[IFU015\_A00A]

[02/09/2020]

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# VeriTest Cleaning Assessment Starter Kit

# Instructions for use 015

For best results read the entire instruction manual before using VeriTest devices.

Release 01.003 Date 02.09.2020 Copyright Aseptium Limited 2020

## Safety precautions

Read and understand this manual before using VeriTest family products.

Always wear gloves when handling VeriTest Tags and VeriTest Blue Vials.

Always wear protective goggles when handling an open VeriTest Blue Vials.



VeriTest Tags contain raw animal blood and tissue.



VeriTest Blue contains Phosphorous Acid that is corrosive.

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Introducing VeriTest

Welcome to the VeriTest Starter Kit.

This collection of products from Aseptium may likely be your first introduction to our family of process challenge devices. We have produced this starter kit to help communicate the versatile functionality of our process challenge devices, and to show you how you can use these products as tools to help optimize processes and identify issues that may be costing you and your department valuable time and money.

This IFU is best used with our accompanying IFUs 001 and 014, which cover step-by-step instructions on how to set up, use and understand the VeriTest Multi Process Challenge Devices and VeriTest Blue, our protein detection reagent.

The process found in this IFU will teach you how to use VeriTest Multi and accompanying VeriTest Tags alongside VeriTest Blue to identify any key issues within a single Automatic Washer, and to identify the area within the washer with the poorest cleaning performance.

Remember, VeriTest is not like other simple indicators. The natural test soil on VeriTest Tags presents a complex challenge that is not often expected to clean completely first time. Results from VeriTest, especially remaining residue or contamination, give invaluable information to the user, as it indicates how you can optimize your process and helps identify any key issues with the process or equipment.

For all relevant IFUs, please visit Aseptium.com or scan the QR Code:



Thank you, for choosing VeriTest.

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#### **Cleaning verification**

VeriTest Starter Kit contains VeriTest TPC Tags, VeriTest Multi Basic or Multi 360 block as well as VeriTest Blue Vials with protein sensitive reagent. The kit is designed to perform the initial assessment of a single cleaning process and sets up the baseline for consequent periodic monitoring. Such assessment should be performed quarterly.

### Loading the VeriTest PCD into VeriTest Multi Basic Block

For detailed instructions on VeriTest Multi Setup, please refer to IFU 001, section 3 (available at aseptium.com/ifu).

- 1. Remove the VeriTest Multi Basic from the pouch.
- 2. Remove the VeriTest Tags strip from the protective packaging and detach as many individual tags as required.
- 3. Load the VeriTest Tags into the VeriTest Multi Basic block they only fit properly in one orientation; be certain to have the soil facing down in positions 1 and 2, up in position 3, and to the right in position 4.



#### Preparing VeriTest Multi 360

1. Remove the VeriTest Multi 360 from the protective packaging and ensure three tags are present and fitted correctly.



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# Loading VeriTest Multi Blocks into an automated washer



Picture 1. Locations of VeriTest Multi blocks for innitial performance assessment.

Initial assessment involves five consecutive cycles (alternatively one cycle with five VeriTest Multi Basic or VeriTest Multi 360 blocks) This establishes the baseline performance of the washer and detects any locations within the washer where cleaning is not optimal. Initial assessment is run on an empty load (without instruments).

- a. Cycle 1 place the VeriTest Multi PCD in the washing chamber in location 1 at the upper right front of the chamber as per Picture 1 and run a cleaning cycle.
- b. Cycle 2 place the VeriTest Multi PCD in the washing chamber in location 2 at the second level from the top between the right corner and the center of the chamber (closer to the corner) as per Picture 1 and run a cleaning cycle.
- c. Cycle 3 place the VeriTest Multi PCD in the washing chamber in location 3 in the center of the chamber under the spray arm hub as per Picture 1 and run a cleaning cycle.
- d. Cycle 4 place the VeriTest Multi PCD in the washing chamber in location 4 at the second level from the bottom between the left corner and the center of the chamber (closer to the center) at the upper left front of the chamber as per Picture 1 and run a cleaning cycle.
- e. Cycle 5 place the VeriTest Multi PCD in the washing chamber in location 5 at the lower right front of the chamber as per Picture 1 and run a cleaning cycle.

Following this, an assessment of a fully loaded machine should be performed with PCDs placed in the same locations. This will help to identify any common issues relating to loading of the washer (shadowing, overloading, instruments blocking or impeding spray arms, etc.)

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#### **Evaluation of results**

- After each cycle remove the VeriTest Tags from each block and inspect them visually. Pay attention not to contaminate the samples. Refer to Aseptium's Universal Scale of Contamination, found in IFU 007 (aseptium.com/ifu-documents). If the result is 0 or 1 (no visible soil remains or it is difficult to assess), put the VeriTest tag in a separate VeriTest Blue vial shake it vigorously for 10 seconds and leave to settle for at least 10 minutes. The colour saturates after about 30 min in room temperature. (see IFU 014 for detailed instructions on VeriTest Blue aseptium.com/ifu-documents).
- Check the color of the VeriTest Blue against the scale provided to identify any residual protein that may be present on the tags. Often remaining contamination will not fully dissolve in the reagent so observe the surface of the tag for blue discoloration as strongly adhering proteins will attract the reagent to the surface.
- After each cycle, document the results for each tag on the corresponding results sheet (see IFUs 003-006) or take photographic evidence of each of them with their position in the PCD and in the washer identified.



Visually clean tags, confirmed by evaluation with VeriTest Blue, that result in no color change and no visible blue residue on the surface, verify adequate cleaning performance of the process.

However, if all tags are not cleaned completely, your process may require optimization. Not all washers and detergents will get the VeriTest tags completely clean in all positions – especially in the initial assessment.

Once the washer cycle has been optimized and verified with the VeriTest PCDs it should be used as a benchmark. This benchmark is then used for performance monitoring of the process. VeriTest Multi Basic Block is loaded as per Aseptium's testing schedule and is placed in washer in the location identified by the initial assessment as the one delivering the **worst performance**.

Most international guidelines recommend daily testing of the equipment. Aseptium recommends verifying every process similarly to sterilization. Use VeriTest Blue only if there is no visible residual soil on the tags, since residual protein may be invisible to the naked eye.

The "Location delivering the **worst performance**" is the location in the washer that shows the worst cleaning results (the weak spot). If this varies, it may indicate a problem with the process design or washer operation (blocked spray arm jet or motion, detergent dosing inconsistency, water quality issues, temperature variation etc.). If any of these issues occur, the washer and the process performance should be immediately reevaluated.

For further detailed information on troubleshooting results, consult IFUs 008 – 013. Please ensure the correct IFU corresponding to the type of VeriTest Multi and type of washer is being used.