

Hand washing & gel dispensers clean hands, **but** as soon as you touch a dirty door you risk becoming **contaminated**.

Surfaceskins help **keep** hands clean when doors are touched.

Surfaceskins solve a serious infection control problem and compliment hand cleaning by **keeping washed hands clean** and **preventing the spread of germs** to yourself and others.

Gel dispensers and hand washing make hands clean.

Surfaceskins keep hands clean.


surfaceskins
user information sheet





What are Surfaceskins?

Surfaceskins are innovative door pushpads and pullhandles which have been designed to kill deposited germs in seconds to protect each and every door user. Surfaceskins prevent the germs deposited on doors from being passed on to subsequent door users. They solve a serious infection control problem by allowing people to open doors with confidence by minimising the risk of touching an infected area. Surfaceskins are designed to complement existing hand hygiene practices such as hand-washing or use of alcohol gel dispensers. Thorough handwashing cleans your hands. Surfaceskins help ensure you do not pick up germs from dirty doors.

Surfaceskins have been developed in collaboration with key international infection control experts and material scientists to specifically help reduce the transmission of germs through repeated door contact.

Is hand hygiene really an issue?

Yes. An estimated 5 million Healthcare Associated Infections (HAIs) occur in European acute care hospitals annually, which equates to 25 million extra days of hospital stay with a corresponding economic burden of €13 – 24 billion.[1] Sadly, HAIs contribute to 147,000 deaths in the EU each year.

Hands are responsible for the spread of an approximately 80% of common infectious diseases, and hand hygiene compliance by healthcare workers has been shown to be less than 30% in some instances. [2]

Numerous studies have identified door handles and push plates as prime sources of microbial contamination.[3] Although it is possible to reduce bacteria on standard door handles by cleaning them regularly, bacterial contamination still builds up between cleaning sessions.

How do Surfaceskins work?

Each time the Surfaceskins pad is pressed, the surface is engineered to self-disinfect almost immediately, by releasing a small quantity of antibacterial alcohol gel via the micro-valved top sheet, under and around the pressed area.

This kills most of the common harmful germs and bacteria in the vital seconds after passing through the door, reducing the risk of contamination to the next user and from the last user, breaking the chain of infection.

What is the antibacterial gel?

The antibacterial alcohol gel used in Surfaceskins is the same type as widely used in hospital gel dispensers and bottles of hygienic hand rub.

How effective are Surfaceskins at killing harmful bacteria?

Surfaceskins have been successfully validated by numerous in vitro trials at NHS hospital laboratories and internationally-renowned microbiology research organisations, demonstrating efficacy in killing harmful bacteria in seconds and proving effective over seven days of use. In these trials, pushpads were deliberately contaminated by fingertips and the touched areas were tested 60 seconds after contamination. Surfaceskins were tested against combinations of antimicrobial copper and aluminium door plates with E.coli, E.faecilis, Salmonella enterica, Staphylococcus aureus and Feline calicivirus (a surrogate for human Norovirus). After seven days of repeated testing, Surfaceskins were consistently found to be highly effective at reducing contamination, showing over 90% reduction in colony-forming units compared to the control door plates in the vast majority of tests.



We have hand-washing protocols and gel dispensers - why do we need SurfaceSkins?

Currently, you will contaminate your freshly washed hands by touching a dirty door plate or surface, picking up germs and bacteria deposited by previous users. The spread of germs from users touching contaminated doors is a problem compounded by current low levels of hand hygiene compliance.

Following hand-washing protocols is key to ensuring clean hands. However SurfaceSkins keep hands clean, eliminating the transfer of germs and bacteria from one user to another. SurfaceSkins are not a replacement for gel dispensers or hand-washing; they are a vital complementary new infection control measure. For maximum infection prevention the two systems should be used together.

Do antimicrobial copper and plastic door fittings not do the same job?

Alternative antimicrobial door plates are typically far less effective than SurfaceSkins (proven in NHS laboratory trials), and can take up to 24 hours to kill bacteria. As a result, they cannot self-disinfect quickly enough to prevent the contamination of clean hands. SurfaceSkins kill germs in seconds, so even in busy areas they are designed to provide a continuously safe, disinfected surface.

Do we need a service engineer to fit and replenish SurfaceSkins?

SurfaceSkins pushpads are quick and easy to install, with no special training or tools required. The holster is fitted with high-tack adhesive pads and simply sticks to a door.

The replaceable pushpad clips into the holster in seconds, and is just as easy to remove and replace.

You can see how quick and easy the installation is by visiting www.surfaceskins.com/videos

How long do the pushpads last?

SurfaceSkins door pushpads have been tested to seven days use or 1000 activations (whichever occurs first). After this they can be easily replaced with a new pushpad to ensure maximum protection.

Are SurfaceSkins only for use in hospitals and surgeries?

