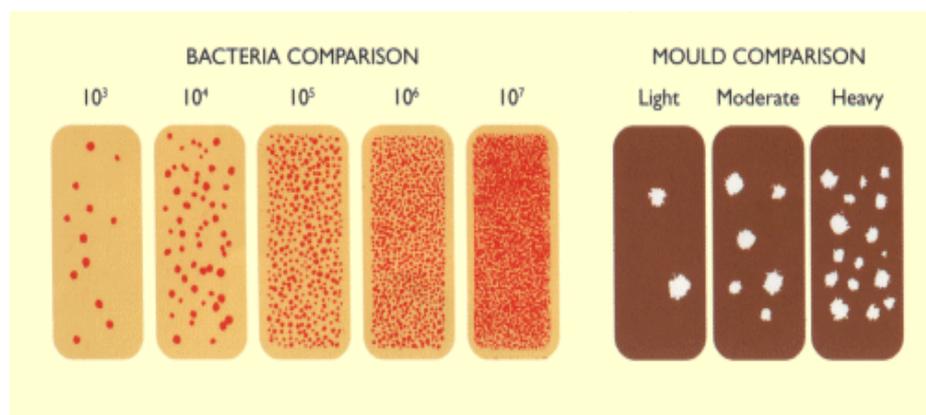
IMPORTANT – Monitoring is not a substitute for a treatment regime, it is always best to seek the advice of a professional water treatment or environmental company who will supply a risk assessment together with the required treatment system. The advantage of your weekly monitoring program is you can see how well the system is performing and identify any problems in house and in-between visits, together with peace of mind – remember counts should **never exceed 10^3** at any time!

SAMPLING & TESTING WITH MICROSLIDES

1 – Prior to use please keep the slides in a cool place, remember the typical shelf life of 8 – 9 months. The slide is opened, care must be taken not to touch the media or expose to the atmosphere in order to prevent false contamination

2 – The sample should be taken in a clean container, free from any detergents. If possible this should be rinsed in the process water a couple of times prior to sampling. When ready the Dipslide is submerged to just above the top of the culture media for around 2 seconds, then gently shaken to remove excess fluid before replacing in the tube.

3 – Place the slide into the Incubator, the optimum temperature is 30 – 35 °C for a period of 48 hours. Incubation is vital for accurate results, windowsill or radiators will not allow accurate interpretation as if too warm bacteria will be destroyed and if too cold bacteria may fail to develop fully, both scenarios will lead to false results



4 – After the incubation period interpretation can be taken against the chart by roughly comparing the number of dots. If these are a little faint another few hours of incubation may be needed. Occasionally large white moulds may be detected, while these are rare in cooling waters they are not desirable in cutting fluids. We are able to supply another variation of Dipslide (AIAPX) with a specific malt media if moulds and spores need to be checked specifically.

Featured Products: MicroSlide TTC2 (AKC1H) Dipslides & Challenger 6400 Professional Dipslide Incubator.