

# **Dip-Slides**



### What is the test?

The test consists of a plastic slide carrying different nutritive agar gels for culturing microorganisms on opposite sides of the slide.

One side has been designed to culture bacteria which grow as visible discrete red colonies when the slide is incubated.

The other side of the slide will culture moulds (fuzzy or fluffy colonies) and yeasts (usually white, cream or pink round colonies). Moulds and Yeasts are collectively called Fungi.

The slide is dipped into the fluid to be tested and incubated for one to five days. The slide appearance is compared to calibration charts.

## What are the tests used for?

To determine the total aerobic microbial contamination in aqueous samples on-site.

## Who can use the tests?

Full instructions are supplied and no special training is required to use a Dip-Slide.

# What samples can I test?

- Any Aqueous sample
- Surfaces press the gel against the surface

## What samples can I NOT test?

- Fuel and oil samples (Dip Slides will give erratic results if used on fuel and contamination may be missed completely!). To test fuels and oils use MicrobMonitor2
- Dip slides will not detect corrosion causing anaerobic microbes such as Sulphate Reducing Bacteria. For these use the Sig Sulphide Test

## What are the tests advantages?

- Dip-slides provide a cost-effective method of testing for total aerobic microorganisms on-site
- Results are semi-quantitative
- Distinguishes between the main types of microbes
- Easy to use

Dip-Slides

#### **Background information**

The Dip-Slide technology was designed to test aqueous samples. It can also be used to test surfaces and the instructions have calibration charts for surfaces.

The Dip-Slide technology works because a specific amount of water containing microorganisms will be adsorbed onto the surface of the slide when it is dipped into water.

Other aqueous fluids are often tested using Dip-slides but the actual amount of fluid that is absorbed onto the slide may vary from fluid to fluid; hence Dip-Slides may require recalibrating for each fluid type tested.

If a non-aqueous sample is tested, e.g. fuel, the amount of sample that will be adsorbed onto the slide is not known and may not be adsorbed at all.

## What about Support?

ECHA provides full technical support to all of its customers, and will never leave you with an unresolved issue. Whether its support with interpretation of results or advice on testing regimes, ECHA will always be on hand with the technical knowledge and operation know-how you need. If you require our assistance please call the number listed below.

For more information on how to order this product, please contact a member of our Sales Team using any of the details below. You can also find more information on our website.

Tel:+44 (0)29 2036 5930E-mail:sales@echamicrobiology.comWeb:www.echamicrobiology.com



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