



Frequently Asked Questions

- **Who is Microban International Ltd?**

Microban International, Ltd. is the global leader in built-in antimicrobial product protection. They engineer durable antimicrobial solutions for consumer, industrial and medical products around the world. Microban® technology can be incorporated into a range of materials including: polymers, textiles, coatings, paper and adhesives.

- **What is a Microbe?**

Microbes are single celled organisms that are too small to be seen with the naked eye and must be viewed through a microscope. The naked eye is only able to detect the presence of microbes once they have multiplied to the hundreds of thousands and under the right conditions, some microbes can double in number every 15-20 minutes. Types of microbes include bacteria, algae and fungi & mold

- **What is Autotex AM with Microban®**

Autotex AM is a high quality, textured polyester film offering Microban® antimicrobial protection on the textured hardcoat. The Microban® technology is incorporated into the Autotex textured hardcoat during the manufacturing process. This process ensures even distribution of the antimicrobial agent throughout the film surface.

When bacteria come into contact with Autotex AM with Microban®, the antimicrobial function disrupts the bacterial cell wall and affects the ability of the bacteria to reproduce and so kills or inhibits bacterial growth. The result is the film surface of Autotex AM remains bacteria free.

- **Is Autotex AM with Microban® antimicrobial technology safe?**

Yes. Microban® has undergone extensive independent laboratory testing and has a long history of safe use.

- **What types of Microbes does Autotex AM work against?**

MRSA	Streptococcus faecalis
E.coli 0157	Klebsiella spp
Listeria monocytogenes	Aspergillus niger
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	Penicillium purpurogenum
Salmonella spp	Phoma violacea
Bacillus cereus	Sacch.Cerevisiae

- **Will scratching or scuffing the film diminish the effectiveness of the AM function?**

No. Because the antimicrobial agent is evenly distributed throughout the texture, its effectiveness is constant even if the surface is damaged.

- **Do we still have to clean the film?**

Yes. Autotex AM provides continuous antimicrobial protection however if dirt or residue build up on the surface bacteria can grow on top of the build up. Normal cleaning practices should therefore be maintained.

- **Does the anti microbial protection begin working immediately?**

The antimicrobial function of Autotex AM 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 antimicrobial protection.

- **Does the antimicrobial agent leach or migrate from the film?**

No. The antimicrobial agent is permanently locked into the texture and can not leach or migrate from the film.

- **What is the Microban® Certification Programme?**

The Microban® brand promise to consumers is to deliver continuous, durable and effective antimicrobial protection. To ensure this is fulfilled, Autotex AM has been subjected to extensive testing prior to commercialization and is manufactured under stringent quality assurance guidelines. In addition film samples from every production making undergo a rigorous testing programme carried out by LawLabs, a leading independent inspection body responsible for overseeing and regulating the Microban® Certification Programme.

- **Does the use of antimicrobials cause resistant strains of microorganisms?**

No. After more than 30 years of use in numerous consumer, industrial and medical applications around the world there has been no evidence of resistant strain development

- **Will the film irritate skin. Is it sensitising?**

No, Autotex AM will not irritate skin and is not sensitising

- **Is Autotex AM approved for use in food contact applications?**

No

- **What cleaning products can be used with Autotex AM?**

As far as we are certain, normal cleaning products can be safely used with Autotex with Microban®. However, complete compatibility with all cleaning products can not be guaranteed and so in cases of doubt you should contact your local Autotype representative for further information.