


Antimicrobials Fact Sheet

Making choices about which antimicrobial technology to use for your products is not easy. The word “bound,” “embedded,” and “contained” is much different than “chemically bound.” Understand the facts about modes of action, safety in handling, and durability before choosing your antimicrobial.

	 BIOSAFE® Silane Based	Silver-Based	Triclosan-Based
Mode of Action	Physically ruptures the cell membrane	Releases ionic free radicals that react with cell DNA and disrupt critical life processes in the cell.	Releases bischlorinated phenol (PCB) for consumption or cellular absorption, causing lethal mutations in the cell
Durability	Permanent	Embedded in or on fiber binder or coating	Embedded in or on fiber binder or coating
Cost	Economical	Expensive	Moderate
Adaptive Organisms	Does not promote adaptive organisms	Can create adaptive zones.	Can create adaptive zones.
In-Plant Safety and Handling*	Mild eye Irritation	Harmful if inhaled, harmful if absorbed through skin, moderate eye irritation.	Moderate eye irritation, harmful if absorbed through skin, avoid contact with skin, eyes, or clothing. Do not breathe dust.