

## Bacterial Filtration Efficiency (BFE) at an Increased Challenge Level Final Report

Test Article: SS-99S  
 Study Number: 974799-S01  
 Study Received Date: 05 Jul 2017  
 Testing Facility: Nelson Laboratories, LLC, a Business Unit of Sterigenics International  
 6280 S. Redwood Rd.  
 Salt Lake City, UT 84123 U.S.A.  
 Test Procedure(s): Standard Test Protocol (STP) Number: 801-STP0009 Rev 09  
 Customer Specification Sheet (CSS) Number: 201704251 Rev 01

**Summary:** This procedure was performed to evaluate the BFE at an increased challenge level of the test article. A suspension of *Staphylococcus aureus*, ATCC #6538, was delivered to the test article to determine filtration efficiency. A challenge level of greater than  $10^7$  colony forming units (CFU) was pumped through a nebulizer using a peristaltic pump at a controlled flow rate and fixed air pressure. The aerosol droplets were generated in a glass aerosol chamber and drawn through the test article into all glass impingers (AGIs) in parallel. The challenge was delivered for a five minute interval and sampling through the AGIs was conducted for six minutes to clear the aerosol chamber.

This test procedure was modified from Nelson Laboratories, LLC (NL), standard BFE procedure in order to employ a more severe challenge than would be experienced in normal use. This method was adapted from ASTM F2101. NL has not performed validation using the challenge interval performed in this testing, however, adequate controls are included to verify the reliability of this study. All test method acceptance criteria were met. Testing was performed in compliance with US FDA good manufacturing practice (GMP) regulations 21 CFR Parts 210, 211 and 820.

Challenge Flow Rate: 30 Liters per Minute (L/min)  
 Conditioning Parameters:  $85 \pm 5\%$  relative humidity (RH) and  $21 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$  for a minimum of 4 hours  
 Area Tested:  $\sim 38.5 \text{ cm}^2$   
 Side Tested: Hard Side  
 Challenge Level:  $5.2 \times 10^7$  CFU  
 Mean Particle Size (MPS):  $\sim 3.1 \mu\text{m}$

### Results:

Test Article Number	Total CFU Recovered	Filtration Efficiency (%)
1	$3.5 \times 10^3$	99.9932

The filtration efficiency percentages were calculated using the following equation:

$$\% \text{ BFE} = \frac{C - T}{C} \times 100$$

C = Challenge Level  
 T = Total CFU recovered downstream of the test article

Study Director:  Trang T. Truong, B.S. Study Completion Date: 12 Jul 2017



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