



# TOUCH coating technology to reduce feline Coronavirus Strain

As a result of the current pandemic, we are increasingly being asked by customers about whether TOUCH coating technology is effective against coronavirus.

As with previous testing, it is our duty of care to inform our customers what our technology can and cannot achieve, and as always this is based on proven data. Recently, our biochemists have worked closely with an independent laboratory to test our technology against a strain of feline **coronavirus** in order to provide our customers with continued confidence in the efficacy of our technology. As a result of this testing, Touch coating technology was proven effective with a reduction of 90% in 2 hours against feline **coronavirus**, strain Munich.

## TOUCH coating technology Efficacy Testing Against Feline Coronavirus Strain

Viruses are different from bacteria as they require living host cells in order to survive, whereas bacteria and mould can thrive independently. As a result of this difference, viruses are much more difficult to test against, especially for solid surface testing. Specialist equipment is needed, and the methods utilise living cells in order to test the viruses. It is only recently that a standardised testing method for antiviral properties of solid surfaces has been published (2019 release).

Previously, our biochemists had obtained testing data against the influenza A H1N1 virus as a result of a project performed in collaboration with a local University. In order to confirm further viral efficacy of TOUCH coating technology, our biochemists recently commissioned antiviral testing through a third-party laboratory using a treated product against a strain of the coronavirus family. In our particular case, we tested feline coronavirus, strain Munich.



## What Do the Results Mean for The Performance Of TOUCH Antimicrobial Technology?

After testing to the BS ISO 21702:2019 standard, the polypropylene containing TOUCH coating technology was proven effective against feline coronavirus, strain Munich, with a reduction of 90% in 2 hours.

This should not be used for claims against the novel virus SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), but it does demonstrate the antiviral efficacy of Touch coating technology against a member of the **coronavirus** family, the feline coronavirus, strain Munich. To confirm with certainty whether the virulence properties of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) are affected by TOUCH coating technology, the testing will need to be repeated on the actual SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) strain. The Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have categorised the virus at biohazard level 3 and above, meaning the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) virus will not be available for public commercial testing at this point in the pandemic.

## Further Protection for TOUCH Treated Products

**For 25 years, the technology in TOUCH coatings has been empirically proven to work against bacteria, mould, fungi, and the influenza A H1N1 virus, for the expected lifetime of treated products.**

With the recent successful independent viral testing, we can now prove that products treated with **TOUCH coating technology are also effective against a virus from the coronavirus family**: the feline coronavirus, strain Munich. The viral efficacy testing further demonstrates for our customers, that the antimicrobials used in TOUCH coatings portfolio delivers ultimate protection from a wide range of microbes including two virus strains. However antiviral testing data against feline coronavirus, strain Munich, should not be used as data for or proof of efficacy against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)



Our advice for businesses concerned about COVID-19 is to encourage and support regular cleaning regimes and a strong focus on hand hygiene. It is advisable to carry tissues to catch any coughs or sneezes and throw the tissues away once used. Prioritise washing hands thoroughly with soap and water but use hand sanitisers if you have no access to hand washing facilities. Please always follow guidance given by relevant health authorities such as the [NHS](#) or [WHO](#).

Kindest regards

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