

Q. What is SilvaClean?

- A. SilvaClean is a smart, patented technology platform that infuses fabrics with ionic silver, rendering them antimicrobial throughout use. Once infused, SilvaClean in fabrics kills and keeps killing bacteria, mold, and mildew (including pathogens) anytime they become contaminated.

SilvaClean is rinsed into all launderable fabrics through a simple laundry process. Fabrics are re-infused with SilvaClean every time they are re-laundered, maintaining the antimicrobial efficacy throughout the lifespan of fabrics. Fabrics stay clean through storage and as they are used, with reduced risks associated with contaminating microbes.

The SilvaClean platform includes a dispensing device installed at the laundry facility (on-premise or at a commercial laundry facility). Once set up, the process is completely hands-off and causes minimal disruption to operations and staff scheduling.

Q. What are some of the risks associated with microbial contamination of soft surfaces?

- A. Soft surfaces are fomites, meaning they host and spread pathogens. Fabrics and other soft surfaces are constantly contaminated with pathogens in four ways:

1. Microbial shedding from humans as they use fabrics
2. Contact of fabrics with humans and other contaminated surfaces during storage and handling
3. Contact of fabrics with humans and other surfaces within the laundry facility during transportation
4. Improper laundering of fabrics

Humans represent a primary epicenter of microbial spread with fabrics being the barrier between people and the rest of the environment. Humans carry and shed pathogenic microbes onto clothing and other surfaces. In addition to causing infections, microbial contamination leads to poor hygienic conditions in the surrounding environment, bacteria-based stains, odor buildup, and fabric degradation.

Q. How does SilvaClean prevent risk of infections?

- A. SilvaClean infuses fabrics with antimicrobial silver ions to control pathogens and stop spread to humans and other surfaces, controlling sources of microbial contamination and preventing the risk of infection. Applied Silver has published a multi-year, multi-site clinical surveillance study where an infection control bundle that included SilvaClean resulted in a 43% reduction in Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) rates over the study period.

Q. How does SilvaClean improve environmental hygiene?

- A. By controlling pathogenic, disease causing microbes on soft surfaces, SilvaClean prevents the spread of these microbes onto other surfaces with the facility. Therefore, the overall environment becomes cleaner and more hygienic. Applied Silver conducted a study with the San Francisco 49ers and the New Orleans Saints, which demonstrated that with routine and repeated use of SilvaClean, microbe levels on uniforms, towels, as well as on locker room hard surfaces were reduced to negligible levels.

Q. How does SilvaClean improve facility odor?

A. Malodor on fabrics builds up due to growth of bacteria, mold, and mildew. Standard laundry processes do not completely remove/kill microbes. SilvaClean kills odor-causing bacteria, mold, and mildew, and with routine use, SilvaClean users experience a reduction in odor at their facilities, such as a locker room or gym.

Q. How does SilvaClean improve fabric lifespan?

A. Fabrics deteriorate over time due to metabolic activities of microorganisms. By reducing the amount of stain- and odor-causing bacteria, mold, and mildew, fabrics are protected from this deterioration, which extends the lifespan of fabrics.

Q. Does SilvaClean cause allergic reactions?

A. SilvaClean is composed of pure ionic silver, which does not cause allergic reactions. Allergic reactions are sometimes observed when silver is in an alloy form (e.g., silver-nickel alloys commonly used in jewelry, where nickel causes the allergic reaction). SilvaClean is routinely used in pediatric wards, and patients with sensitive skin conditions or immunocompromised patients have reported no recorded allergic reactions.

Q. Does SilvaClean change the way a fabric looks or feels?

A. No. SilvaClean does not change the way the fabric looks or feels. Silver ions cannot be seen on fabrics and the use of SilvaClean does not result in any discoloration of treated fabrics.

Q. Does SilvaClean replace other products?

A. SilvaClean is not a detergent. It is an infection prevention technology that is fully compatible with other laundry products and chemistries, including detergents, sour, and softeners. However, added benefits of SilvaClean are odor control, bacterial stain removal, and static reduction. SilvaClean can replace laundry additives such as deodorizers, stain removers, dryer sheets, and laundry sanitizers.

Q. How is SilvaClean implemented?

A. The SilvaClean technology dispenses ionic silver via a cloud-based, smart device into the laundry rinse cycle. Once the dispensing unit is installed and programmed, it becomes fully automated. The SilvaClean chemistry is dispensed every time fabrics are washed, and Applied Silver engineers will continuously monitor the system through cloud connectivity for quality assurance.

Q. Where is SilvaClean used?

A. SilvaClean is used in healthcare, as part of infection control programs. Both professional and collegiate sports programs use SilvaClean as part of sports medicine programs. SilvaClean is used throughout the hospitality industry, including health and wellness spas.

Q. Is SilvaClean registered with the EPA?

A. Yes, SilvaClean is registered with the EPA with both public health (kills disease-causing pathogens) and non-public health claims (protects fabrics from the harmful effects of stain- and odor-causing bacteria, mold, and mildew).