

Příhoda textile diffusers and COVID-19

Hygiene first and foremost! Příhoda textile diffusers satisfy high demands on hygiene, therefore representing the ideal choice for air distribution!

- They are easy to wash and disinfect.
- They have an antibacterial finish preventing the growth of bacteria and other microorganisms on their surface.
- Due to use of endless fibres, our fabrics can be used without exception in so-called class 4 clean-rooms. Laboratory tests have proven practically zero release of particles from these materials under operation.
- They are only made from hygienic materials, therefore satisfying the requirements of OEKO-TEX Standard 100.



Our diffusers are ideal for use in various buildings in the public, industrial and commercial sector. Among other facilities, they can also be used in covid-19 hospitals, laboratories or test centres. We produce textile diffusers for these projects using an accelerated production programme, in terms of which we are able to process, produce and deliver the order within only a few days.

EXAMPLE: Jersey Nightingale Hospital, Jersey, UK

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, an additional fast-built hospital was specified for Jersey Island. With an eye-watering timeline, from the decision to have a field hospital made on 2 April, the construction of an aluminium framed semi-rigid panelled building and the fit-out to the anticipated opening day on 4 May, this temporary hospital provides 180 beds, based on the Nightingale layout of two rows of 15 beds in each ward. Once it is no longer needed, the site will be dismantled and the Millfield playing fields will be returned back to their normal state. Clearly, speed is of the essence in a project like this, and it brings out the best in collaborative solutions. With fabric ducting which is suited so well to an aluminium-framed building, being lightweight, very fast and easy to install, and with our ability to deliver a tailor-made system quickly, Příhoda is very proud to be part of this effort for the people of Jersey.

FACTS WHICH MAY INTEREST YOU:

How long does a virus survive on fabric?

As opposed to bacteria, viruses can only live outside of the host's body (the human body) for a very limited period of time. According to the published research, the novel coronavirus can survive for a maximum of 72 hours on plastics. This means that it can survive at most 3 days on our polyester fabric. For example on this website, anticipates a shorter survival period on fabric than on solid materials. It is also very likely that the danger posed by the virus (its contagiousness) will decrease gradually outside of the human body.

When washing fabric diffusers, it is possible to use certain suitable chemicals (for example ELTRA 40 EXTRA by Ecolab) which safely kill all viruses on the fabric. Another option is to use an ozone generator meaning that there is no need to dismantle the diffusers.

Does antimicrobial fabric kill viruses in the air?

Definitely not, because it is in particular effective against bacteria or mould, although it only kills these in direct contact with them. It prevents them from surviving on the surface of ducts. It is not possible to precisely express how much transported air comes into the necessary contact with the wall of the duct (= fabric). We can however assume that the amount is very little. The effect of antimicrobial fabric against viruses has not been tested.

Does use of fabric distribution mains increase the risk of infection?

There is no reason to suppose that fabric ducts behave differently to ducts made of any other material. The amount of time which a virus can survive on fabric is shorter than on metal.

Ventilation systems which distribute fresh air reduce the risk of infection, because they effectively reduce the concentration of pollutants (viruses) in the air in the room. Systems working with circulated air can on the contrary speed up the spread of a virus in the room. However, if the ventilation unit is fitted with a HEPA filter, even circulation of air is safe.

What is the difference between antimicrobial and antibacterial finishing?

Microbes (microbe = a microorganism) include bacteria, mould, algae and viruses. This means that antibacterial finishing of a surface (fabric) can, from a certain point of view, be called antimicrobial, because bacteria constitute a microorganism. However, it is more precise and fairer to state the actual effectiveness certified by an accredited test centre in line with the valid standards.