

MICROBIOLOGY AND HYGIENE GROUP

R&D- Activities and Services

Laundry Hygiene

Due to the lower washing temperatures, lower water consumptions and the extended use of bleach-free detergents, the hygienic situation of textiles after washing is getting more critical.



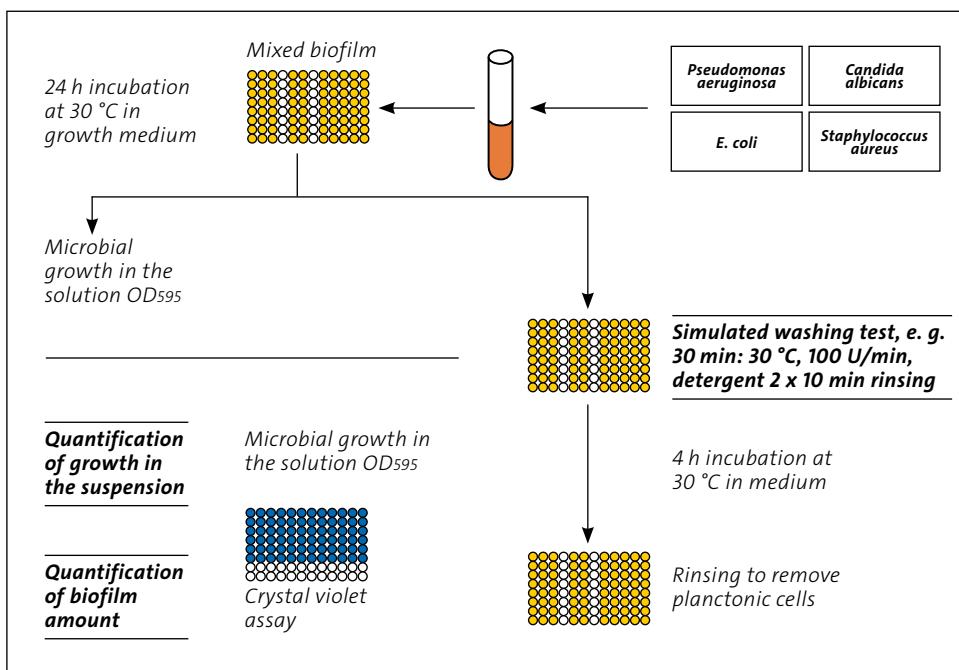
HyWa-Check Biomonitor:

Swissatest has developed risk class 1 biomonitor to assess the efficiency of washing Processes in a safe and reliable way.

Biofilm formation in household devices

Biofilm formation in drinking water pipes is a normal phenomenon and in general not critical for our health. In household devices bacteria like *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* can accumulate and serve as a reservoir of potentially pathogenic bacteria. Odor formation but also biocorrosion can occur due to biofilm formation and can lead to customer complaints.

Fig right. The effect of cleaning products or cleaning procedures on mixed biofilm can be investigated in a model system



Microbiology and Hygiene Group

The Swissatest Microbiology group exists since 14 years. Beside the test services, the development of new test methods in the fields Laundry Hygiene, Biofilm prevention, Disinfection and Odor prevention are main topics for the group. Furthermore in the last ten years several research and development project with institutes (several with EMPA) and industry partners have been conducted in laundry hygiene, biofilm prevention and odor on textiles.



Test services

Swissatest provides test capabilities for testing:

- Disinfectants (EN standards, like DIN EN 1276)
- Antimicrobial surfaces
- Food analysis
- Hygiene of air-conditioning units
- Analysis / consulting for biofilm prevention in water systems
- Hygiene investigation / hygienic design of household devices / products