



SteriTouch<sup>®</sup>  
All you need  
to know!

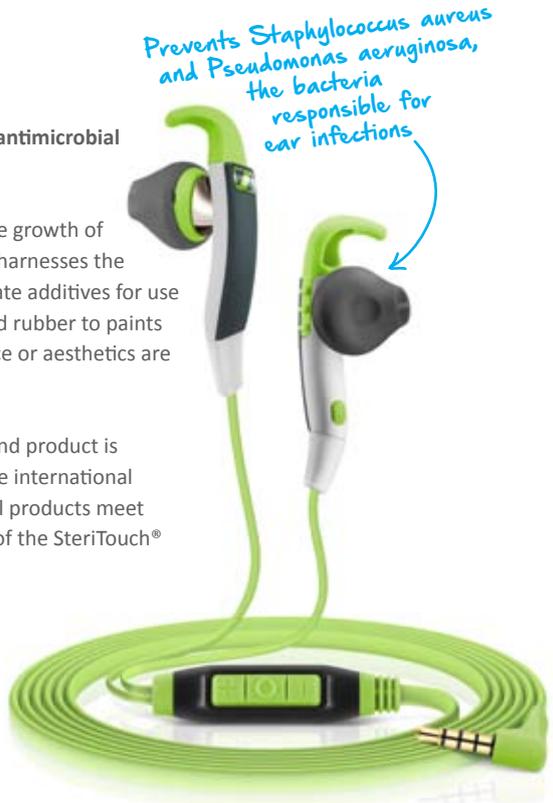
# SteriTouch®

## What is SteriTouch®?

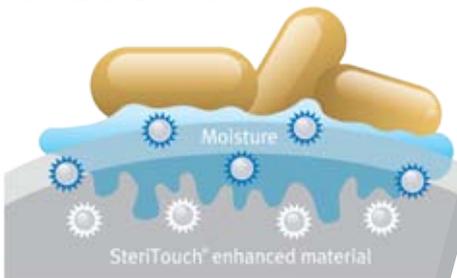
SteriTouch® is an established brand in antimicrobial technology, based in the UK.

An antimicrobial product will restrict the growth of bacteria, fungi and mould. SteriTouch® harnesses the antimicrobial properties of silver to create additives for use in almost any material, from plastics and rubber to paints and fabrics, where hygiene, performance or aesthetics are important.

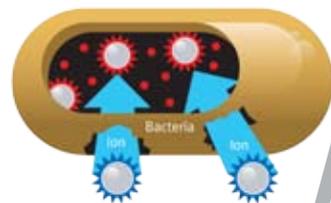
The antimicrobial performance of the end product is confirmed by independent testing to the international standards (JIS and ISO), ensuring that all products meet the stringent requirements for the use of the SteriTouch® brand.



## How it works



Silver ions embedded in the material substrate are released via ambient moisture and enter the cell membrane. The silver ions destabilise the cell, stop respiration and inhibit cell division, whilst blocking the replication of DNA, killing the cell.



## Is it safe?

One of the greatest concerns among consumers is, understandably, the safety of additives found in the products they buy.

Most products offering SteriTouch® protection use an additive based on ionic silver, which holds extensive approvals including those for food contact.

All of the active components we use are approved by the EFSA and FDA and supported on the Biocidal Product Regulations.

**Case Study:** One of our customers questioned the health implications of a small child chewing one of their antimicrobial remote control handsets. We sought independent advice and using the World Health Organisation limits for silver intake (adjusted to account for lower body mass) calculated that a child could eat an entire remote handset every month for a year, absorbing every particle of silver, and still remain within the WHO limit.

## Did you know... we don't use nano-silver

Nor do we use triclosan or other organic antimicrobial additives which have health or environmental concerns. The ionic silver additives which are used in the majority of our products are non-leaching and non-sensitising.

Stops the build-up of slimy biofilm on difficult to clean products

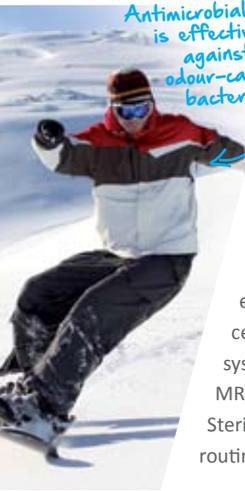


## Why choose a product with SteriTouch®?

The main function of an antimicrobial product is to offer protection against a range of bacteria including *E. coli*, *MRSA*, *Salmonella* and *Legionella*, as well as black mould growth, biofilm and fungi.

Mould growth is responsible for costly redecoration cycles and respiratory complaints, especially in damp and humid environments where its prevention is otherwise difficult. SteriTouch® works continuously and effectively to restrict this growth before it appears.

Antimicrobial fabric is effective against odour-causing bacteria



SteriTouch® eradicates the bacteria which cause contamination and infection, as well as those responsible for odours and staining. The antimicrobial effect also protects the product against degradation, extending its use.

The purpose of SteriTouch® is not to create a sterile environment - we all know that being exposed to certain types of bacteria builds a healthy immune system. However, bacterial infections such as *MRSA*, *E. coli* and *Listeria* can be very serious and SteriTouch® acts as a complementary measure to routine cleaning.

## Did you know?

Silver has been used for centuries for its natural sterilising properties.

Around 400BC, Hippocrates taught that silver healed wounds and controlled disease, while the American Pioneers would often put a silver dollar into containers of milk to keep it fresh without refrigeration.

## How effective is it?

**Products containing SteriTouch® are routinely tested at an independent laboratory and are typically proven to be at least 99.9% effective against MRSA and E. coli (Test reports available on request).**

For applications requiring protection against other organisms, testing has also been carried out against Candida, Legionella and Campylobacter. SteriTouch® is also effective against biofilm, the slimy substance caused by clusters of bacterial cells adhering to a hydrated surface. Biofilm is responsible for slippery bath mats, clogged drains and even dental plaque, and can be very difficult to remove retrospectively.

Several customer products have been subjected to accelerated mould tests, including bathroom sealants and grouts, which demonstrated zero mould growth even after 10 years' simulated ageing.

## Will it wear off?

**Once SteriTouch® has been incorporated into a material it is essentially there to stay. Recent independent testing of a new paint range demonstrated no loss in antimicrobial performance even after 10 years of accelerated ageing.**

Ionic silver based additives will not lose efficacy due to leaching or migration, and since they are evenly dispersed throughout the material even scratches and abrasion do not affect the antimicrobial performance.

Importantly, SteriTouch® additives are unaffected by cleaning chemicals such as chlorine bleach, disinfectants and alcohol. Even harsh industrial products like MEK (methyl ethyl ketone) do not diminish the antimicrobial properties of products containing SteriTouch®.

## Who uses SteriTouch®?

The SteriTouch® trademark has been adopted as a co-brand by a broad range of clients, from small start-ups to global corporations.



The Sennheiser SPORTS range of headphones uses SteriTouch® in the adapters to protect against the bacteria responsible for ear infections

Dispensers, baby changing equipment and hand dryers all feature SteriTouch® protection to aid hygiene in the washroom



The global leading manufacturer of hand dryers, in place all over the world and coated with SteriTouch® to prevent cross contamination

The Steracrlyl range of commercial paints protects against bacteria and mould for a number of years, specified in building projects and healthcare settings



The Forever range of silicone sealants boasts a ten year guarantee against black mould growth

The Nova range of remote control handsets is moulded with in-built SteriTouch® protection, used in hotel rooms across America

