

OUR SCIENCE – LUMINOMETER/ATP MEASUREMENT BENEFITS

The need to achieve new levels of “clean” in order to reduce the transfer of germs is predicated on four irrefutable facts: 1. Surface-contact pathogenic organisms (germs) are invariably contained in some form of organic or inorganic soil. 2. Germs cannot be seen with the naked eye and they cannot be identified without sampling, culturing and microscopic analysis. 3. Surface cleanliness, however, can be easily and quickly measured using Luminometer/ATP techniques, without laboratory analysis. 4. If you clean/remove surface soil that you can see – whatever germs are contained – will be removed/eliminated!

ATP (adenosine triphosphate) is a unique, reproducible technique for quickly and easily measuring the level of soil and microbial content; particularly on hard surfaces.

The only alternative to identify and measure soil-containing pathogenic organisms is to undertake an extensive and laborious program of swab-testing a variety of surfaces, culturing the swabs for hours/days and microscopically analyzing the results; by which time other soil and organisms will have contacted the surfaces and make the results of such laboratory analysis impractical in terms of controlling disease.

ATP Measurement Technique:

1. Remove swabs from cooler (allow 10 minutes at room temperature).
2. Turn on meter (press red button) and allow for self-test and calibration (60 seconds).
3. After calibration is complete, remove fresh swab from tube. For flat surfaces outline a 4 x 4 inch area with swab tip (if swab tip is dry, discard and replace). Rub swab tip back and forth over the area. Rotate the swab as you rub. Repeat swabbing in the perpendicular direction. For other surfaces (door knobs, sink handles, etc.) swab the entire surface and repeat same pattern each time.
4. Return swab into tube. Snap the end with the fluid both directions. Holding vertically, shake swab 3 times.
5. Open lid of meter and put in the swab, tip-end first. Close lid.
6. Holding the meter vertically, immediately press OK. Wait for reading. Record information.

ATP Re-Measurement of Treated Surfaces: Before re-testing barrier-protected surfaces for soil & microbial contamination, lightly wipe surface with dry, lint-free cloth to remove ambient dust particles that can provide false positive readings.

ATP Readings – Levels of Clean:

0-10	ULTRA CLEAN – Sterile surfaces and food prep areas
11-30	VERY CLEAN – Critical touch points
31-80	GOOD CLEAN – Floor requirement, typical microfiber towel performance
81-200	SOMEWHAT DIRTY – Surface should be cleaned; has risk of contamination from disease-causing bacteria
201-500	DIRTY – Surface needs cleaning to reduce the risk of contamination
501-1000	VERY DIRTY – Surface needs cleaning; medium risk of contamination
>1000	FILTHY – Surface needs cleaning and has high risk of contamination