

# Antimicrobial Treated Cabinets

by Steel Solutions USA

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## BACKGROUND

In spite of regular hand washing and other good hygienic practices by healthcare professionals, the increase in nosocomial or hospital-acquired infections is on the rise. Patients receiving routine operations are becoming increasingly susceptible to other infections in the process and may develop hospital-acquired conditions (HACs) through the spread of microbes – commonly known as mold, fungi, or bacteria. In the ever-increasing world of drug-resistant bacteria, the focus for new methods of combating diseases has been a central focus.

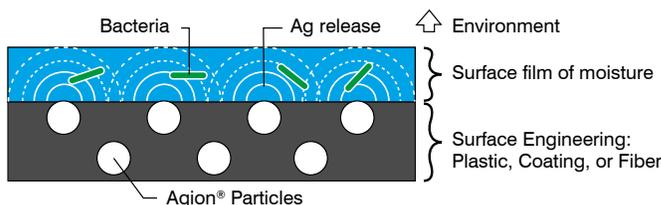
## STEEL SOLUTIONS' ANTIMICROBIAL TREATED CABINETS

Steel Solutions USA recognizes that in a healthcare environment, everything can become susceptible to contamination, aiding in the transfer of microbes. Our cabinets are coated with an antimicrobial paint which is nontoxic, yet highly effective in reducing the number of contaminants on the surfaces of cabinets. The coating contains a silver solution additive called Agion®, an antimicrobial proven to be effective at destroying drug-resistant bacteria, fungi, mold and other microbes.

## HOW IT WORKS

The surfaces are treated with a silver-ion (Ag) additive paint. When microbes come into contact with the treated surface, silver ions are released to the surface to destroy the microbes. These silver ions inhibit the growth and reproduction of microbes in three ways:

1. **Suffocation** – by attacking the cell wall
2. **Starvation** – by interrupting cell metabolism
3. **Sterilization** – by preventing cell reproduction



## SAFE TO USE

Instead of using chemicals or pesticides to inhibit these microbes, we use silver. This nature made antimicrobial continuously resists the growth and spread of microbes. Agion's wide spread approval including EPA, FDA, NSF, USDA, Canada, European BPD (Biocidal Products Directive), Swiss and EFSA (European Food Safety Agency) further testifies to its safety. Call Steel Solutions USA at (888) 875-5004 to find out how we can be of service to you. This could be the solution you are looking for.

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...because a *dead* microbe is a *safe* microbe

## KEY FIGURES:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 2 million patients suffer from healthcare associated infections each year. Of those 90,000 are fatalities – 2,000 to 3,000 resulting from airborne fungal infections.
- A hospital in Honolulu reported 120 to 130 MRSA cases a year resulting in \$4.2 million in additional expenses. When considering \$35,000 per patient, preventative measures seem well worth the investment.

## KEY NOTES:

- Silver has long been known for its antimicrobial properties. It has been used in water purification in ancient times and was used in eating utensils as well for sanitary purposes.
- Microbes may be transmitted in several ways: hospital renovations, contact with contaminated furniture, even doctors' clothing.
- Due to the changing policies of Medicare and Medicaid Services in the Fall of 2008, many HACs are no longer covered by Medicare, leaving hospitals with increased costs for patient care.

## DISCLAIMER:

- Although antimicrobial technology is safe and effective, it does not replace the need for good hygienic practices. Antimicrobial protection is limited to the treated item only and does not protect a user against disease-causing bacteria. Always clean products thoroughly after each use.

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