

25 November 2020

AUSTRALIAN ANTIMICROBIAL TREATMENT VERIFIED TO INACTIVATE COVID-19 ON SURFACES FOR UP TO 28 DAYS

- Ground-breaking listing by Australian Federal regulator
- Independent certification by major global testing laboratory
- Approved for use in Airbus and Boeing airliners
- Early adoption by maritime, aviation, and passenger transport clients

Sydney, Australia – As Australia reopens internal borders after suppressing local outbreaks of Coronavirus (COVID-19), and as new waves of infection begin to surge in other countries, Sydney-based biotechnology company Hygiene Labs™ has secured ground-breaking verification that its new-technology disinfectant treatment can inactivate the COVID-19 virus on surfaces for up to 28 days per application.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA), Australia's regulatory authority for these products, has reviewed Hygiene Labs™ 'long-acting' label claim under the Hospital Grade and Commercial Grade categories, and formally listed the product on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods.

The treatment, which punctures pathogens on a microscopic 'bed of nails', has also been approved by delegated laboratories for use in the cabins of Airbus and Boeing airliners.

In addition, the Hygiene Labs™ disinfectant has been independently evaluated and certificated by Eurofins Environment Testing Australia Pty Ltd, a division of Eurofins Scientific, one of the world's leading bioanalytical testing organisations, with some 800 laboratories in 50 countries.

These significant outcomes follow the introduction this year of Hygiene Labs™ antimicrobial treatments by several major clients in the maritime, aviation and land transport sectors in the Asia Pacific region, in all cases to strengthen their existing COVID-19 protocols.

The TGA and Eurofins verifications also align with a recent study by CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, which found that the COVID-19 virus can survive on surfaces such as glass and stainless steel for up to 28 days, much longer than originally thought.

Mark Pettitt, Group Managing Director of Hygiene Labs™, said: "As vaccines come closer to approval and introduction, medical testing and hygiene protocols are also intensifying to help minimise the chances of further transmission and damaging new rounds of social and economic lockdowns."

HYGIENELABS™

"The verifications we have just received in Australia confirm that our antimicrobial treatments can disable surface viruses for up to 28 days, seriously limiting the chance of surface transmission for this length of time.

To our knowledge, we have the only product in Australia, and possibly worldwide, to have proven and certificated 28-day effectiveness against Coronavirus infection on surfaces".

Mr Pettitt said that in tests conducted in Australia, Eurofins applied the Hygiene Labs™ treatment to a hard surface contaminated with MHV-1, a surrogate recognised by the TGA as a test substitute for COVID-19.

Within one hour, the treated surface was shown to inactivate 99.9 per cent of the virus, and further assessment verified that it remained effective for 28 days.

Mr Pettitt said: "These results represent major breakthroughs against COVID-19 and potentially against other microbiological threats at a time of rising concerns and expectations among stakeholders including consumers, employees, suppliers and regulators.

We believe the scientific and regulatory validations we have achieved in Australia provide real hope in the continuing drive to help prevent transmission of COVID-19, particularly as governments begin to rebuild their economies and reactivate their communities ahead of the expected approval and widespread distribution of vaccines in the coming year.

Even with effective vaccines, and reliable and widely-accepted pre-departure testing for travellers, a range of supporting measures will continue to be necessary in order to help minimise viral transmission.

Our product is already being used to strengthen and extend the effectiveness of existing hygiene protocols on aircraft, vessels and surface modes of passenger transport operated by a range of clients. With verified 28-day effectiveness, we are confident that we can also provide extended protection across passenger and freight transport modes, and in additional locations including airports and transit terminals, retail outlets, hospitality premises, entertainment venues and industrial facilities."

ABOUT HYGIENE LABS™

Hygiene Labs™ is a biotechnology company which manufactures and distributes self-assembling antimicrobial polymer technology with long-lasting and proven efficacy on surfaces and skin. Produced in Melbourne and Brisbane, Australia, the company's technology powers a range of surface disinfectant sprays, antimicrobial shield atomisers, surface and skin 'wet wipes' and foaming sanitisers for hands. Visit hygienelabs.com.au

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