AQUAOX™
Infection
CONTROL SYSTEMS

ATP TESTER

A study by Sciortino and Giles (2012) published in the American Journal of Infection Control[(1)] has validated that ATP testing is an effective tool for monitoring the cleanliness of hospital surfaces. ATP (adenosine triphosphate) detection systems measure the amount of organic materials in a sample, such as blood, mucus, bacteria, and viruses. When used to verify the cleanliness of hospital surfaces, ATP testing results indicate whether a surface needs to be re-cleaned or cleaning methods need to be changed.

What is ATP?

ATP--Adenosine Triphosphate--is a molecule only found in and around living cells, making it a perfect indicator when trying to determine if a surface is clean or not. If ATP is present on a surface that has been cleaned, the surface is still contaminated.

How does it work?

ATP testers use the same mechanism that fireflies do: calcium plus luciferin plus ATP will glow when exposed to the bioluminescent enzyme luciferase. So if you swab a surface, add calcium and luciferin and expose the swab to luciferase, you can detect ATP by the glow level. And that glow level is a direct indicator of the total number of microorganisms present on the swabbed surface.

Disposable test wands

Quick, easy three-step process for collecting a sample, activating the device and mixing the sample.

(1) Reference: Sciortino CV and Giles RA. Validation and comparison of three adenosine triphosphate luminometers for monitoring hospital surface sanitization: American Journal of Infection Control . October 2012. 40(08) e233-9.