

ASHRAE Technical FAQ

ID 22

Question What is ASHRAE's recommendation on the use of filters with microbial inhibitors?

ASHRAE currently does not have a recommendation or policy regarding the use of biocides or microbial inhibitors on filters. The ASHRAE Handbook chapter on particulate air filtration, [2016 ASHRAE Handbook - HVAC Systems and Equipment](#), Chapter [S29](#), makes no mention of biocide-treated air filters.

Answer [ASHRAE Research Project #909](#) titled, "Efficacy of Antimicrobial Treatment of Fibrous Air Filters" was completed in 1999. This research project evaluated the efficacy of adding an antimicrobial coating on filters using three different (EPA Registered) treatments. Overall, the addition of antimicrobial on filter fibers had little effect on the growth (or lack thereof) of microbial contaminants on the filter. A complete report on the project can be obtained by contacting the ASHRAE [Manager of Research](#).

The handbook may be purchased and/or individual chapters of the handbook may be purchased and downloaded on-line at our website, www.ashrae.org or by calling 1-800-527-4723 in the USA and Canada or 1-404-636-8400 worldwide.

ASHRAE Pubs [2016 ASHRAE Handbook - HVAC Systems and Equipment](#), Chapter [S29](#)
[ASHRAE Position Document on Filtration and Air Cleaning](#)

Topic References filter, biocide, anti-microbial

	Cognizant ASHRAE Committees	Refer to Organization
1	TC 2.4	NAFA
2	EHC	
3		
4		
5		