Health Protection Agency Microbiology Services Porton Down Salisbury Wilts SP4 OJG



An Evaluation of the Decontamination Effect on the Inner Chamber of ESCO Celculture CO2 Incubator Using the 90°C Moist Heat Decontamination Cycle

Report No. 55/10

Commercial In Confidence

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Report Prepared ForESCO	Operator Miss Anna Moy		

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The ESCO Celculture CO2 incubator 90°C decontamination cycle has been evaluated and shown to be an effective method for deactivation of the normally resistant fungi and bacterial spores Aspergillus brasiliensis and Bacillus atrophaeus, and the vegetative cells Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Staphylococcus aureus, Staphylococcus epidermidis, Enterobacter faecalis and Escherichia coli.

For each of the three test runs carried out no growth was observed from any of the seven test micro-organisms indicating that the 90oC decontamination cycle of the incubator is capable of deactivating high levels of biological contamination.



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Average	LUU40 P				

Micro-organism	Average Log ₁₀ Reduction				
	Test Run 1	Test Run 2	Test Run 3		
Bacillus atrophaeus	>6.20	>6.05	>6.11		
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	>6.37	>6.29	>6.10		
Staphylococcus epidermidis	>6.36	>6.11	>6.06		
Escherichia coli	>6.19	>6.10	>6.12		
Staphylococcus aureus	>6.75	>6.34	>6.36		
Enterobacter faecalis	>6.33	>6.17	>6.11		
Aspergillus brasiliensis	>4.18*	>4.22*	>4.11*		

^{*}Due to the size of Aspergillus brasiliensis spores 10⁴ cfu is the highest concentration that can be achieved on the test coupons in 10µl.

Report Written By

Name Miss Anna Moy

Title Biosafety Scientist

Report Authorised By

Name Mrs. Sara Speight

Title Senior Biosafety Scientist

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