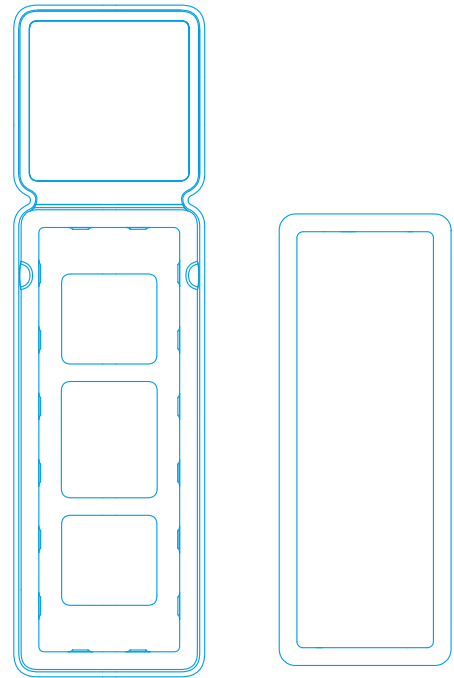
SurfaceSkins were originally designed for use in hospitals, but their benefits extend to a multitude of scenarios, including public restrooms, food preparation areas, offices, cruise ships, restaurants, bars, clubs, surgeries, dentists, vets, gyms, cinemas, theatres, shops and many more.

References

- [1]. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
- [2]. WHO Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Healthcare
- [3]. Wojgani et al. (2012) PLoS ONE 7(10): e40171

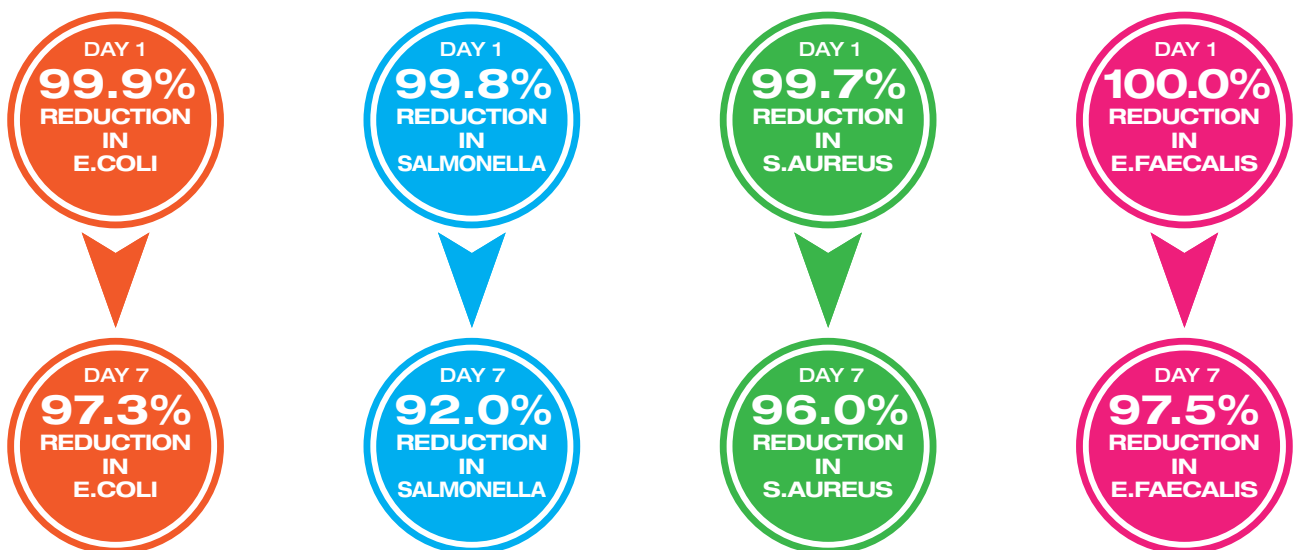
Key benefits

- ✓ Fulfils an innovative vital infection control solution to help reduce the spread of germs.
- ✓ Designed to kill deposited germs in seconds, breaking the chain and spread of infection.
- ✓ Proven performance data in multiple successful in vitro trials, [NHS & independent private laboratories].
- ✓ Excellent performance data against E.coli, Salmonella, S.aureus, E.faecalis over seven days.
- ✓ Complements existing infection control measures.
- ✓ Reassures & shows your clients your organisation's passion for hygiene and cleanliness.
- ✓ System designed to help health associated infection target rates.
- ✓ Low cost, retro-fit system, designed to last 1000 uses or seven days.
- ✓ Globally patented, proven technology.



Performance data

Week-long NHS and independent laboratory tests, comparing Surfaceskins to antibacterial copper and aluminium door plates, show Surfaceskins to be highly effective at killing harmful bacteria in seconds.



Specifications and measurements

- ✓ Surfaceskins door holster - 404 mm x 115 mm x 8 mm
- ✓ Surfaceskins replaceable door pushpad - 277 mm x 106 mm x 14 mm
- ✓ Assembled unit (holster and replaceable pushpad) - 404 mm x 115 mm x 16 mm
- ✓ Antibacterial gel capacity (as supplied) - 180 g approx.
- ✓ Antibacterial gel - EN1500 alcohol gel
- ✓ Recommended working life of replaceable pushpad - 7 days / 1000 actuations
- ✓ Latex-free

